



USASF Board of Directors Meeting October 5, 2016

PRESENT:

Ann Lehrmann, Brian Elza, Carlos Onofre, Dan Kessler, Debbie Love, Happy Hooper, Jim Chadwick, Jeff Fowlkes, Joelle Antico, John Newby, John Nichols, Kathy Penree, Kristen Rosario, Mike Burgess, Morton Bergue, Roger Schonder, Steve Peterson, Tara Harris

ABSENT:

Justin Carrier

GUESTS:

Ali Stangle, Amy Clark, Lynn Singer, Karen Wilson

AGENDA:

Summary of the Las Vegas Planning Week meetings:

This meeting is a review of Planning Week meeting outcomes.

NACCC Congress meeting

The NACCC Congress meeting was held August 12-14 in Las Vegas, following Planning Week meetings.

- Attendance by Division I and Division II gyms was nearly equal.
- New ideas about the future of the NACCC were discussed.
- Reviewed the proposal for warnings and deductions that was forwarded to the NACCC from the Sanctioning Committee, and recommendations were given.
- Reviewed the Cheer Rules Change proposal slate and facilitated conversation as an entire group and in separate Division I and Division II groups for more input.
- Filmed opinions, both in favor and not in favor, of proposals to make available to coaches who didn't attend to review prior to participating in the online poll.

Cheer and Dance Sanctioning Committees

Cheer

1. A Sub-Committee of the Sanctioning Committee met to review the approval process for Tier 1 event producers.
2. A proposal was developed by a Sanctioning Committee Sub-Committee that begins to standardize warnings and deductions for safety violations at events.
3. Sanctioning Standards: A clarification of 11:00 pm guideline was made.
4. Proposed changes to the PRC were reviewed and approved.
5. The committee approved that similar guidelines to Event Sanctioning Guidelines be set for Tier 3 and 4 members that run one event as a fund raiser.
6. An additional option for Division II splits was reviewed at the Sanctioning, National Advisory, Event Producer and Rules Committee meetings. The new option establishes that, once a division is split into Small and Large team size, it may be further split into Division I and Division II as long as there are two teams remaining in each division. This new option has been added to the Cheer Age Grid.

Dance

1. Contemporary/Lyrical will be a new category offered at The Dance Worlds in 2017. A resource to help event producers be proactive with their customers to be sure that teams are entering their routines in the appropriate category is being developed. Further information will be provided.

2. Per Sanctioning Standards, Certified Dance Safety Judges are only required at Bid events. The committee discussed whether Certified Dance Safety Judges should be a requirement at all Sanctioned Events and is concerned that the pool of safety judges isn't big enough yet. The committee will revisit the topic again next year.
3. A task force was created to investigate what kinds of floor surfaces are considered safe over which Marley (and similar) flooring should be placed. Recommendations will be sent to the full Sanctioning Committee for review.
4. A Sub-Committee was formed (following cheer's example) to create recommendations for warnings and deductions at events.
5. Ideas were discussed at the Regional Advisory Board meetings about event producers informally networking about ideas to make cheer events more attractive to dance teams.

Worlds Advisory Boards

Cheer

1. VIP Gala will move from Friday to Thursday evening.
2. The Coaches Hospitality Suite will be enhanced and will move to one of the additional tents.
3. An Event Producers and Sponsors Hospitality Suite will be added.
4. An additional park will be available for the Worlds Celebration Party on Monday night.
5. The scoring process and score sheets are being reviewed and developed.
6. Teams will be required to show music licenses at roster check-in.
7. SL and SLC divisions will compete in HP rather than the baseball stadium in 2017. Teams will be issued tickets with assigned seats at roster check-in as follows. The balance of the tickets will be sold through Ticketmaster.
8. No longer announcing scores in prelims and semi-finals.

Dance

- Adding a Coaches Hospitality Suite and an Event producers/Sponsors Hospitality Suite.
- The Coronado Ballroom will be modified to bring the judges closer to the stage and create a more intimate atmosphere.
- Warm up floors will be the same size as performance floors.
- Jazz and Contemporary/Lyrical will be added for the first time. Jazz will continue to be divided by small and large team sizes and Contemporary/Lyrical will not be divided until participation warrants a split.
- Open Hip Hop will have a U.S. Worlds Trials round.
- Substitution and Alternate guidelines have been adjusted to specify 20% of team size, which may include three alternates.
- Event producers may now award two At Large bids for every Partial Paid bid awarded.

Event Producers

The event producers meeting was an informative meeting. Topics discussed:

1. Music Compliance
2. Event Safety Guidelines
3. Division II splits at events

National Advisory Boards

Cheer

The NAB is made up of elected members from Regional Advisory Boards and the NAB agenda comes from them.

Topics discussed included:

- How to address the concern of non-sanctioned events
- Baseline Certification
 - Establishes a baseline safety awareness and training for All Star coaches.

- Baseline Certification requirements include successful completion of three online ASEP courses including *ConcussionWise*, *CardiacWise* and *HeatWise* and successful completion of the Positive Coaching Alliance's *Double Goal Coach* training.
- Baseline Certification is optional for all coaches, and becomes required prior to Credentialing.
- Gym Certification
 - Establishes a checklist of measurements for the standard of care in gyms. The program has been updated and aligned with other youth sports. Worked with Positive Coaching Alliance and have a co-branded Child Protection policy that is a recommendation, and a requirement if you want to be a certified gym.
- Athlete Protection
 - Researched policies and procedure that gyms should have in place and have developed standard Athlete Protection policies (same as in gym certification). The policies will be made available to members this season as a resource and will become a requirement of membership for the 2017-18 season. Programs may opt to use their own policies, or will use the USASF policy by default if they do not have one.
- Bullying/Social Media
 - Questions were raised at RABs this summer about bullying and social media. As part of the Athlete Protection policies described earlier, these policies will be made available to members as a resource this season and will be a requirement of membership next season.
- Adding additional member benefits
 - Membership Welcome Kit that includes resources and information for programs to use. Should be mailing by early November.
 - Any new or requested programs and initiatives must be mission driven and mission centered.
 - The consensus of the NAB is the USASF does not need to add any major new programs but rather better support the current programs and to make sure the organization is healthy so that we can continue to do what supports our mission.

Rules Committees

Dance

- Made several clarifications following safety judge training over the summer.
- Dance will be putting together recommendations for warnings and deductions, following cheer's example.
- Scheduled a spring meeting for March, 2017.
- Dance Rules will be posted by May, 2017. Dance isn't to the point yet where it can be on a 2-year cycle; rules need evaluating each year. Once the committee feels it has settled into a similar pattern as cheer, dance will adopt a 2-year rules cycle.
- Online Safety Judge training today and Saturday.

Cheer

The results from the Cheer Rules Proposals poll regarding the definition of a program, team size and ages were reviewed. More information will be gathered and reviewed at the November meeting.



Disciplinary

A disciplinary case involving age violations was reviewed. The team was guilty in one circumstance. The other two complaints were dismissed for insufficient evidence. The standard fine is \$1000 and probation for 1 year.

The fine as proposed was approved.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: November 14-16, 2016, Dallas, TX