

# USOA Underwater Hockey Committee Agenda

Sunday, January 19, 2024

8-9:30pm (EDT), 7-8:30pm (CDT), 6-7:30pm (MDT), 5-6:30pm (PDT)

## **Zoom Meeting:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82094751113?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82094751113?pwd=NVhDYUxXK3ISUkE2OUdUUWwwcUZ3dz09)

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Meeting ID: 820 9475 1113

## **UWH Committee Members:**

Beven McWilliams, Chair(2023-2025)

Jacqui West, Vice Chair (2023-2025)

Molly Banks, Secretary(2024-2026)

Eric Myers, Financial Secretary (2023-2025)

Jesse Hocking, Member at Large (2024-2026)

Paul Byrne, Member at Large (2023-2025)

Michael Riccitelli, Member at Large (2024-2026)

1. Call to order 5:00
  - a. Committee members present: Beven, Paul, Jacqui, Michael, Eric
  - b. Non-committee members present: Carol, Casey, Don M, John K, Kim
  - c. Approval of agenda (1 min) Moved + Approved
2. Discussion and approval of December minutes (1 min) Moved + Approved
3. National Trophy Submissions and discussion designs:
  - a. Michael is working on production and design
4. Financial secretary/Treasurer's report - Eric Myers/Melody (3 min):
  - a. Total balance: Dev Fund Summary as of November 30 \$38,560.79
    - i. Draft for how to request funds from the committee
      1. Requesting formal process
        - Either written or verbal
        - Statement of needs/products/descriptions
        - Use of funds
        - How it would benefit USOA
        - Who will benefit from the funding request
        - Help with insurance?
        - Some acknowledgements of USOA funding
        - etc
      2. USOA swag/drip/tchotchke's discussion: Using funds for items at nationals. USOA appreciation.

5. Directors reports (max 30 min):
  - a. **Rules Director** - Don Mathews (5 min):
    - i. Version 13 of the rules should be published around February
      1. not a lot of changes in the rules
    - ii. Version 14 will have rule request considered along with
      1. Equipment issues will be addressed on what is safe and not safe
      2. Corner rules
  - b. **Referee Director** - John Kulsa (5 min):
    - i. Working with Eric to get first wave of refs for Denver set.
    - ii. Reaching out for interest for USA Worlds refs.
      1. Need to be prequalified before the tournament.
        - Currently 4 active Level III refs – any additional refs looking to be Level III will need to be certified and then added to the list. To be discussed more in the meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> and list must be turned in sometime in Jan/Feb.
    - iii. Addressed new rule: electronic communication from coaches to players is not allowed. Voting in progress – then to national federations. – to be discussed further in next meeting
  - c. **Nationals Team Coordinator** -
    1. Entry opens on the 31<sup>st</sup> of 2025 and closes at the end of March 2025
    2. USOA to reach out to coaches on this update
  - d. **Youth Development Director** - Agnes Debrunner (5 min): not present
    - i. under 24 boys sent a questionnaire for interest for players and coaches for Quebec City, collecting responses now.
  - di. **Competitions Director** - Eric Straily (5 min): not present
    - i. Inter-Regional survey report
      1. Discuss next meeting: winning teams need to decide if they're sending 1 or 2 teams next year.
    - ii. BAA Jan 24-26
    - iii. OCC's in March 8-9
    - iv. Florida Cup Apr 26-27 (open to everyone but has to be a FL team to win cup)
  - dii. **Regional Directors:**
    - i. Northwest - Kim Riccitelli (2 min):
      1. Local small events with Canada
      2. Details were sent from Kim about updates and history of regional trainings, events, and processes that PNW has implemented for UWH

3. Possible PNW event in April/May
- ii. Southwest- Casey Nakamura (2 min):
  1. PCCS open for bids. In September- October
    - Possibly SoCal, Vegas or Phoenix pools
  2. “The OC Cup”(Irvine, CA) tournament set for March 8-9.
    - Format like PCC’s – Club tournament – not restricted to only California teams
  3. LA has new pool actually in LA(Echo Park)
    - Saturday morning practices are going on now
  4. San Diego planning Pre-Nationals potluck at the Plunge (May 2025)
  5. The Plunge in May – being reviewed currently
- iii. Inland - Cheryl Russell (2 min) : not present
- iv. Northeast - Jenny Biener (2 min): not present
  1. Region needs help with player involvement
  2. Assisting prospective youth development in Delaware
- v. Southeast- Nicole Mazouch (2 min): not present
  1. Lucky’s Florida State Championship. Orlando April 26-27.  
Open for anyone, but to get the cup it must be a Florida Team.

Regional Director positions with term limits?

- a. Potential options:
    - i. Two 2-year term limits... but if there still is a vacancy, the term can continue.
  - b. Define “regional director” to make it easier to fill vacancies.
    - i. In progress (get write ups from current regional directors– outlining what they do).
    - ii. Regional director call potentially happening or subcommittee.
6. Call for Nationals bids (2 min)
- a. National bids-
    - i. issues: University pools can’t book pools until after swimming schedules are released (Feb/March)
    - ii. Denver – Will have to be Nationals location this year
      1. June 20-22
  - b. Send out call for bids for 2025 ACCs and PCCs also
7. CMAS 2025 World Qualifiers Update (5 min)
- a. If anyone is interested in possibly submitting a bid for the US, please contact Creedon and Beven.
  - b. Discussion to host worlds 2027. Needs tremendous support.

BID DATE	Event	BoD DEADLINE
1 Dec 24	Age Group (U19, U24) Worlds 2026	30 April 25 BoD
1 Feb 25	Asian Cup 2026 (Cat B)	30 June 25 BoD
1 Dec 24	World Championships Elite/Masters 2027	30 April 25 BoD
1 Feb 26	International Cup (Cat B) 2027	30 June 26 BoD
1 Dec 26	Age Group (U19, U24) Worlds 2028	30 April 27 BoD

- c.
- i. France has finished 80% of a bid, waiting on new federation approval.
  - ii. Hosting worlds 2027 **WILL** guarantee a spot in the tournament.
  - iii. Tristain asked if we have interest in hosting Junior Worlds 2026
- d. Redefine what the National team's coordinator does.
- i. Still in progress
8. Old business (3 min):
- a. Directors position updates (2 min)
  - b. Development, Coaching, Events positions need to be filled at CMAS level
    1. Licensing coaching possible – look for interest on being on the board – position has been open for years. Beven Will send out a letter to gauge interest.
9. Question about how we can define what a club is, what is a club player, etc.
- a. UWH Committee can write things up and then send the proposed changes to USOA for an official vote for the 2025 Annual Meeting
  - b. Needs to get proposed changes before September 2025. Unless a special meeting can be called.
  - c. Michael, Jesse, Beven, Molly, see if special meeting can be called to get criteria for nationals 2025. Do the research and legwork for proposal.
  - d. Big picture hockey events, competition standards, club rules, criteria for high level events. What are the issues we can solve.

## 10. Next meeting will be discussed

### Action Items:

- *Continue discussion in the subcommittee for definition of clubs/players.*
- *Put on hold - Set up "Nitty Gritty Subcommittee" for defining Regional Directors & what they do until "club" sub-committee defines roles further as needed.*
- Put on hold - Redefine what the National team's coordinator does.

### Upcoming Events:

- BAA- Denver- January 24-26
- Lucky Meisenheimer Florida Cup- Orlando- April 26-27
- Orange County Cup, Irvine, Ca - March 8-9
- Nationals Proposed weekend June 20th-22

Meeting Adjourned: 6:30 pm (PST)