

# USOA Underwater Hockey Committee Minutes

Thursday, November 16, 2023

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

**Zoom Meeting:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86002722355>

Meeting ID: 860 0272 2355

## **UWH Committee Members:**

Jenny Mohn, Chair (2023-2025)

Beven McWilliams, Vice Chair (2023-2025)

Shawn Berg, Secretary (2022-2024)

Eric Myers, Financial Secretary (2023-2025)

Paul Byrne, Member at large (2023-2025)

Megann Largent, Member at large (2022-2024)

Brandon Burr, Member at large (2023-2025)

1. Call to order 5:05 PST Quorum met
  - a. Committee members present: Jenny, Eric Meyers, Brandon, Paul, Megann, Beven
  - b. Non-committee members present: Agnes, Kim, John, Helene, Eric Straily, Wendy, Carol, Rosa
  - c. Approval of agenda (1 min)
2. Discussion and approval of October minutes (2 min) Approved
3. Agenda: Approved
4. General membership input (10 min)
5. Financial secretary/Treasurer's report - Eric Myers/Wendy Okafuji (5 min): Development fund last updated 10/31/23, income should be slightly higher based on USOA registrations.
  - a. Development Fund use document (3 min): Document was adopted in March 2023, some minor edits were made and document needs to be reviewed and approved by committee.
6. Directors reports (max 30 min):
  - a. **Rules Director** - Don Mathews (5 min):
    - i. CMAS COR is asking for rule change requests by Dec 20, 2023. Send an email to Don with rule change requests/recommendations (don't have to be fully written).

1. They will then meet to discuss which proposals to move forward with Jan 21, 2024
  2. Meeting for writing/authorizing rule changes scheduled for August of 2024
  3. They will host 2-3 meetings for world-wide online debates on the rules
- ii. Referee database is now online and secure. They are starting to add functions to:
    1. Give tournament directors capability to find refs
    2. Upload/download tournament records to generate an automatic referee logbook
    3. Automate referee class registrations and testing info
- b. **Referee Director** - John Kulsa (5 min):
- i. Referee training:
    1. John and Rosa working on getting the level 1 and 2 courses completed
    2. John is putting the level 1 and 2 tests into Caveon
  - ii. Conversation with Sara in California regarding a Basic Rules Course held electronically around mid-Jan (prior to B@A), hoping to work with Atlantis on this. Potentially another in person Level 1 and 2 held immediately prior to tournament. Any pool or classroom time needs to be requested to the Denver pool by mid-December.
  - iii. CMAS adding a 4th Committee for Events - will need a US representative for this committee as well. Purpose is encouraging countries to host (and helping facilitate?) high level CMAS events.
  - iv. One conflict that was brought up post-PCCs that should have been addressed at the tournament, but is being managed.
- c. **Nationals Team Coordinator** - Helene Soleille (5 min):
- i. Will be reaching out to Roshan, tournament host for age group worlds, soon and will have more updates at our next meeting.
- d. **Youth Development Director** - Agnes Debrunner (5 min):
- i. Age group worlds: Rhett Perkins will be coach for U19 Mens, Kendall Banks will be coach for U24 Mens, Sue Banks will be coach for U24 Womens. Not enough interest for U19 Womens. These teams will send

two or three teams to B@A to gauge true interest and act as a semi-try out event.

- ii. Deposits will start being collected after B@A. Still waiting for deadlines from the tournament before creating a deposit schedule.

e. **Regional Directors:**

- i. Northwest - Kim Riccitelli (5min):
  1. Looking into hosting 2024 NW Regional Potluck in SF in Feb. (Including youth and open games) Would like to see this be a great developmental event.
  2. Question about the development fee (\$5/player/sanctioned event) - is this still being done?
    - a. It hasn't been enforced consistently. Committee needs to decide whether we keep this and enforce it or eliminate it.
    - b. **Action item:** Find the Sanctioned Event document and get it updated to the website.
- ii. Inland - Steve Kars (5min): no report
- iii. Northeast - Jenny Biener (5min):
  1. Delaware club competed as a team for the first time in club history at Charleston. :)
- iv. Southeast- Nicole Mazouch (5min)
  1. Has been brainstorming with Jenny Biener about developing club level and women's hockey on the east coast.
  2. Questioned if the women's tournament 2024 has been decided yet, I encouraged her to organize a bid for the east coast.

7. Regional director position nominations (5 min)

- a. NE: **Jenny Biener** is current NE director, Creedon was also nominated
- b. SE: Nicole Mazouch
- c. SW: Casey Nakamura

8. Nationals 2024 (10 min)

- a. We have not gotten any formal bids for nationals yet. Invitation for bids was sent to club reps. Jenny will send out the invitation for bids to UWH membership. Some people will also reach out to individuals who may be interested.

9. Proposal about USA UWH Tournament Structure - Eric Straily(10min)

- a. US tournaments are much more ad hoc than elsewhere. Atlantis has started a set of proposals for more structured tournament scheduling to support development. Currently meeting about every other week for a couple of hours and committee members/directors are invited to contribute to these.
10. KT has asked us to designate a USA UWH social media manager (2 min)
- a. Looking for nominations
11. Old business (5min):
- a. Development, Coaching Events Director, positions need to be filled at CMAS level (*Jenny got more info from CMAS about defining these positions, will start contacting people*)
  - b. Bringing the website up to date (2 min)
    - i. Regional director/club contact info *Jenny will start working with regional directors on this.*
    - ii. Meet your committee section (photos, brief bio or at least club?)
  - c. Eric and Jenny will put together a 2024 budget for UWH to be presented in the January meeting.
  - d. Further defining appropriate use of “development funds” *Eric and Jenny are working on drafting a document. In the meantime, have added dev fund document to the USOA website*
  - e. CMAS has asked that the US host an international UWH event. Discussion is about either 2025 Worlds qualifiers or 2027 Worlds? Would cost ~\$150k to host.
  - f. Age group worlds 2026 has been announced for Quebec
12. Meeting adjourned, next meeting will be 2023-12-21

**Action Items:**

- Find the Sanctioned Event document and get it updated to the website.

**Upcoming Events:**

- Women’s Tournament - Portland, OR - Dec 2-3
- Battle at Altitude - CO January 27-28
- ACCs - Quebec City - April 19-21
- Age Group Worlds - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia - July 17-29