

**USADB Basketball Meetings  
Hampton Inn  
Orem-Provo, Utah  
April 14-17, 2004**

By-Laws Council Meeting:

Wednesday Evening April 14, 2004

The 60<sup>th</sup> annual Men's USADB and 14<sup>th</sup> annual Women's USADB By-laws council meeting was called to order by By-Laws Chairperson Ira Hendon at 7:45pm

President Raymond Kilthau informed the delegates of the duties of By-laws Chairperson Ira Hendon.

Libby Pollard was appointed Parliamentarian for this weekend's meetings and she explain about the voting procedures and her role as a Parliamentarian for the meetings. Ira Hendon explained about the new voting procedure—"Ira's Rules of Paper Voting".

Motion was made to approved "Ira's Rules"-Passed.

Wally Jones was appointed Credential Chairperson for this weekend's meetings and presented the roll call:

Delegates in Attendance:

Raymond Kilthau-President, Myron Greenstone- Secretary, Shirley Platt- Public Relation, Tim Theis-Interim Treasurer, Ira Hendon-SWBAD President/By-laws Chairperson, Neal McKenzie- CAAD President, Beth Holly- EAAD(EBAD) representative, Mark Nathanson- FAAD President, Wayne Morse- MAAD President, Robert Backofen- NEAAD President, Bruce Barnes- SEAAD President, Ron Nelson-NWAAD President, Robert Jones, Michael Carter, Oscar Schugg, Peter Bailey, Ladimer Baird, Doug Mader, Chuck Wallace, Dennis Platt, Bill Davidson, Bob Bergen, Richard McCorbin.

See attached for Proposal reviewed/passed/failed by By-Laws Chairperson Ira Hendon.

By-Laws Council Meeting/Old Business was adjourned at 11:00pm

Basketball Council Meeting

Thursday Morning April 15, 2004

The 60<sup>th</sup> annual Men and 14<sup>th</sup> annual Women Basketball council meeting was called to order by President Raymond Kilthau at 830am at Utah Valley College meeting room.

Delegates in Attendance:

Raymond Kilthau-President, Myron Greenstone, Secretary, Tim Theis, Interim Treasurer, Shirley Platt, Public Relations Director, Bruce Barnes, Ron Nelson, Wayne Morse, Neil McKenzie, Beth Holly, Mark Nathanson, Bob Backofen, Ira Hendon, Ron Johnson, Bill Davidson, Michael Carter, Charles Wallace, Janice Logan, Ladimer Baird, Dennis Platt, Robert Love, Oskar Schugg, Robert Jones, Maria Elmore, Tim Gough, Terry Wilding, Art Larson, Mike "Doc" Torres, John Scott, Stephanie Todd, Doug Mader, Bob Bergan, Craig Brown.

Quorum was met.

Libby Pollard was appointed Parliamentarian. Libby gave a report of basic Parliamentary Standing Rules of the meeting.

A motion as made to approve Parliamentary procedures as explained by Libby. Passed.

Wally Jones was appointed Credential Chairperson for today's meeting.

By-laws/Old Business will not be discussed today as it was completed last night.

President Raymond Kilthau explained his goal to complete the meeting by 11:30am today.

Minutes of Baltimore Meeting:

Minutes of Baltimore meeting were approved with 2 corrections.

#16 SWAAD Delegate ( ) moved to change from one (1) player representative to eight (8) representative, (one from each region). Passed. Information was shared to the delegates that it should have been two—one men and one women from each region to be player representative. Passed.

Information regarding the Salt Lake City USADSF House of Delegates meeting shall be attached to the minutes in 2005. Passed.

Motion was made to officially approve the whole 2003 minutes next year. Passed.

Dennis Platt moved to place this year's minutes on the USADB's website when it becomes available. Passed.

Reports By Officers:

Report by the President is attached.

Report by the Secretary is attached.

Report by the Public Relation Director is attached.  
Report by the Interim Treasurer is attached-not available.

There is no report by the Vice-President as this position has been vacant this year. A new Vice-President and Treasurer shall be elected this weekend.

-Shirley Platt requested to go on record of "moral integrity" as some decisions made by the President during the year were incorrect regarding to voting and to follow by-laws.

\*Note: After discussion with the Parliamentarian, the President announced we did not violate any bylaws by appointing Tim Theis as temporary treasurer.

#### Information Sharing:

-Bill Davidson wishes to inform the delegates of a short discussion period for the 2005 hostship later in the meeting.

-SEAAD President Bruce Barnes requested that next year's registration form to be of a different color to prevent any last minute changes by xerox and write-outs. Bruce suggested that men registration form to be of light green color and women to be of pink. Acknowledged.

-Ira Hendon explained about outstanding debts owed to USADSF possibly upwards to \$41,000. Most of the debts were of failure to pay USADSF fees by previous USADB administration from 1995-1999 time with former officers of the USADB. Shirley Platt felt the debt may be incorrect and challenged the amount due. Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Executive Director of the USADSF is willing to work with present USADB officers to negotiate a settlement plan or waive most of the debts with a payment plan.

-Ira Hendon also reported his findings on the situation of missing debts and incomplete paperwork by former USADB officers Benny Maucere, Mark Corson and Lawrence Plate. Lawrence Plate is excused from any wrong doings at this time as his position was to follow directives from Maucere and Corson. The investigation is hopefully to be completed by this summer on the whereabouts of mismanaged checks from three different bank accounts from 1995-1999 and no exact, complete financial reports for the 4 years.

#### Deaflympics Information:

Shirley Platt related to the delegates that she has signed a tentative contract with the Indiana School for the Deaf to host training camp for invited players and official USA team members on June 10-13, 2004. Details of the training camp is forthcoming pending meetings with USADSB officers and USADSF officers.

A recess was taken at 1030am and resumed at 1045am.

-Bill Davidson gave an explanation in scope of how the tentative 2005 USADB tourney awarding possibly for the Los Angeles area was processed amid such obstacles in question since the recent FAAD tourney.

-Bill Davidson requested a letter of apology from the USADB for confusion in communication and correspondence relating to the 2005 USADB tourney awarding process with Mr. Mark Corson position in question. Passed.

-President Kilthau informed the delegates that Leo Gutierrez of Chicagoland "B" is ineligible to play in this weekend's tournament due to having practice for 2 months with MacMurray College during November and December before this season began. Documentations have been received from MacMurray College attesting to this fact.

#### New Business:

1. Doug Mader - Moved that all regional champions are to be seeded in the 1-8 places. (Rational-Ensures all region champions are honored for their efforts which makes the USADB's bracket more stable annually, leaving the 9-16 slots to be filled by runner-ups or invited teams and not to play teams in same regions until the championship round). Passed.
2. Beth Holly - Moved that the Buffalo Club of the Deaf would like return and be affiliated with the EAAD (EBAD) and not with CAAD. Refer to Law Committee.
3. Tim Theis - Moved that the delegates to approve the USADB's projected budget for 2005 in General Fund only. Passed.
4. Shirley Platt - Moved to permit Ron Johnson to coach the Minnepaul women's team this weekend without any penalty to him by USADB or USADSF in his role as National Deaflympics Women's head Coach. Passed.

Tim Theis moved to extend the new Business until 12:15pm. Passed.

5. Bruce Barnes - Moved that the USADB Delegates should not allow the USADSF to increase USADSF membership fee from \$10.00 to \$25.00. Passed.
6. Robert Love Jr - Moved to explain the Omaha basketball team's case in person. Referred to Grievance Committee.
7. Mark Nathanson - Moved that the USADB National Tournament are to be held after Easter each year. Failed.

8. Bruce Barnes - Moved that any High School player shall not play for a club in the same academic year unless he or she is ineligible to play high school basketball. Ruled Out of Order. (This motion was passed at Rhode Island in 2000).
9. Tim Gough - Moved that the NWAAD region shall include northern Nevada and the environs of Fresno, California and that the FAAD region shall include southern Nevada to be referred to By-Laws committee for revisions. Referred to By-Laws Committee.
10. Doug Mader - Moved to reconsider Motion #2. Motion later was withdrawn.
11. Robert Jones - Moved that all regional tournament fees shall be of a flat rate of \$400.00. Referred to Finance Committee.
12. Bruce Barnes - Moved that all eight (8) regional Presidents are to be involved with the USADB's future Law Committee. Ruled Out of Order. (Already placed in 2003 minutes).
13. Bill Davidson - Moved that the USADSF not to interfere with the whole scope of USADB basketball criteria and programs effective as of now. Shirley Platt moved to amend the motion - "prior to turning over the U.S. team and coaches to USADSF for approval. Passed.

Ruling: The parliamentarian advised the President that this motion shall be ruled out of order because it is out of USADB's jurisdiction. The President did not accept the parliamentarian's recommendation, so the motion was stated and acted upon.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm. Passed. The Basketball Council meeting shall resume on Friday April 16, 2004 at 2:00pm.

#### Friday Afternoon April 16, 2004

The Basketball Council delegates meeting was resumed at Utah Valley State College meeting room and called to order by President Raymond Kilthau at 2:10pm.

Sears Cummings and Mike Johnson were appointed Sargent-at-Arms by President Raymond Kilthau.

Libby Pollard continued as Parliamentarian.

Wally Jones, continued as Credential Committee Chairperson.

Delegates in attendance:

Raymond Kilthau-President, Myron Greenstone-Secretary, Tim Theis-Treasurer, Shirley Platt-Public Relations, Neil McKenzie, Ron Nelson, Mark Nathanson, Ira Hendon, Bruce Barnes, Beth Holly, Bob Backofen, Wayne Morse, Oskar Schugg, Craig Brown, Doug Mader, Terry Wilding, Chuck Wallace, Michael Carter, Dennis Platt, Muriel Strassler, Bill Davidson, Robert Jones, Bob Bergen, Tim Gough, Robert Love, Jr.

Doug Mader - Moved to hold off any more new business proposals today. Passed. Note: There will be 23 proposals only.

Oskar Schugg - Move to return to 3 pros and 3 cons discussion system instead of 1 pro and 1 con. Passed.

14. Bruce Barnes - Moved that all Regional Presidents and USADB Officers shall be entitled free admittance to all games except for the \$15.00 registration fee. Out of Order. (Fee was already set for this weekend).

15. Bruce Barnes - Moved to establish a task force to investigate if we should go ahead and file formal complaint/legal action against Bennie Maucere, Mark Corson, Lawrence Plate. Out of Order. (Task force already in place).

16. Neal McKenzie-(S.Platt)-Moved to allow Laura Edwards and David Hamilton to play on their teams this weekend and permit them to be part of the selection committee to select the Deaflympics teams. Passed.

17. Terry Wilding - Moved to amend the motion BBC-4-00-11 from the minutes at Providence, Rhode Island in April, 2000-“Move that any high school player shall not play for a club in the same academic year unless he or she is ineligible to play high school basketball”. Remove the wording “club” and change to the wording “team”. Also to remove the wording “ineligible” and change to “used up his/her high school basketball eligibility”. Passed.

Robert Jones-( ) Move to amend the ruling and add “no student under the age of 18 and dropped out”. Passed.

Doug Mader - Moved to amend the the ruling to say “No one under age 18 years can play”. Failed.

Main motion—with added wording of “team” and “no one under age 18 and dropped out”. Referred to Law Committee.

18. Robert Love, Jr. - Moved to established a committee to study the feastibility of having CODA's to be part of the Deaf Basketball activity and the committee shall consist of one person from each region. Failed.

19. Neal McKenzie - Moved to allow college students to participate in regional and national tournaments similar to high school rules. Out of Order.

20. Charles Wallace - Moved to increase USADB player membership from five (\$5.00) dollars to ten (\$10.00) dollars to help reduce USADB's debt. Referred to Law Committee.

21. Beth Holly - Moved to have the USADB By-Laws to changed the wording of EAAD-(Eastern Athletic Association of the Deaf) to the new name of EBAD-(Eastern Basketball Association of the Deaf). Refer to Law Committee.

22. Robert Jones - Moved for the USADB to develop a formal USADB patch (emblem with USADB insignia) and referee's shirt for all USADB referees as a professional organization. Referred to Executive Board.

23. Robert Love, Jr -Moved to revised/change/throw out the wordings in the USADB Constitution-Article Five-Executive Board 5.02—Authority—"The Board shall be the final authority for any and all issues connected with the national tournament and any disputes between regions. Referred to Law Committee.

24. Robert Love, Jr - Moved for CISS to change the hearing percentage of Deaf athletes. Referred to Executive Board.

#### Election of Officers:

##### Vice-President:

Bob Backofen nominated Dennis Platt. Declined.

Shirley Platt nominated Muriel Strassler. Her nomination needed to be discussed after verifying with the USADSF/USADB membership booklet to see if she and all candidates have been dues paying member for the past four years prior to this year. It was learned that even though Muriel was a dues paying member of the USADSF, she is ineligible as she was not a dues paying member of the USADB for four (4) consecutive years prior to this year.

Nominations for the office of Vice-President and Treasurer will be resumed tonight at 10:00pm after today's games. Passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

#### Friday Night April 16, 2004

##### Basketball Council Meeting:

The Basketball Council meeting was resumed at Utah Valley State College meeting room and President Raymond Kilthau called the meeting to order at 10:15pm.

Wally Jones continued as Credential Committee Chairperson.

Libby Pollard continued as parliamentarian.

Delegates in Attendance:

Raymond Kiltbau-President, Myron Greenstone-Secretary, Shirley Platt-Public Relations, Tim Theis-Interim Treasurer, Bob Backofen, Ron Nelson, Ira Hendon, Neil McKenzie, Bruce Barnes, Beth Holly, Wayne Morse, Terry Wilding, Craig Brown, Bob Bergan, Oskar Schugg, Tim Gough, Dennis Platt, Chuck Wallace, Tom Morrison, Muriel Strassler, John Scott, Bill Davidson, Robert Jones, Robert Love, Jr, Justin Anderson, Susan Margolin, Joey Baer, Janice Logan, Saul Gevarter.

Announcements:

-President Raymond Kiltbau wishes to acknowledge and thanked the five (5) regions which contributed to the USADB newspaper this weekend. FAAD, EAAD, NEAAD, FAAD, CAAD.

-Dennis Platt related to the delegates of his USADB's Hall of Fame Chairperson duties and encouraged the delegates to submit new nominations to be candidates for the 2005 USADB Hall of Fame. Dennis also informed that the new 2004 USADB Hall of Fame electee is Monica Huggins, veteran leader and athlete in early days of women's sports in Illinois. Her three daughters will represent their late mother during the USADB Hall of Fame ceremony on Saturday night.

Nominations for the office of the Vice-President:

- Tim Theis nominated Doug Mader. Accepted.
- Joey Baer nominated Oscar Schugg. Accepted.
- Tom Morrison nominated Bruce Barnes. Declined.

-Terry Wilding-(Backofen)-Moved to have five (5) minutes of question and answer period for each candidates. Passed.

Oskar Schugg was elected new USADB Vice-President over Doug Mader by an 18-9 vote count.

Nominations for the office of Treasurer:

- Tim Gough nominated Tim Theis to remain USADB's Treasurer. Declined.
- Robert Jones nominated Chuck Wallace as Treasurer. Accepted.

-Tim Gough - Moved for a ten (10) minute recess to discuss Wallace's background. Failed.

-Joey Baer - Moved to suspend the election of Treasurer for thirty, (30), days. Failed.

-Barnes - Moved to amend from thirty, (30) to sixty, (60) days. Amendment Failed.

- Tim Gough - Moved to allow USADB officers to use their judgement in appointing a new Treasurer after thirty, (30) days. Failed.
- Dennis Platt - Moved to close nominations and vote for the office of the Treasurer. Passed.
- Bob Bergan - Moved for the USADB secretary to cast the ballot for Chuck Wallace. Passed.
- USADB Secretary Myron Greenstone cast the ballot for Chuck Wallace as new USADB Treasurer.

The oath of new USADB officers proceeded to take place.

\*\*\*Note-After meeting with the USADB officers on Saturday April 17, 2004, and upon reviewing the intricate details of the duties of the Treasurer's position and the high expectations of this position, the USADB Executive Board accepted Chuck Wallace's written letter of resignation as USADB Treasurer. Tim Theis will remain USADB's Interim Treasurer for the time being until a new qualified person is selected. The Interim Treasurer shall have full voting privileges. Chuck Wallace will be invited to be part of the USADB committee in another capacity in the future in order to maximize his skills.

Doug Mader-(Gough)-Moved and asked to reconsider the motion #13 regarding USADSF not interfering with the basketball criteria, etc. Doug was found to have voted against the motion, therefore is not qualified to ask for reconsideration.

Bob Bergen-Moved to adjourn. Failed.

Terry Wilding-Moved to reconsider the motion #13. Passed.

(Due to lateness of the evening, 12:30am, at Utah Valley State College, the meeting was shifted to the lobby of the Hampton Hotel and Suite for continuation of the meeting. The continuation of the meeting resumed at 12:50am.

Terry Wilding-(Baer)-Moved to substitute the main motion #13 and that the USADB complies with the approved USADSF "modified" criteria for selecting the U.S. Deaflympics basketball team by April 30<sup>th</sup> with names of players to be nominated by the US Deaflympics basketball coaches and that the USADB assist in the fundraising efforts to send the teams to Australia. Passed.

Joey Baer-( )-Moved to amend the substituted motion that the USADB to help raise or assist \$10,000 per month (June 1-December 1, 2004) timeline. Passed.

The substituted motion with amendment was Passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30am April 17, 2004.

**President's Report**  
**Raymond Kilthau**

Whew, I can not believe it is one year ago when we depart Baltimore to Salt Lake City. There were many ups and down.

As you know our Vice President decided to step down last May, we tried to find someone to replace him but unfortunately we could not able to find one that would satisfy our board's decision. So as you know we are now in process to elect new VP and Treasurer. So I am strongly encourage you to find someone who is familiar with USADB bylaws, can work well with the board especially as my right hand person. We picked Tim Theis as our interim Treasurer after our former treasurer stepped down because of his health.

We had our trials in Fremont. All of our board except Tim, showed up. I want to thank Joey Baer for his marvelous work to make sure we have the trials. We also want to thank our coaches who devoted their time to pick the top basketball players from the trials to represent us. During that time, we did not aware that USADF requires us to submit the names by December 31<sup>st</sup>. We found out at the House of Delegates last November. It led us to continue discussing with USADF to compromise. As of now, USADSF requires us to submit the names of players by April 30. Our men's coach is pretty nervous about it because he announced we will have closed trials in summer 2004 at Fremont, without know we must submit the list of players by December 31<sup>st</sup>. As of now, our board is trying to work out with USADSF to continue our working relationship.

Other big issue, Students. We really had hard time struggling this issue because we do not have any clear definition in our minute. As you may discuss it last night at Bylaws meeting. So it should now help us to direct right path.

We finally completed our lifetime passes which will be distributed by our secretary. Anyone, who believes he or she gets one, please sees our secretary to get the cards.

As you know we do not have our VP for almost 10 months, it really been a burden on our board because we sometimes need to make decision which cause come deadlock due to some issues which we need third person to help "Break" the ties. However I want to thank Ira Hendon for his excellent work with bylaws. He spends lots of hours and hours to prepare this bylaws. I really want to mention we need to consider to "rewrite" our bylaws to help reduce lots of conflicts which may occur now. For example, why should we have two separate section (Bylaws and Constitution) on officers. It can be combine in one section instead of two section . So I am strongly recommend you to make motion to ask us to set up a committee who will spend one year studying one the bylaws and constitution to see if they can be combine into one

As you may heard about our former treasurer's decision to step down, we could not able to do complete audit on his report because he is not here to defend his

position if anyone question us about the paperwork. So I am asking new treasurer to work closely with former treasurer to make sure everything is recorded before we can accept the financial report.

I want to thank our web, editor, Diana Sweeney. She spends hours and hours to update our website. It is not easy on her because we keep asking her to update immediately. So I really am proud to have her to be on our staff.

I want to thank our secretary, Myron who devoted his time to correspond with the public via emails. I could not see how he managed his time as teacher and doing that tough task.

I want to thank our Public Relations Officer, Shirley, who devoted her time to make sure we have our tournament set up (she was appointed as Tournament director by our board) to work with our Local Organization Committee. I want to thank Justin Anderson for his devoted time to prepare this tournament. I know it is a very tough task for him. Especially, his new baby. I must admit, if not for his devote, we may not have this successful tournament. (If see Justin, ask him to come to the platform so to give him some applaud).

I want to thank our regional Presidents for meeting with me once every week started last January. I believe it really help us to open some communications. They devoted their time to make sure we continue chatting every Tuesday. There are some interesting discussions, which may help us to make some tough decisions. I am going to continue this kind of chat this coming January. So, regional Presidents, be ready for that.

I want to thank our Commissioners for preparing the AAC (Athletic Advisory Council) meeting once a month with players. I would like to ask you if you are familiar with AAC? If not, please raise your hands so we can try to inform AAC about the possible missed link between players and AAC. I am strongly in support to continue to work with AAC because of their invaluable input which help us to make decisions. One example, about the 16 men brackets, the rumors spread about increase to 18-20 men teams, with strong input from AAC to encourage our board to stay with 16 men teams. We respect their wishes. So, it had big role with influence the Board's decisions. So I am strongly encourage our regional Presidents to pick right representatives (Men and Women) to represent their regions.

I met with the Deaf officials last January to resolve some issues about recognizing our Deaf officials to officiate our national games. As you may know we just agreed to accept new guidelines from Deaf officials. I told them we must have some kind of documentation to help us to work with our Deaf officials, which happened yesterday. So we may see more and more Deaf officials to officiate the games.

To make sure we run the efficient meeting, our board appointed Elizabeth Pollard as our Parliamentarian. So, please make sure you pay attention to the meeting so we all can leave early. I will strictly enforce standing rules, which need to be approved by you before we can start out business.

**Secretary's Report:  
Myron Greenstone**

A very busy and interesting year especially during the peak period of October to this time.

-Here is some information for the year:

-Number of requested sanctioned invitational through USADSF home office that was related to the USADB-13 invitationals---SEAAD-6, NEAAD-1 ,EAAD-2, FAAD-2, CAAD-1, NWAAD-1, MAAD-0, SWBAD-0. There may have been a couple of overlooked invitationals that the USADB was not notified and written up in the USADB webpage. Congrats to SEAAD for having the most invitationals-6 and congrats to MOCDCA-New Jersey for having the largest number of teams-18 team in it's tournament.

-FYI-- 2001-2002 season sanctioned requests was 22. 2002-2003--25. 2003-2004-13.

-Number of registered teams: NWAAD-18, MAAD-13, FAAD-12, SEAAD-18, SWBAB-13, EAAD-13, CAAD-13, NEAAD-7. Total number of teams-107 teams with 27 women teams.

General Reminder:

-All basketball information packets were sent out November 1, 2003 to region secretaries. Sorry for the delay as USADSF had to figure out appropriate USADSF insurance fees and appropriate USADSF registration forms.

Hopefully all teams receive the form by mid-November, 2003 so that all teams had plenty of time to sign players until February 1, 2004.

Goal for next year to have just 1 hard copy, 8 by 11, and simplify information for all teams to fill out properly and return to me on time. Possibly on-line registration.

Insurance:

-USADSF insurance company set the fees for insurance coverage. We apologize for the inconvenience in the last minute confusion with teams needed to deal directly to USADSF instead of USADB. Insurance fees for invitationals, regional tournaments were less this year due to the fact USADSF required no additional cost are to be added on by the USADB. Therefore, all fees went directly from teams /clubs to USADSF home office. In other words-the USADB received a lot less revenue (income) this past year.

-Thank you very much for your trust in me as your secretary. I will look forward to serving out the remainder of term as secretary under the Kilthau administration. Feel free to chat with me this weekend if you have any questions or suggestions and for any people who would like to be considered for the secretary's job in the future. I will be happy to explain to you the ropes of this position. Again, as I said last year, any suggestions to make this job and my daily job as a mainstream teacher for the Deaf easier would be appreciated. Once again-my Deaf students and teacher assistants as well as my ASL students are well aware of the USADB by this time. They have learned a lot about the USADB and know that the beeping of my classroom computer means email time from people all over the country. In a way-thank you.

Have a good weekend and may the best teams win.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Myron Greenstone,  
USADB Secretary

**Public Relations Report**  
**Shirley Platt**

Coaches and Players Criteria

Immediately after the 2003 tournament, I began drafting the USA team coaches selection criteria which was later approved by USADB and USADSF. We selection Ron Johnson of Minnesota and David Hamilton of Riverside, CA as head coaches for the women's and men's National teams. Both were later approved by USADSF at Deafflympics coaches. Laura Edwards was selected assistant women's coach and approved by USADSF. Saul Gevarter of Fremont was selected as men's national team assistant coach and approval of this by USADSF is pending.

I then drafted the player's selection criteria which was also approved by the USADB and USADSF. In July 2003, we held the first round of qualifying events at California School for the Deaf-Fremont. We had the help of our commissioners and Joey Baer and several of the staff from CSDF things went smoothly. End product was naming the national and development teams for men and women. Thank to all the coaches who assisted us with this!

We will hold the final and closed trial at Indiana School for the Deaf June 10-12. Selected athletes who are invited, as well as the national and development teams are expected to be there and will have their final opportunity to prove if they deserve to represent the USA on the Deafflympics teams.

The Team Manager's positions are expected to be announced very soon. Thanks to Laura Edwards for her assistance with drafting the criteria for this position.

### USA Basketball

In November, I went to the USA Basketball meeting in Colorado Springs. It is very important for us to maintain this visibility on behalf of USADB. Hopefully, we will now have 3 years of finance reports so that we can apply directly to USA Basketball for affiliation. I cannot stress enough the importance of this relationship and continued networking. Hopefully, they will once again provide us grant money to assist our men's and women's USA Teams to Melbourne in 2005 and reduce their fundraising burden. We will not know the results until this fall 2004.

### PR and Website

The USADB website is up and running and is update as frequently as possible. Diane Sweeney has worked hard to make this nice website and keep up with our many and frequent changes. Thank you, Diane!

We also have an infogram that we use to send out important information as well as to post the website. President Kiltthau makes sure the info grams are released once I have written them. Thank you, Raymond!

### Tournament Dailies

This year, thanks to Jack Levesque and Jay Innes, we will once again have the Tournament Dailies. Carl Denney has graciously offered tot do the tournament write-ups for the website. Thanks guys!

### NSO Criteria

USADB has bent over backwards to comply with everything required of an NSO by the USADSF NSO criteria. If we had not, I am sure USADSF VP of NSO's would have informed us. It is not easy to meet all demands and maintain our programs. Having the opportunity to work with Jeff Salit and John Knetzger this year has been great for us.

### National Tournaments

This year's tournament has been a piece of cake! We have a wonderful liaison in Justin Anderson, and he has picked a terrific group of volunteers. Fore the first timer ever, we have had up to the minute financial date on the tournament thanks to Dennis Platt. We also were able to obtain 4 gold sponsors at \$5,000 each and one bronze sponsor at \$1,000. We have numerous smaller donors to help make the tournament a success. Matt Snarr prepared our awesome program book.

Rian Elwell made our gorgeous trophies. Huge thanks to Justin and Matt and all the local Utahans for pitching in. The Utah Valley State College has been really great to work with.

We will have 6 Deaf referees; we will have athletic trainers; and 6 hardwood basketball courts. All those who plan to attend will enjoy dinner and entertainment exceed Bob Daniels on Saturday night. The champ team hotel rooms at La Quinta have been paid for by the USADB.

We have found that it is much more lucrative and financially manageable for USADB to run our own tournaments and control our own finances, than to contract to our host clubs. Hopefully, this will be a way for us to become financially stable. I drafted the Tournament Guidelines and the USADB Board has approved them. The Commissioners guidelines have also been drafted but have not yet been formally approved.

### World Championships

Next up are the World Championships in 2007. I doubt that it will be feasible for us to host them in the USA due to the 2007 Winter Deaf Olympics in Salt Lake City. It would be better for us to host in 2011.

### Youth Program

The only thing that has not really got off the ground yet is our Youth program. Hopefully, this program will get underway this year. Due to time constraints involved, we had to turn over the oversight of the Youth Pan Am basketball event to USADSF.

**Reviewed 4/29/04**