

USADB Basketball
Palace Station Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada
April 13-16, 2005

By-Laws Council Meeting:

Wednesday April 13, 2005

The 61st annual Men's USADB and 15th annual Women's USADB By-laws council meeting was called to order by President Raymond Kilhau at 7:35pm.

Libby Pollard was appointed Parliamentarian for this weekend's meetings and she explains about the voting procedures and her role as a Parliamentarian for the meetings.

Seymour Bernstein, representing the family of long-time leader Bill Davidson, gave a presentation to the delegates on the background of Bill's involvement in FAAD and AAAD as well as USADB. A moment of silence was then given in the memory of Bill Davidson.

Chuck Wallace was selected as Credential Chairperson for tonight's meeting.

Secretary Myron Greenstone presented the roll call:

Meeting Delegates:

Raymond Kilhau-President, Myron Greenstone- Secretary, Shirley Platt- Public Relation, Ladimer Baird Treasurer, Tom Morrison-Men Commissioner, Janice Logan-Women Commissioner, Kevin Smith, Keith Drown, Mark Nathanson, Ira Hendon, Tim Theis, Bruce Barnes, Mark Tessier, Robert Backofen, Wayne Morse, David Harvey, Jimmy Newsome, Chuck Wallace, Art Larson, Karole Rogers, Doug Mader, Travis Zaremba, Paula Hamblin-Lorenz, Tom Mueller, Jessica Whitney, Jason Lomanto, Justin Anderson, Gerald Brown, Mark Gunderson, Ronald Merritt, Darnell Woods, James Leek, Ron Johnson, Kadijatu Conteh, Bonita Leek, Al Lepre, William Schyman, Stephanie Todd, Dennis Platt, Evan Winegard, Carlos Valencia.

-Quorum was met.

-Minutes of the 2004 Utah meeting was approved.

-Reports by the USADB officers along with Men and Women Commissioners were presented.

-Financial reports from the past three (3) years were presented to the delegates.

-Jack Lambertson, representing the USADSF, gave a presentation to the delegates regarding USADSF's insurance policy and proposed changes and revision. Information

regarding a possibility that the USADSF may not be able to provide insurance to all NSO members from May 1 to end of the 2005 year was presented.

Old Business Proposals:

Vice-President Oskar Schugg relayed standing rules of 3 pros and 3 cons for tonight's meeting will be enforced tonight unless a situation dictates revision to the standing rules. Passed.

Dennis Platt amends to include no alcohol during the meeting along with the standing rules. Passed.

1. Beth Holly moved that the Buffalo Club of the Deaf would like to return and be affiliated with the EAAD (EBAD) and not with CAAD. Referred back to EAAD and CAAD for further considerations.

2. Robert Love, Jr- Moved to explain the Omaha basketball team's case in person. Referred to Grievance Committee in Utah and completed after the meeting in person and with witnesses. Case is closed.

3. Tim Gough – moved that NWAAD region shall include northern Nevada and the environs of Fresno, CA and the FAAD region shall include southern Nevada to be referred to by-laws committee for revisions. Referred to By-Laws committee. Passed.

4. Robert Jones- moved that all regional tournament fees shall be a flat rate of \$400.00. Referred to Finance Committee. Failed.

5. Charles Wallace- moved to increase USADB player membership from five (\$5.00) dollars to ten (\$10.00) dollars to help reduce USADB's debt.

-Motion was made to remove the wording "to reduce USADB's debt".
Mader (2nd). Passed.

-Barnes moved to Refer to Finance Committee. Lepre (2nd). Failed.

-Moved to increase USADB player membership fee from five (\$5.00) dollars to ten (\$10.00) dollars. Passed.

6. Beth Holly-Moved to have the USADB-laws to change the wording of EAAD- (Eastern Athletic Association of the Deaf) to the new name of EBAD-(Eastern Basketball Association of the Deaf). On hold-EAAD officers reported recently to the USADB Executive that no by laws for EBAD has been developed at this time and this organization will remain EAAD.

7. Robert Jones moved for the USADB to develop formal USADB patch (emblem with USADB insignia) and referees shirt for all USADB referees as a professional organization.

-Lepre- ()-2nd moved to Refer to Executive Committee. Failed.

-Barnes-(Mader)-2nd moved to Table the motion.

Passed. The motion was Tabled.

8. Robert Love Jr- moved to revise/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). Failed.

9. Robert Love Jr. moved for CISS to change the hearing percentage of Deaf athletes. (Referred to Executive Board). Failed.

10. Terry Wilding – Moved to amend the motion BBC-4-0011 from Providence, RI meeting in April 2000-

Any high school player (student) shall not play for a team in the same academic year unless he/she has used up their high school basketball eligibility and no one under the age of 18 years may play.

Barnes moved to add wording “and college athlete”. Failed.

Main motion Passed.

(Note: By mutual agreement between By-Laws Chairperson Oskar Scugg and SEAAD President Bruce Barnes, Barnes was excused from the meeting).

New Business:

1. Ladimer Baird (S. Platt)-moved to increase team entry fee from \$50.00 to \$75.00 for regional tournaments. Passed.

2. Ladimer Baird (S. Platt)-moved to establish a task force team to research on insurance coverages for the players, coaches, managers, and officers. Passed.

3. Ladimer Baird (S. Platt)-moved to establish a task force to research avenues to assist with fund-raising for Deaflympics, World Championship and other international basketball events for USA men and women basketball teams. Passed.

(Note-A Status reports may be tentatively presented every 6 months).

4. Ladimer Baird (S. Platt)-moved to rename chapter 16.01 to Deaflympic Athlete Screening Criteria for hearing Loss Requirements, and remove all words after “better ear”. Referred to Law Committee.

5. Ladimer Baird (D. Mader)-moved to change the current bylaw chapter 16.02 to 16.03 with the understanding of inserting a new 16.02 section entitled—“USADB National Tournament Criteria for Hearing Loss Requirement”. The body of this language shall consist—“The association and all members regions shall adhere to the CISS criteria for pathological definition of deafness for each athlete with understanding that each athlete shall have at least 55 decibels in at least one ear instead of the better ear”. Referred to Law Committee.

6. Ladimer Baird (D. Mader)-moved to have the USADB appoint an “Interim USADB Basketball Tournament Director” and also an “International Affairs Director” under USADB staffing status. Passed.

7. Oskar Schugg (I. Hendon)-moved to amend BPAC Guidelines (Basketball Players Advisory Council) to the USADB’s constitution. Passed.

8. Bill Schyman (A. Lepre)-moved that to have the USADB Preference to be disassociated from the USADSF as nothing is accomplished by sending annual USADSF dues to USADSF Home Office. Referred to Law Committee.

9. Jimmy Newsome (A. Lepre)-moved that the current USADB President to be impeached from current duties and an interim (1 year) President be appointed immediately. Motion was tabled.

10. Basketball Players Advisory Council

Motions to amend and consider:

1. National Tournament Participants

a. The national tournament will consist of 16 men’s teams ONLY.

b. All regional champions and runner-up finishers are automatically invited to the national tournament.

c. If for any reason the regional champion or runner-up finisher decides not to participate, the BPAC shall vote in an at-large replacement for any and all those automatic bids which confirm their withdrawals of the national tournament.

d. At large bids will come from any region voted in by the BPAC.

2. Seeding Process

- a. With support from the basketball commissioner, the BPAC will agree on majority votes for all seeding placement.
- b. All regional winners will be seeded 1-8 and all runner-ups and an at-large participants will be seeded 9-16.
- c. No two teams from the same region can meet in the first two rounds unless a third team from any given region is added will be seeded at-large.

3. Commissioner Responsibilities

- a. Basketball commissioner will be elevated to membership of the USADB Executive Board.
- b. The basketball commissioner will oversee the national tournament when pertaining to (seeding, game times, participants, BPAC membership).
- c. The basketball commissioner will be included in the decision making process for the national tournament pertaining to (screening game officials, gym location).

4. Basketball Players Advisory Council's Role

- a. BPAC shall be included as members of the USADB executive Committee.
- b. BPAC will vote in one Chief Representative from within the current BPAC. The Chief Representative shall be a member of the Executive Board.

5. Oskar Schugg (A. Lawson)-moved to amend and consider the Women and Men Basketball Commissioner's positions to be part of the USADB Executive Board. Passed.

Shirley Platt()-moved to refer all to Finance Committee for future studying.

Bruce Barnes (A, Lepre)-moved to table the motion. Failed.

Mark Tessier moved to amend the motion by approving the #3 BPAC segment only proposal. Passed.

Shirley Platt's main motion except the BPAC#3 segment. Passed. Refer to Finance committee.

(Note—Basketball Players Advisory Council Guidelines--#3—Commissioner Responsibilities----

A) Basketball Commissioner(s) will be elevated to membership of the USADB's Executive Board.

Announcement:

-2006 USADB tournament will be held in St. Louis, MO during 3rd or 4th weekend of April 2006.

-The meeting was adjourned at 1150pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Myron Greenstone, USADB Secretary

President's Report

Raymond Kilthau

USADB Treasurer:

Our Treasurer, Chuck Wallace decided to step down after he realized he wants to spend his time with his family. We finally found the replacement. Hi name is Lad Baird of Sioux Falls. He is working for CSD as an accountant. I am impressed with his work. He will be with us until 2008.

USADSF Special House of Delegates Meeting:

We discussed the issue regarding increase the membership dues from 10 dollars to 16 dollars. The reason to increase the dues to help cover insurance cost that had been increased rapidly after 9/11 incident. The votes were tied. (9 for and 9 against). USADSF President Bobbi Beth Scoggins voted in favor. It was passed.

Las Vegas Trip:

Last May Myron and I went to Las Vegas to look for the gym and hotel. We met Danny Tarkanian. He told us he is planning to build a new basketball court arena next to the Palace Station. He said it would be ready for us by April. So he agreed to accept our agreement. Then we signed agreement with Palace Station after we signed the agreement with Danny.

USADB Deaflympics Basketball Camp:

After USADSF's appointment of men and women players, I attended the Men's camp in Indianapolis, Indiana (at Indiana School for the Deaf) last June. I really impressed with the staff. Without their effort, I am not sure if we would have a good camp. We realized it would be good idea to have that kind of camp more often so our players can get the opportunity to know their players.

Australia Trip:

Diane and I went to Australia last January via our own expenses. I did not ask for any reimbursement because our funds were very low. I want to thank our coaches, Ron Johnson and David Hamilton for their efforts to help us bring the Gold back home again. Our Men's team had not lost any games since 1957 and the Women's team had not lost any games since 1988.

We need to make sure we continue our effort to bring the gold by having youth programs set up by USADB. So I am asking our delegates to make a motion to set up the task force to make the proposal to help raising funds to help our players. We cannot depend on USA Basketball because they had budget deficit. However, I finally convinced them to donate the uniforms. Then got donation from Sorenson to help with the coaches expenses. The deaf basketball world is starting to catch up with their basketball program.

St. Louis Site Inspection:

I went to St. Louis last month to do site inspection. They showed interest to work with us. I visited two basketball court sites. One site: University of Missouri at St. Louis. However they are not available for us. We may be able to use Forest Valley Community College. They had four courts in one building. We are now negotiating with them to finalize our agreement. Once we finalize with the gym and then will finalize the hotel. I met with Greater St. Louis Association of the Deaf committee. They are prepared to help us as they worked with us in 1997. Please look at our website for updated information.

Insurance:

Our Board had discussed about getting our own liability insurance. We had explored to find one to compare with USADSF insurance coverage. If we find one that may cost less but offer better coverage, then we need to decide if it is worth for us to continue to affiliate with the USADSF because it would mean we would pay double. So I would recommend we establish a task force to find out if it would be beneficial for us to do that or not. We should not rush ourselves because we may realize we hit the fan with incorrect facts.

Las Vegas Committee:

I would like to spend a few minutes to show our appreciation to our Las Vegas local organizing committee for their support. Our Liason Officer Bonita Leek (with sponsor of her husband James), really devoted their time to make sure we have the tournament despite of relocation of our gym site. She really made it happen. I don't know if we may be able to have the tournament, if we did not have Bonita as our Liason Officer.

Our Board:

Before I start to thank our board for their effort, I want to thank my fiancée, Diane for her support. She devoted her time working on our webpage and program book. She knew it is very stressful time for us.

I want to thank our board for their effort to make sure we have the tournament. It was a very difficult time to find a replacement gym with last minute notice. We never think of canceling the tournament because we wanted to make sure we do not put an asterisk in our history book to have the tournament cancelled. I also want to thank our regions, coaches, and players for their patience.

Officers 2006:

Just remind you, we will have three positions, President, Secretary, and Public Relations Officer to be filed next year. So I want us to start to look for people who want to run for these offices. You may look at the USADB Bylaws to see what duties and responsibilities of each other.

Bylaws Proposals:

After my three years as President, I realize we need to add two new positions to our executive board. These two positions are: Tournament Director and International Relations Officer. I realize it is a burden on our Vice-President to do his task as Tournament Director. It would be better benefit for us to have someone to focus on the tournament plan while our officers can do other tasks. Also, for International Relations Officer, who would focus on International affairs such like Deaflympics tryouts, training camps, and working with coaches.

Commissioner's Roles:

I would feel it would be appropriate for BPAC (Basketball Players Advisory Committee) to pick their commissioners to represent their needs. Also, change their status from staff to elected representative to be on the USADB Executive Board with voting power. So I am proposing the changes on our USADB Bylaws.

Hope you will enjoy your time this week.

Raymond Kiltbau
USADB President

Secretary's Report

Myron Greenstone

As usual a very busy year involving with the Deaflympics and preparations for this year's USADB tournament in Las Vegas.

-Here is some information for the year:

A bit of a change in duties this year was that requests for insurance for invitationals and regional tournaments including all fees was sent directly to the Treasurer instead of the Secretary. The Treasurer then deposits all monies and forward rosters and other items to my Secretary binder. This makes for a quicker and crisper book-keeping for the Treasurer.

General Reminder:

-All basketball information packets were sent early October 2004 to region secretaries. Hopefully all teams receive the form by mid-November, 2004 so that all teams had plenty of time to sign players until February 7, 2005.

Recent communications with regional Presidents show that there will hopefully be a one standardize roster form for the 2005-2006 regular season and USADB tournament. More info may be shared later.

-Thank you very much for your trust again in me as your secretary. I will look forward to serving out the last year of my term. 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 for election of secretary at St. Louis in 2006. I will be happy to explain to you the ropes of this position.

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

The criteria for the selection of the 2006-2009 national team coaches was submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

USA Basketball

The meeting this year was cancelled. However, USADB was able to get uniforms and other items from USA Basketball for our Deaflympicsbasketball teams.

PR and Website

Diane Sweeney continues as our webmaster and has worked hard to make this a nice website and keep up with our frequent changes. If you have information you would like posted, contact us.

We also have an infogram that we use to send out important information as well as to post on the website. It is important for all players, coaches and basketball lovers to sign up for the infograms as they often contain vital information.

Tournament Dailies

Carl Denney will compile our Tournament Dailies this year in the “Las Vegas Gambler”. The newsletter will also be put on the website for all to enjoy. Many thanks to Kenneth Brown and Sprint for sponsoring the costs of printing the newsletter.

Tournament Guidelines

I drafted the Tournament Guidelines last year and sent to Ira Hendon on March 23, 2—4 and we are still waiting for them.

Commissioner Guidelines

I drafted the Commissioner’s Guidelines last year and sent to Ira Hendon on March 23, 2004 and we are still waiting for them.

World Championships

Next up are the World Championships in 2007. We will announce the location and procedures for team selections at a later date.

Youth Program

The only thing that still hasn’t gotten off the ground yet is our Youth program. Hopefully, this program will get underway in the near future.

I would like to thank everyone for their patience while I spent the last 4 months recovering from two hip surgeries. It was a very difficult time for me.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shirley H. Platt

Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday April 13, 2005

Palace Station Hotel and Casino

Las Vegas, NV

Members President-President Raymond Kilthau, Vice-President Oskar Schugg, Secretary Myron Greenstone, Treasurer Ladimer Baird, Public Relations Shirley Platt, Men Commissioner Tom Morrison, Women Commissioner Janice Logan

- 1. Ladimer moved to have Doug Mader as Interim Tournament Director for 2006 at St. Louis, MO. Passed 4-0.**
- 2. USADB Executive Board will ask Doug this weekend if he would accept the Interim Tournament Director position and will be under the guidance of the USADB Executive Board. DougMader @tmail.com (Doug Mader accepted this position).**
- 3. St. Louis Airport Marriott Hotel rates at this time is \$79.00 per night. Gym will be at Forrest City Community College with 4 courts. No shuttle from hotel to gym at this time. Tentative date is April 19-23, 2006. Tentative combo ticket fees are attached.**
- 4. Passed 4-0 Invited Team fee is \$250.00 and \$40.00 per player. Champ team will not have to pay any player or team fees at St. Louis. No refund**
- 5. Ladimer moved to pay website designer \$500.00 per year, reto to January 2004. 2nd Myron Passed.**
- 6. A letter was forwarded to me from MAAD President Wayne Morse, advising USADB that MAAD is suspending Rod Newell of Sioux Falls from playing in this weekend's game due to failure to turn in audiogram in a timely manner. Mr. Newell has 30 days after the tournament to forward an audiogram to MAAD officers or he will be ineligible for participation in the MAAD. See attached.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Myron Greenstone,

USADB Secretary

Executive Board Wrap Up Meeting

Sunday April 17, 2005

Palce Station and Casino Hotel

Las Vegas, NV

USADB Executive Board present—President Raymond Kilthau, Vice-President Oskar Schugg, Secretary Myron Greenstone, Treasurer Ladimer Baird, Public Relations Shirley Platt, Men Commissioner Tom Morrison, Women Commissioner Janice Logan. Guest Diane Sweeney.

Commenced at 915 am Sunday April 17, 2005

1. **Reviewed MAAD suspension letter of one player. See attached.**

General Commissioners Report:

1. **Game ball was not top quality. 2006 will have to make sure it is top quality.**
2. **Game balls were donated to champ teams. Next year, USADB will need to buy game net to donate to the gym site for cutting down school nets for the champ teams.**
3. **Both men and women must have same rules-ie—no hearing aids at all. Commissioner must relay same info to both men and women teams. It was felt men wore hearing aids and women did not after first round games.**
4. **Basically no incidents on courts. Mark Hedrick hit a wall and was off the court. No incident reports were followed up. May need to have incident report paper on the scorers table with scorekeeper as a reminder in the future.**
5. **VP Oskar wishes to commend Referee Coordinator Gene Duve for his skills over the weekend. Deaf referees were satisfied with officiating a lot of games and correct placement of officials not officiating in same region where they are from. Duve has expressed interest to doing this assignment in 2006. Executive Board voted and passed to place Deaf Referee Coordinator on the official budget for 2006.**
6. **Trainer Sandy Hart needs to tell USADB Executive Board items she needs and not tell school gym personnel what she needs. Jumped the gun. Trainer are under USADB Executive Board discretions.**
7. **Tentative date for Executive Board meeting, February 11-13, 2006. (Not clear on this).**
8. **November 2005-inspection in St. Louis is possible.**
9. **Write a letter of thanks to Home Courts and Faith Lutheran HS for use of the court. (Who will write the letter).**

10. **Brief discussion on full payment to Utah Valley State College debt. Board agreed to pay off the UVSC debt by end of April, 2005. (Note—board voted unanimously via email to pay off the UVSC debt and to work with USADSF debt later).**

Note:

Regional President Round Table:

Presidents agreed to have a standardize one Registration form for players in 2006 that will be used for regular season and USADB tournament.

(Note—There is no mention of where players attended school in the proposed form. It must be included and a deadline date of February 1.)

Respectfully Submitted,

Myron Greenstone,

USADB Secretary