



United States of America Deaf Basketball, Inc.

USADB Delegate Council Meeting
Fishers Conference Center
Indianapolis, IN.
April 11, 2007

The 63rd Annual Men's USADB and 17th Annual Women's USADB By-laws council meeting was called to order by President Ira Hendon III at 3:16 p.m.

President Hendon III explained the meeting ground rules as follows:

1. No pager or cell phone can be allowed in the meeting
2. No abusive or nasty language (*)
3. No interruption during presentation
4. Each delegate has ONE vote
5. (*) = Failure to follow the meeting rules will result in getting two (2) technical fouls and being asked to leave the meeting immediately escorted by our sergeant of arms
6. Your cooperation with USADB would be greatly appreciated!

President Hendon III introduced Christopher Hudson as sergeant-at-arms.

President Hendon III stated that Libby Pollard, the Parliamentarian was unable to make it to the meeting due to conflicting plans with National Deaf Senior Citizen Conference.

President Hendon III proceeded with the USADB Basketball Council Meeting Order of Business.

1. Roll Call
2. Reading of Minutes
3. Officer's Report
 - a. President
 - b. Interim Vice President
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Interim Public Relations Officer
 - f. Women's Commissioner
 - g. Men's Commissioner
4. Reports of Standing Committees
5. Proposed Amendments to Constitutions, Bylaws, and Guidelines
6. Unfinished Business
7. New Business
8. Election of Officers
 - a. Vice President
 - b. Treasurer
9. Adjournments

Secretary Keith Westhoelter presented the roll call:

Meeting Delegates:

Ira Hendon III (USADB President), David Hamilton (USADB Interim Vice-President), Keith Westhoelter (USADB secretary), Ladimer Baird (USADB Treasurer) Susan Margolin (USADB Interim Public Relations Director), Tom Morrison (USADB Men Commissioner), Mary Perrodin (USADB Interim Women Commissioner), Bonnie Schwebke (CAAD President), Keith Drown (NWADB President), John Scott (SWBAD Representative), Andrea Johnson (SEAAD Secretary), Charles Wallace (EAAD President), Wayne Morse (MAAD President), Robert Backofen (NEAAD President), Jay Krieger (CAAD Men Champion – GIDC), Darnell Woods (SWBAD Men Champion – Austin), Williams Elliott, Jr. (SEAAD Men Champion – CAD), Eric Roberts (EAAD Men Champion– East Zone), Paul Mitchell (EAAD Men Runner-up – New Jersey), Robert Love (MAAD-Men Runner-up – St. Louis), Justin Anderson (NWDBA-Men's Champion – Bay Area), Roger Vass (USADB-FW Men Champion– Arizona Desert Fire), Willie Cook Sr (CAAD Men Runner-up – Columbia), Julia Anderson (CAAD Women Runner-up – WSAD Mustangs), Courtney Westberg (NWADB Women Champion – Utah), Anthony Cipriano (NWDBA Women Champion – Providence), Patrick Robinson (SWBAD Women Champion – Tallageda), Laura Edwards (USADB-FW Women Champion – Arizona Black Windows), James Carr (CAAD Women Runner-up – GIDC), Miki Smith (SWBAD Women Runner-up - Houston), Rachel Tubiolo (SEAAD Women Runner-up – Piedmont), Michelle Heathington (USADB-FW Runner-up – PAD Extremes), Timothy Theis (Delegate-at-large), Kevin Smith (CAAD – WSAD Orange), Neal McKenzie (CAAD- Milwaukee), Robert Jones (EAAD-GPAD), Doug Mader (CAAD-Madison), Michael Shiffer (EAAD – NJ Deaf Sports), James Leek (USADB-FW – Las Vegas Rebels), Ronnie Zuchegno (EAAD – Rochester Pistons), Zeke Sabestian (NVCD). Quorum was met.

President Report – Ira Hendon III:

1. (*) = Appointed with an approval by USADB Executive Board
2. Appointed Keith Westhoelter, Coordinator for USADB Elite Youth Camp (*)
3. Appointed Bonnie Schwebke, Liaison Officer for Regional Officers (*)
4. Appointed Mary Perrodin as USADB Women's Commissioner (*)
5. Appointed David Hamilton, Liaison Officer for International Affairs (*)
6. Had the first USADB Board meeting in Indianapolis in August
7. Flew for Washington, D.C for attending for USADSF House of Delegates Meeting
 - a. Mini Conference of AAAD/USOC/USADSF
 - b. Individual Membership Due of five dollars (\$5.00) reduction
 - c. Goals and Planning's with USADSF (if re-affiliated)
8. Worked on contacting donors for 2007 tournament sponsorship
 - a. Sorenson
 - b. Sprint of Florida
 - c. Office Depot
 - d. Hawk Relay
 - e. Igloo Productions
 - f. National Basketball Association
 - g. D.U.E. (Deaf United Entertainment)
 - h. CSD TV
9. Had some issues/concerns to be discussed in the board meetings
10. USA Deaf Basketball Organization (USADBO)
11. West Deaf Basketball (WDB)
12. WDB vs. USADB Far West (USADB-FW)
13. USADB vs. Regions
14. Use the wording of "Invitational" instead of "Division II"
15. Lack of Communication
16. USADB Goals and Planning from May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008
17. Increase the number of contacts for more sponsorships

18. Contact some major organizations like: National Black Deaf Advocates
19. Help regions to complete all paperwork to meet the IRS rulings
20. Expand more programs and services
21. More correspondence for "President's Corner"
22. See our current USADB bylaws to be updated and more accurate

Interim Vice-President Report – David Hamilton:

- Explained the updated on USADB's bylaws and appointed Justin Anderson to update the bylaws. Shared his apologies for not updating the bylaws in a timely matter due to circumstances with last year's minutes report.
- Explained that USADB should reconsider to re-affiliate with USADSF. The USADSF has decreased its membership dues from last year's \$16 to \$5 this year. Made a possible breakdown suggestion \$3 goes to USADSF and \$2 goes to Youth/International program.
- Discussed the East / West All-Star teams for boys as trial and error this year. Hopefully, next year in the national tournament USADB will do both for boys and girls. Hawk Relay sponsored team uniforms.

Secretary Report – Keith Westhoelter:

- Announced that the new USADB website that is sponsored by Hawk Relay.
- Showed appreciation to regional officers for sending their tournament and statistics results to secretary.
- Discussed youth programs such as Elite Camp.

Treasurer Report – Ladimer Baird

- Budget
 - I created proposed budgets for 2007-08 general & tournament and sent to the board for us to review. I would like this to be added in the new business in order to prevent some new expenses being incurred because it wasn't approved during the basketball council.
 - Region Presidents have not received the budgets because the board has not finalized it until a few days before tournament. So, it is up to the delegate to approve or not approve the budget during new business due to insufficient time to review and ask questions.
- USADB-FW
 - Budgeted for \$1,500 loss but \$844 actual loss. Out of \$844, only \$50-60 is related to USADB-FW. USADB board agreed to use USADB general fund to cover two USADB board's travel expenses and tournament insurance because I was informed that the gym didn't require insurance after I already purchased the insurance.
 - USADB board agreed to run an ad-hoc regional tournament to meet the status quo of 8 regions.
 - USADB board agreed to use general fund through \$20 membership fee to cover any loss resulted from USADB-FW, if any.
 - Championship fund: \$800 for men champion and \$700 for women champion.
- Membership
 - 95 teams in 2007 compared to 93 teams in 2006.
 - 1,218 total members in 2007.
 - \$24,280 earned through membership fees.
 - More membership fees will be paid throughout the tournament especially from the referees whose their membership fees will be deducted from their final referee pay out.
 - USADB officers: 3 are players, one already paid and 3 others will have their membership fees deducted from their annual compensation.

- Indianapolis Tournament Budget
 - Need approximately \$20,000 in at the door registrations to hit break-even point.
- Financial Report
 - Based on my past experience, I am more than happy to provide the financial report via email attachment in PDF format instead of giving out print outs during the basketball council which will likely result in littering after the meeting.
 - The board will explore the possibility of posting the financial report on the website.
 - The reports are not that fancy because I don't have as much time as I would prefer to work on the financial reports extensively. However, what I have is sufficient.
- General v. Tournament Funds
 - Two sets of funds are to be self-supported. General through \$20 membership fees and \$100 region membership fee. Tournament through all tournament-related revenues including registration, sponsorship, exhibitors, etc.
 - General
 - Budgeted based on \$25,000 estimate of earning membership fees.
 - Budgeted net profit is \$150.
 - Net profit can rise if remove some expenses including:
 - \$1k for Directors & Officers Liability Insurance
 - \$1k in Sponsorship for international basketball teams that will attend WDBC of 2007 in China.
 - \$2,500 in House of Delegate meeting costs if we remain disaffiliated with USADSF.
 - Net profit can rise up as much as \$6,000.
 - Net profit and loss shall be determined by the delegates.
 - If net profit is much more than deemed necessary, \$20 membership fee may or may not be too much. If remain at \$20, USADB can sponsor more into Elite Camp and/or other interests. Bottom line, the delegates have the final decision.
- Balance Sheet
 - I am a much happier man than in the past couple years.
 - The current cash position as of March 31, 2007 is \$29,943.21.
 - At same time frame as of March 31, 2006, the cash position was \$26,845.03. (During the meeting, I stated \$5,706.55 which was as of Dec 31, 2006. My apologies!)
 - The current cash position doesn't mean we have plenty of money as the tournament result isn't known yet. We may need to use the cash to cover any loss as well as for covering the 2007-08 budgeted expenses.
 - Again, we may want to re-evaluate USADB's fee structure.

Public Relations Director Report – Susan Magolin:

- Announced that she is honored to be selected as Interim Public Relations Director last December
- Explained that she was asked by USADB board to be Co-Coordinator with Tom Morrison of the USADB-FW Basketball Tournament
- Reported that she has assisted the board with writing, revising, correcting letters, articles for the website, making reports and developing contracts
- She is also working closely with secretary, Keith Westhoelter on the website

Men's Commissioner Report – Tom Morrison:

- No report

Women's Commissioner Report – Mary Perridon:

- No report

Regional Communication Liaison Report – Bonnie Schwebke

- Explained the following agenda below from the Regional Presidents' Roundtable Meeting today
 - Concerns about players registration form and SEAAD Secretary Andrea Johnson will provide suggestions to USADB
 - USADB officer officers' roles compare to regions
 - Lack of communication with some USADB officers
 - USADB \$20 membership pros and cons
 - Insurance issue Team/Tournament
 - Delegates: three representative from each region which not approved in last year's proposal
 - USADSF re-affiliation should or should not
 - High School All-Star selection committee's criteria
 - Enforcement: What is benefit for members who do not participate in the national tournament as players that paid their membership fee?
 - Regional Communication Liaison: Anyone interests to take her place next year?

International Director Report: David Hamilton

- No Report

Youth Program Director Report: Keith Westhoelter

- No Report

Discussion:

There was a lengthy discussion about last year's meeting minutes in St. Louis. There were several errors on the report due to 24 missing proposals that were not attached to the minutes.

Another topic of discussion was about WDB (West Deaf Basketball – region) as they were not recognized by USADB due to failure to submit WDB bylaws in a timely matter. The deadline was passed in the delegate meeting in St. Louis. However, the correction was made from 60 days to 90 days.

Participants serving on the law committee were discussed. Bonnie Schwebke stated that per the 2002 minutes report in Indianapolis, the proposal that was passed stated that eight regional presidents were to be involved with the USADB's future Law Committee. A discussion addressed why this has not been practiced since all the proposals were referred to Law Committee. President Hendon ordered eight regional Presidents to the Law Committee to review and complete the all referred bylaw proposals from 2002 by next year.

There was some discussion about the updated financial report for USADB. Any questions were referred to the Treasurer's Report.

There was a follow up discussion on Charles Wallace's proposal last year that was passed. The proposal stated that USADSF will reimburse N.J.D.S., \$206 that they had to pay for a late fee.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTIONS, BY-LAWS AND GUIDELINES:

1. John Scott (Tim Theis) moved to insert "maiden" name on USADB registration form to record last names for women's team.

PASSED

2. Charles Wallace (Michael Shiffer) as EAAD representative moved USADB to re-affiliate with USADSF.

Keith Drown (Kevin Smith) amended to use \$5 of USADB's \$20 membership fee to cover USADSF's \$5 membership fee.

PASSED

PASSED AS WHOLE 18-0

3. Bonnie Schwebke (Neal McKenzie) moved to delete "... and any disputes between regions." In Article 5, Section 5.02.

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEE: PASSED

****David Hamilton took over the floor on behalf of Ira Hendon III and switched back during #5 motion.****

4. Bonnie Schwebke (Neal McKenzie) moved that USADB shall not use ANY of regions' 501 (c) 3 for any purpose(s) and benefit(s) starting effective as of May 1, 2006 and for the rest of years.

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEE: PASSED

5. Bonnie Schwebke (Neal McKenzie) moved to rescind Proposal #6. (That was passed at St. Louis basketball council of 2006.)

PASSED 13-11

PROPOSAL # 6

Current:

6.01 Delegates.

- (1) Voting members of the Basketball Council shall consist of the following:
 - (a) One delegate for each team with a delegate form signed by the region's secretary;
-- Effective 4/12/2000 --
 - (b) One delegate for each region with a delegate form signed by the region's secretary, and;
-- Effective 4/12/2000 --
 - (c) The officers of the Association.
-- Effective 4/12/2000 --

- (d) Former past officers of the AAAD/USADB as delegate at large.
-- *Effective 4/12/2000* –
- (2) The following restrictions shall apply:
 - (a) No person shall be entitled to more than one vote, regardless of holding multiple offices.
-- *Effective 4/12/2000* –
 - (b) Each delegate shall be a full member in good standing with the Association and the USADSF for at least one year prior to the Basketball Council meeting, and the organization he represents shall meet the membership criteria as outlined in Article Three of this Constitution.
-- *Effective 4/12/2000* –

New proposal:

6.01 Delegates.

- (1) Voting members of the Basketball Council shall consist of the following:
 - (a) One delegate from each region must be elected regional officer;
-- *Effective 4/05/2006* --
 - (b) One delegate from each region must be male basketball player;
 - (1) Must be a representative or alternate representative from BPAC;
-- *Effective 4/05/2006* --
 - (2) Must be elected from Regional Players Council;
-- *Effective 4/05/2006* --
 - (c) One delegate from each region must be female basketball player;
 - (1) Must be a representative or alternate Representative from BPAC;
 - (2) Must be elected from Regional Players Council;
-- *Effective 4/05/2006* --
 - (d) The officers of the Association;
 - (e) Former past officers of the USADB as Delegate at large;
 - (1) Must complete the full term as past officer.
6. Rachel Tubiolo (Laura Edwards) moved that the team players whose team didn't make it to USADB tournament and paid their \$20 USADB membership should have the benefit to attend USADB as a fan plus pay \$10 more (same treatment as if a team who plays in USADB tournament and is completely out of tournament pays \$10 for DUE event).

REFER TO FINANCE & LAW COMMITTEE: PASSED

- 7. Robert Jones (Chuck Wallace) moved USADB business with fee be included with membership as \$400 team flat fee.

REFER TO FINANCE & LAW COMMITTEE: PASSED

8. Mary Perrodin/Tom Morrison (Keith Westhoelter) moved that 4 duties of the Tournament Director be moved to Men's & Women's Commissioners.
 1. Ball Choices
 2. Scheduling of Games
 3. Brackets
 4. Gym Site Inspections

PASSED 18-0

9. Mary Perrodin (David Hamilton) moved that USADB change the titles of President and Vice-President to Commissioner and Deputy-Commissioner, respectively. Also, Men's and Women's Commissioner to Men's and Women's Player Representatives.

PASSED 7-1

10. Zeke Sabastian (Darnell Woods) NVCD request to moved to EAAD from SEAAD environs of Northern Virginia.

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEE – FAILED 12-10

PASSED 18-1

11. Roger Vass (James Leek) moved to set up Far West Deaf Basketball Association (FWDBA) as a new region under USADB.

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEE – FAILED 18-4

PASSED 20-1

12. Darnell Woods (John Scott) moved for family discount plan for national tournament. Players participating in the tournament whose family members want to attend should have a discount combo packet.

Criteria: Immediate family (mother, father, husband, wife & children)

PASSED 20-0

13. Ladimer Baird (Mary Perrodin) moved to approve USADB's new logo found in the current website as of April 10, 2007 as USADB's official logo.

PASSED 15-0

14. Susan Margolin (Keith Westhoelter) moved to have mission statement.

United States of America Deaf Basketball (USADB) is a national basketball organization serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing athletes who desire to participate in organized sports activities. There are eight regional units sponsored by USADB which come together at annual national tournaments and summer basketball camps, thus to develop a sense of good sportsmanship, congeniality and leadership skills among interested and talented players. Participants for Deaf Olympics and International Basketball games are selected from the most promising players at these tournaments, to represent USADB internationally.

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEE : PASSED 14-0

15. Doug Mader (Keith Westhoelter) moved to enforce all teams and delegates to register their teams online for regional & national tournaments.

Ira Hendon III switched with David Hamilton.

Amendment: Ira Hendon III (Kevin Smith) amends for regions to establish their respective regions' own registration forms.

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

David Hamilton switched with Ira Hendon III.

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

16. Ladimer Baird (Chuck Wallace) moved to remove by-laws that state "minutes can be corrected only during basketball council".

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

17. Doug Mader (Ladimer Baird) moved to add gym inspection duty to Tournament Director and work with Men's & Women's Players' Representatives.

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1.
 - a. Shirley Platt-(M. Greenstone) moved to add the position of Tournament Director to the USADB Executive Board, in place of the Public Relations Director. Referred to Law Committee from St. Louis, 2006.
 - b. Law Committee's Recommendation: No recommendation is available because an official law committee consisting of was not established according to by-laws all region presidents.
 - c. REFER TO LAW COMMITTEE: PASSED
2.
 - a. Wayne Morse-(M. Tessier)-moved to change the Saturday Night Dance/Social Awards to Entertainment/Awards. Referred to Law Committee from St. Louis, 2006.
 - b. REFER TO LAW COMMITTEE: PASSED
3.
 - a. Robert Jones-(B. Schyman) moved that the USADB host site shall be at Philadelphia, PA with local manpower organization and EAAD to work together for 2011. Referred to Executive Board from St. Louis, 2006.
 - b. Executive Board's Recommendation: Re-evaluate this issue prior to 2008 tournament's basketball council meeting.

- c. REFER TO EXECUTIVE BOARD: PASSED
- 4.
- a. Ladimer Baird (Shirley Platt)- moved that the regional tournament sanction fees shall be \$100.00. Referred to Finance Committee from St. Louis, 2006.
 - b. Finance Committee's Recommendation: No official financial committee was available due to lack of interest to be on financial committee. Hence, Ladimer Baird as USADB Treasurer recommended withdrawing his motion or having the delegate vote against this. Instead he recommends that the annual region membership includes one "free" regional tournament sanction fee.
 - c. FAILED

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Ronnie Zuchegno (Chuck Wallace) – moved that Rochester Pistons Women's team get \$300 refund due to midterm finals.

FAILED

- 2. Bonnie Schwebke (Neal McKenzie) moved to ratify WDB.

Amended: Ladimer Baird (Chuck Wallace) amended that USADB has the right not to recognize WDB as a region if all WDB teams do not pay USADB \$20 membership fee AND create sign MOU between USADB & WDB. Also, there shall not be any suspension for any teams that played in USADB-FW.

PASSED 11-0

Amended: Ronnie Zuchegno (John Scott) amended to rephrase Ladimer's amendment after "not recognize WDB as a region" to welcome WDB without any penalty for any teams and to fully comply USADB's by-laws.

PASSED 15-0

MOTION AS WHOLE: FAILED 18-4

- 3. Mary Perrodin (David Hamilton) moved to take \$5,000 out of reserve funds to start investments for USADB and their future. All procedures to be handled by USADB Treasurer.

Amended: Ronnie Zuchegno (John Scott) replaces "USADB Treasurer" to "Finance Committee".

PASSED 10-0

MOTION AS WHOLE: REFER TO FINANCE & LAW COMMITTEE: PASSED

- 4. Chuck Wallace (John Scott) moved USADB to improve USADB team form with full information.

OUT OF ORDER

5. Paul Mitchell (Kevin Smith) – moved that USADB give a 10% discount of combo ticket to the Invitational Champion team with lifetime pass.

Amendment: Ladimer Baird (Bonnie Schwebke) amended to replace “discount of combo ticket” to “of total Invitational team entry fees”.

PASSED 7-0

Amendment: Doug Mader (Michael Shiffer) amended to remove “with lifetime pass”.

PASSED 9-0

MOTION AS WHOLE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

6. Neal McKenzie (Bonnie Schwebke) moved that USADB give their 501 (c) 3 certification letter to all regions.

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

ELECTION:

Deputy Commissioner (Formerly Vice President):

Nominations:

David Hamilton – Accepted

Justin Anderson – Declined

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY ACL

Treasurer:

Nominations

Ladimer Baird – Accepted

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY ACL

President Hendon III explained the corrections of the 2006 St. Louis Delegate Meeting Minutes Report.

Bonnie Schwebke (Neal McKenzie) moved to restore the remaining 24 proposals to be attached to the 2006 St. Louis Delegate Meeting Minutes Report. PASSED

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Westhoelter, USADB Secretary