

Minutes of the USOF Board of Directors' Meeting

23 June 2001

PNWOF-Three Creeks Resort, Washington

- I. **Call to Order:** President Charles Ferguson called the USOF Board of Directors meeting to order at 2:10 PM.

Officers present:

Charles Ferguson - President

Sherry Litasi - VP Marketing and PR

Eric Bone - VP Competition

Scott Drumm - VP Club Services

Frank Kuhn - VP Administration

Mike Minium - VP Program Development

Linda Ferguson – Secretary, SE (alt-elect)

Board members present:

Clare Durand, Pacific

Nancy Koehler, A/L Competition

Gale Teschendorf, Heartland

Barbara Sleight, A/L

David Irving, Southwest (Alt)

Bill Cusworth, NW

Robert Buraczynski, NE

Randy Hall, A/L

Others present:

Michael Schneiderman, (Secretary elect), Karen Dennis, Joanne Sankus, NE (alt)

1. **OPEN FORUM** (5 minutes allotted to any speaker)

1. **Barb Sleight** suggested that the next secretary provide a list of who is not present as well as those present in the minutes.
2. **Mike Minium** reported on the World Police and Fire Games held in the Cincinnati/Southern Indiana area, June 8-16. There were 45 individuals scheduled to participate in the Orienteering portion of the games with 32 actual starts on June 11 at Mounds State Park. Foreign competitors fared much better and finished the competition more successfully than the US competitors. The next games are in Barcelona in 2003 and Quebec in 2005. USOF clubs need to be encouraged to approach their local fire and police departments and offer training in hopes that the US can be more successful in the Orienteering portion of the games.
3. **Clare Durand** and Linda Eck are requesting that the Girl Scouts of America change the rule that prohibits their youth members from orienteering as individuals. According to current GSA policy, to be covered by GSA insurance, girls must participate minimally as two-person teams. This prohibits them from winning championships or placing in Orienteering completions. Leaders with Scouts ready to participate individually but prohibited by the current policy should get in touch with Clare or Linda to help provide the statistical analysis for their presentation.
4. **Clare Durand** reports that Southern California is going through the National Forest Plan Update and is the first in the country to fall under this new congressional directive. The area clubs are contacting orienteers throughout the state to rally members to attend these meetings and have a voice in what is happening in/to the forest. Reports are available through SCONET-NFS through YAHOO Groups.com. Georgia is affected similarly.
5. **Barb Sleight reported** that Orienteering will be included in the Empire State Senior Games and encourages USOF Regional Representatives to become active in soliciting states in their regions to include Orienteering in all state senior games.
6. **Mike Minium** reported that the National Congress of State Games is sending USOF correspondence and eager to have Orienteering represented at their national congress in mid-October in the NE. Mike is tentatively planning to attend and is looking for someone from the area to attend also.
7. **Sherry Litasi** attended the Women's Sports Foundation Congress in Scottsdale, Arizona in May. During the course of the event, she was able to initiate a conversation about including Orienteering in the next games with President, Donna Lapone. The next games will be in 2 years in Colorado or Utah.

III. **Minutes:**

Eric Bone moved to approve the minutes as corrected.

SECOND – Sherry Litasi

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Yes – 13

No – 0

Abstention – 1

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 voting members present.

IV. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** None

1. AGENDA ITEMS:

1. USOF COMPETITION AWARDS FUND POLICY - Eric Bone

Eric Bone proposed the BOD approve the USOF COMPETITION AWARDS FUND POLICY and the accompanying USOF COMPETITION AWARDS SERVICE GUIDELINES.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the USOF Competition Awards Fund is to fund awards for USOF sanctioned events as described in the *USOF COMPETITION AWARDS SERVICE GUIDELINES*.

ADMINISTRATION: the USOF Vice President of Competition or his designate administers The Competition Awards Fund. By approving the annual budget for the Competition Awards Fund the USOF Board of Directors empowers the Fund administrator to authorize the disbursement of monies from the Competition Awards Fund up to that amount budgeted for that purpose. The Fund administrator has the authority to approve expenses and enter in to contracts for purchases and other disbursements from the Competition Awards Fund. Disbursements from the Competition Awards Fund may not at any time exceed the cash balance in the Fund. The Fund administrator is required to maintain appropriate records and produce budgets and financial statements regarding the Competition Awards Fund activity.

SOURCES: Sources for support and revenue for the Competition Awards Fund are 1) Contributions to USOF designated for Competition Awards purchases and programs; 2) Undesignated contributions to USOF authorized by the USOF Board of Directors to be used for competition awards purchases and programs; 3) Transfers from the USOF Operating Fund authorized by the USOF Board of Directors to be used for competition awards purchases and programs; 4) Fundraising activities on behalf of the Competition Awards Fund; and 5) fees collected for the provision of awards.

USES: Monies in the Competition Awards Fund may be dispersed as 1) Purchase of competition awards; 2) Operating expenses of the competition awards programs within USOF; 3) Administrative costs related to the management of the monies in or expenses funded by the Competition Awards Fund as budgeted and authorized by the Fund administrator.

DISSOLUTION: The Competition Awards Fund may be dissolved by majority vote of the USOF Board of Directors. Monies remaining in the Fund upon dissolution must be dispersed or transferred in a manner consistent with the intention of their designation to the Competition Awards Fund.

SECOND – Bill Cusworth

DISCUSSION:

David Irving recommended that the BOD approve the Fund Policy and approve the accompanying guidelines in principle but refer them back to the VP of Competition to maintain or change as necessary, without having to return to the board to manage details.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: Eric Bone withdrew his original proposal.

PROPOSAL: Eric Bone proposed that the USOF Board of Directors approve the *USOF Competition Awards Fund Policy* only

SECOND - David Irving

DISCUSSION:

1. A question was asked about the sources of the medals and would medals be the same year after year.
2. Some medals have already been purchased in advance and medals more than likely would be the same each year
1. Monies are already appropriated for purchase of medals this proposal is the means of administering and accounting for the monies and assure continuation of the awards program.
2. It was suggested that an open bid be offered to all USOF vendors for the next purchase round.

VOTE:

Yes – 14

No – 0

Abstain – 0

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 voting members present.

1. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE – Frank Kuhn

Frank Kuhn proposed that the BOD approve Joanne Sankus, Bruce McAlister, and Ardis Dull to serve as the Credentials Committee at the AGM.

SECOND – Barb Sleight

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Yes – 14

No – 0

Abstention – 0

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 voting members present.

1. REGIONAL ELECTIONS – Frank Kuhn

Elected to serve on the BOD from the Midwest Region is Ken Lappin, representative and Karen Rogers, alternate and from the Southeast Region, John Fairley, representative and Linda Ferguson, alternate.

1. 2001 ELECTION SLATE – Frank Kuhn

The State of Officers for the USOF Board of Directors:

President – Chuck Ferguson

VP Competition – Eric Bone

VP Program Development – Mike Minium

Secretary – Michael Schneiderman

Competition Member-at-large - Nancy Koehler

BOD-at-large – Walter Siegenthaler

Elections will be held at the **AGM**, Sunday, June 24th, 6:30-9PM in the meeting room of the Double K Camp during the Pacific NW Orienteering Festival

(Cle-Elum/Easton, WA).

1. WOC DELEGATES – Frank Kuhn

Frank Kuhn asked the board of directors to approve the following delegates to represent USOF at WOC meetings in Tampere Finland:

PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE: Chuck Ferguson

WOC MEETING DELEGATES: Chuck Ferguson, Frank Kuhn, and Eric Bone

SECOND – Bill Cusworth

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Yes – 14

No – 0

Abstention – 0

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 voting members present.

1. USOF WORLD TRAIL-O CUP TEAM – Frank Kuhn

Frank Kuhn, Bruce McAlister, and Linda Ferguson will represent USOF at the Trail-O Cup in Finland.

1. ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE – Frank Kuhn

The trustees for the Endowment Fund are in the process of electing officers, well on the way to incorporation. Francis Hogle plans to write an article on the Endowment Fund for ONA. Jack Williams has taken on the task of marketing the Endowment Fund. Clem McGrath has resigned from the Investment Committee and a new chair has been invited to serve. An announcement will be made upon acceptance of the position.

1. CONVENTION CHAIR – Frank Kuhn

Sara Mae Berman has agreed to serve as USOF Convention Chair and requested comments from the membership in the form of a survey, available on line. Suggestions for the 2001 convention are to hold it in Calgary during APOC and the North American Championships or coinciding with the 1000 Days in Colorado or Wyoming.

1. CHAMPIONSHIP BIDS – Eric Bone

2002 Short Course Championships - Eric Bone made a motion that the USOF BOD accept a DVOA bid for the 2002 Short Course Championships, Saturday, May 18, 2002 followed by a classic race on May 19th near Reading PA.

SECOND – Robert Buraczynski

DISCUSSION: A new map of the Mt Penn area will be used, located approximately 50 miles north of Philadelphia.

VOTE: Yes – 14

No – 0

Abstentions – 0

Members voting -14

THE MOTION PASSED

2002 Relay Championships – Eric Bone made a motion that the USOF BOD accept a GMOC (Vermont) bid for the 2002 Relay Championships, Sunday, September 22, 2002 preceded by a classic event on Saturday, September 21.

SECOND – Barb Sleight

DISCUSSION- There will be a new map of the area, located on the property of Mike and Vivien Fritz near Marshfield VT, 55 miles east of Burlington.

VOTE: Yes – 14

No – 0

Abstentions – 0

Members voting -14

THE MOTION PASSED

2002 Individual Championships – Eric Bone asked that the USOF BOD take a straw poll at the request of QOC as to the acceptability of holding the Individual Championships in the Fall of 2002 on a revised South Fork Map. A prior event bid was not accepted because the area was one previously used.

DISCUSSION - The consensus of the BOD was that all things being approximately equal in the bid by a club with a new map and one with an old map, a new map is preferred. However, a waiver requiring a new map would be favorably viewed in this instance. Abstentions were largely interested parties and club members. Terrain is ridge and valley.

VOTE: Yes – 8

No – 2

Abstentions – 4

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 members voting

2001 Night Orienteering Championships – Eric Bone made a motion that the USOF BOD authorize the Executive Committee to accept a bid for the 2001 Night Orienteering Championships, if one should be proffered.

SECOND – Mike Minium

DISCUSSION: There are no bids for the Night-O Champs as of this meeting. If a bid is received for the Night Orienteering Champs, the lead time will be so short that approval of the entire BOD could not take place until late fall. The Executive Committee may approve the event rapidly, allowing the bid club to move forward swiftly. San Diego has expressed interest in the event with the withdrawal of Rochester.

VOTE: Yes – 14

No – 0

Abstentions – 0

Members voting -14

THE MOTION PASSED

2004 World Cup Event – Eric Bone reported that there is no confirmed interest in hosting this event in the US. At the previous BOD meeting in March, the USOF BOD delegated approval of a possible 2004 World Cup application to the Executive Committee.

1. F50-55 RULES CHANGE DISCUSSION – BOD

1. Club members have indicated to BOD members that they are anxious to go forward with changing the F-50-55.
2. The changes will fall under rules proposals with a BOD vote for/against a change.
3. After the last AGM and straw polls taken at that time, no significant movement has been reported, although several USOF members indicated they would take a survey of the women affected.
4. A determination on reclassification is past due and a decision should be made at the BOD meeting following the AGM to allow clubs to use the proper nomenclature on their 2002 entry forms. The next BOD meeting in November would find many entry forms for 2002 printed.
5. It was also the consensus of the BOD members that USOF members affected by the change were not interested in prolonging the discussion another year.
6. The US has become so fixated on colors that the real issue of winning time being the determining factor in class assignment is overlooked.
7. In the event that the rules committee has not acted or does not act on this issue, the BOD can affect a change in the rules.
8. The issue is not one that belongs to the Competition Committee; the only individual who would be involved would be the rankings chair.
9. The BOD could make a motion to move F-55 from Green to Brown, direct the Rules Committee to determine what rules will be changed, and report to the BOD at the November meeting. This would allow clubs advance warning of the changes for 2002 A-meets.

PROPOSAL: Sherry Litasi made a motion to move F-55 from Green to Brown.

SECOND – David Irving

MOVE TO TABLE: Gale Teschendorf

MOTION WITHDRAWAL – Gale Teschendorf withdrew his motion to table.

PROPOSAL: Gale Teschendorf made a motion to form an ad-hoc committee.

SECOND – Linda Ferguson

DISCUSSION :

1. Consensus is putting the issue into committee will prevent the BOD from making a decision until November which will be too short a time frame for clubs to react to the change.
2. BOD anxious to have more information from members and the rules committee before a decision is made.
3. BOD members report that their interested parties have not been polled; consequently no information from the membership is available.

VOTE: Yes – 3

No – 10

Abstentions – 1

Members voting –14

THE MOTION FAILED with 14 members voting

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION (Sherry Litasi made a motion to move F-55 from

Green to Brown.)

DISCUSSION :

1. Still some concern about making a decision without a survey.
2. Previous discussion of a change in years passed found flawed polling which included women currently running green and not immediately affected and not of the age of the proposed change. It did not include the women who had already stopped orienteering or who had dropped back because of the difficulty of course level.
3. Is the purpose of keeping the course level as is to keep those who are still able to participate at that level happy or to promote competition and orienteering?
4. Women in this country at that age are dropping out and have been dropping out.
5. An analysis made last year demonstrated that the finish time for women in this age group on green are getting longer and longer as they age with more DNF's.
6. Statistics gathered for VWOC from Sweden and Britain showed curves that were very similar to the US. They demonstrated that Woman 50 and 55 had slightly longer courses than men 65 did and that Women 50-55 had course times longer than that of the M-65.
7. Statistical information, particularly international statistical comparisons has more impact than surveys, which collect feelings about performance instead of actual data. One problem USOF has in collecting information. The depth of field of women in this country is small and the women who are still participating are fast runners, with women at each lower 5-year increment faster still. (And do not yet feel the need for shorter courses). It does not take into account those who no longer participate, nor answer why.
8. The statistical analysis may be a compelling reason to move both F-50 and F-55 to Brown, although not yet the question called.

MOTION: Mike Minium proposed that voting on both categories be postponed until the Rules Committee Chair can be contacted; with the vote taking place at the BOD meeting after the AGM

SECOND – Robert Buraczynski

DISCUSSION: Voting after the AGM would be acceptable providing that the BOD can report to the AGM that the vote is on the agenda, pending a report of the Rules Committee

VOTE:

Yes - 10

No – 2

Abstentions – 2

Members voting –14

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 members voting

1. NATIONAL ORIENTEERING DAY (NOD) – Sherry Litasi

There was good response to NOD for 2001 with 10-15 more events taking place than last year. Sponsorship was outstanding with great give-aways. Fifty plus events took place across the country. NOD events in 2002 will be concentrated on the first week in May. Sherry requests that USOF regional representatives participate in NOD by taking responsibility for contacting all the clubs in their region, encouraging them to sign-up to hold a NOD event. She also suggests that the regional reps become responsible for making sure that the clubs get the compasses and other give-away items. Bob Rycharski, NOD chair, took the responsibility of mailing out all the prizes. A big job for one person. Regional mailings would make more sense and provide a NOD contact in each region.

PROPOSAL: Mike Minium made a proposal to recognize Bob Rycharski by acclamation for his contributions as NOD Coordinator. A tremendous amount of time and effort brought about a huge success in a very short time.

SECOND – Sherry Litasi

VOTE:

Yes - 15

No – 0

Abstentions – 0

Members voting –15

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 members and the president voting.

1. VENDOR AD-HOC COMMITTEE – Sherry Litasi

An ad-hoc committee formed to investigate the impact of releasing members' names to registered USOF vendors. The sense of the committee was not to release the membership list, as has been USOF policy but to authorize the mailing of one ONA issue to all junior members per year, which will contain vendor products and information. Upon completion of their assignment, the committee dissolved.

1. REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS – Frank Kuhn

Frank Kuhn proposed that the requirement for regional representatives and vice presidents to submit an annual report for ONA be repealed. The BOD directs the editor of the USOF pages to contact vice-presidents and regional representatives from time to time to obtain reports for publication.

SECOND – Barb Sleight

DISCUSSION: The consensus is that the BOD would like to have a report however, there is limited amount of space to dedicate in ONA, and even less enthusiasm from the regional representatives in submission of said reports.

VOTE:

Yes - 14

No – 0

Abstentions – 0

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 members voting.

1. F-50 VOTE PROPOSAL – Randy Hall

Randy Hall proposed that a vote be taken on moving F-50 from Green to Brown immediately following the vote on F-55, after the AGM

SECOND – Sherry Litasi

DISCUSSION: Members can not see addressing the F-55 issue and leaving the F-50 issue up in the air. Based on data provided earlier, the main discussion of F-50 has taken place and can be voted on.

VOTE:

Yes - 11

No – 2

Abstentions – 1

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 members voting.

1. ROMANIAN ORIENTEERING TEAM INVITATION – Linda Ferguson

Linda Ferguson proposed that the Executive Director be authorized to send an invitation to the Romanian Orienteering Team to participate in US Orienteering events in the United States the summer of 2001.

SECOND – Mike Minium

DISCUSSION: The Romanian team wants to travel in the US but can not enter the country without the invitation of USOF. The team will need no funding or support from USOF outside of the letter of invitation, which will be sent to the State Department.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: David Irving made a friendly amendment that the BOD authorize the President to do what is necessary for the State Department to permit the Romanian team to participate in the States.

THE FRIENDLY AMENDMENT WAS ACCEPTED.

VOTE:

Yes - 14

No – 0

Abstentions – 0

THE MOTION PASSED with 14 members voting.

1. ADJOURNMENT:

Sherry Litasi made a motion to adjourn.

SECOND: Mike Minium

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

VII. USOF BOD MEETINGS:

AGM – Sunday - 24 June 2001, 6:30 PM, PNWOF, Meeting Room, Double Creek Camp

BOD – Sunday - 24 June 2001, PNWOF, following the AGM " " " "

BOD – Saturday- 3 November 2001, DVOA – A-Meet, near Philadelphia, PA, Time/Place TBA

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Ferguson

Secretary

Board of Directors

UNITED STATES ORIENTEERING FEDERATION

Back to [Minutes](#)