

Minutes of the USOF Board of Directors Meeting

April 27, 2002

Countryside, Illinois

I Call to order. President Charles Ferguson called the meeting to order at 2:54 pm.

Officers Present:

Charles Ferguson, President

Frank Kuhn, VP Administration

Mike Minimum, VP Program Development

Eric Bone, VP Competition

Sherry Litasi, VP Marketing and Public Relations

Michael Schneiderman, Secretary

Robin Shannonhouse, Executive Director (non-voting)

Board Members Present:

Robert Buraczynski, Northeast

David Irving, Southwest (alternate)

Randy Hall, At Large

Nancy Koehler, At Large—Competition

Gary Kraght, Pacific (alternate)

Bruce McAlister, Northwest (alternate)

Alan Petit, Mid-Atlantic

Karen Rogers, Midwest (alternate)

Walter Siegenthaler, At Large

Barb Sleight, At Large

II Open Forum

A. Charles Ferguson congratulated NEOC on its 30th anniversary. He noted that orienteering has grown since NEOC's creation in 1972 and that NEOC has been a vital contributor to our sport's growth. He observed that many "wonderful, hard-working orienteering enthusiasts have been home-grown" at NEOC. He wished NEOC 100 more years of success. The board enthusiastically applauded NEOC.

B. Bruce McAlister suggested consideration of raising USOF sanctioning fees with the additional amounts used for support of the US Team.

C. Frank Kuhn announced that the US Trail-O championships will be held at the Wyoming 1000-day event on the day of the sprint event.

D. Mike Minium announced that O in School grants are in progress. Greg Sack is taking the promotion school photograph. Chris Cassone is writing a book on teaching O in schools.

E. Eric Bone announced that the executive committee voted to make the September 14-15 Rogaine the U.S. Rogaine Championships.

III Approval of January Minutes

This item was deferred to later in the meeting.

IV Financial Report

No report.

V-A Possible New South Carolina Club

Steve Shannonhouse reported that Southeast region clubs are working together to have a map made and possible start a new club with a group of orienteers in South Carolina. This item is for the Board's information. No action was requested.

V-B Transfer of Stock to Endowment Fund

At the January meeting, the Board authorized transfer to the Endowment Fund of Microsoft Corporation stock, received as a donation for the electronic punching program, with the understanding that the Endowment Fund would have the power to sell the stock as it deemed appropriate. Subsequently, the Endowment Fund board proposed that USOF sell the stock in accordance with the Fund's instructions. Bruce McAlister moved

and Eric Bone seconded the following motion:

The Board reaffirms its action taken at the January, 2002 meeting that shares of Microsoft Corporation stock donated for the electronic punching program and currently held by USOF are authorized to be transferred to the Endowment Fund. The Board of the Endowment Fund will sell this stock when and as it determines appropriate.

The motion was approved:

YES—13, NO—0.

V-C O-Video.

The Board directed Sherry Litasi to look into providing plans to the Board on production of the O-video. The budget includes \$5,000 for this item.

V-D Budget Changes

David Irving moved and Gary Kraght seconded the following motion:

(1) add \$300 to the President's line item in the 2002 budget to pay costs of a survey by the committee reviewing class/course structure, and (2) increase the budget for Orienteering/North America by 10% (\$2200) to cover cost increases.

The motion was approved:

YES—14, NO—0.

Frank Kuhn moved and David Irving seconded the following motion:

Add \$500 to the line item for the Vice-President—Administration in the 2002 budget for Annual General Meeting expenses.

The motion was approved:

YES—13, NO—0, ABSTENTION—1.

V-E Convention Policy

Frank Kuhn moved, and Eric Bone seconded, the following motion:

The USOF Convention Policy, attached to these minutes, is approved. The approved policy contains six sections: (1) convention purpose, (2) incentives to clubs to host conventions, (3) establishing a Convention Committee, (4) providing for convention time and place, (5) contingency for lack of a host club, and (6) a goal of announcing at each convention the next convention's time and place.

Gary Kraght moved, and David Irving seconded, a motion to postpone consideration of this motion until the next Board meeting. The motion to postpone was withdrawn.

The motion to approve the Convention Policy was approved:

YES—12, NO—1, ABSTAIN—1.

V-F1 IOF Delegation

Frank Kuhn moved, and Eric Bone seconded, the following motion:

Chuck Ferguson, Bruce McAlister and Frank Kuhn are designated the three USOF delegates to the International Orienteering Federation 2002 Congress.

The motion was approved:

YES—14, NO—0

V-F2 USOF Representatives to IOF Committees

Eric Bone moved, and Gary Kraght seconded, the following motion:

Bruce McAlister is nominated to serve as the USOF representative on the IOF Information Technology Commission, and Frank Kuhn is nominated to serve as the USOF representative on the IOF Trail-O Committee.

The motion was approved:

YES—12, NO—0, ABSTAIN—2.

V-F3 Convention Policy

See Item #V-E above.

V-F4 College/University Development

Mike Minium moved, and Frank Kuhn seconded, the following motion:

The Board supports the concept of creation of a committee to work on development of interest and activity in orienteering at colleges and universities. The president will determine the membership and leadership of the committee, and assignment of the committee to a vice-president.

The motion was approved:

YES—14, NO—0, ABSTAIN—1.

V-F5 Committee on For-Profit USOF Membership

The president will appoint an ad-hoc committee to review USOF by-laws (particularly Article IV.2) with respect to membership. The purpose of the ad-hoc committee is to define the "rights and privileges" of "business affiliates" and determine the annual fee for these supporting members. No Board action required.

V-F6 Annual General Meeting Expenses

See item #V-D above.

V-F7 Board Meeting Before Annual General Meeting

By consensus, a Board meeting was tentatively scheduled at 6:00 pm on September 20, 2002, the Friday evening before the Annual General Meeting.

V-F8 Position Descriptions for USOF Officers

Frank Kuhn is writing descriptions of each of the USOF officer positions. They will be posted on the Executive Director's web site.

V-F9 Omitted

V-F10 APOC Representative

Eric Bone moved, and Sherry Litasi seconded, the following motion:

The president is authorized to appoint a representative to the Asia Pacific Orienteering Championships committee.

The motion was approved:

YES—15, NO—0.

V-F11 Fund Raising

Frank Kuhn announced that the investment committee has been disbanded. Its functions are now being handled by the Endowment Fund board of directors. He also reported on the cost/benefit performance of fund raising in 2001 in which a fund raising letter was not sent out. Based on historical experience, the donations received were basically the same as they would have been if a letter had been sent out. Future fund raising methods will have to be reevaluated.

V-G Supporting Grants for US Team

This is an information-only item. The US Team is considering several actions to encourage and provide financial support for competitors attending international orienteering events. Most US Team orienteers cannot attend these events because of the large price tag for paying their own way. New this year, the US Team is sponsoring a \$300 competition grant for winners of M21 and F21 at the US Championships this year, and a \$100 competition grant for the winners of M21 and F21 at both the US Short Championships and US Long Championships. These grants will directly help these winning athletes pay the costs of attending international events. The US Team also is encouraging every local club to sponsor a \$100 competition grant for the M21/F21 winners of their local A meets. The US Team hopes that clubs hosting championship events will match or otherwise add to the US Team competition grants.

V-H Omitted.

V-I Heat Sheets

See item #V-L.

V-J 2002 US Teams

Eric Bone suggests that each club note whether one of its members is a member of one of the Teams, and give some recognition within the club to that status.

V-K Interscholastic Championship Eligibility Criteria

This is an information only item. Steve Shannonhouse, Rule Committee chair, notes that clubs have to determine eligibility for the championships. Some clubs do not know how to verify whether team members go to the right school to be eligible. Although the rule is clear, enforcing it can be confusing at the local club level. The Rules Committee is working on a rule change to clarify the meaning of "affiliated" to accommodate special cases which do not clearly fit within the existing rule, such as home-schooled students.

V-L1 Heat Sheets

Charles Ferguson modeled a heat sheet. Heat sheets might be purchased in bulk by USOF and provided to clubs for use when weather conditions would make them useful as a safety measure. No specific proposal is before the Board at this meeting.

V-L2 Search and Rescue Policy

Robin Shannonhouse presented a draft USOF safety policy. Eric Bone moved, and Barb Sleight seconded, the following motion:

The Sanctioning Committee shall require, as a condition of sanctioning an event, that a club have a safety plan, including an emergency search and rescue plan. Clubs will be encouraged by the Sanctioning Committee to consult the guidelines posted on the Executive Director's web site as a sample emergency plan.

The motion was approved:

YES—14, NO—1.

V-M Change in Rankings Methodology

The Rankings Committee chairman, with the support of the VP for Competition and other members who were involved in the development of the current rankings system, proposed a change in the mathematics for calculating rankings. Eric Bone moved, and Gary Kraght seconded, the following motion:

The rankings methodology is amended by (1) substituting the harmonic mean method for the 40th percentile method, and (2) excluding from ranking calculations the results for a course for any day on which there are fewer than five times recorded for the course (three for white courses) (although the participant will receive a ranking credit day for such days).

The motion was approved:

YES—14, NO—1.

V-N Separate Championship Event for M21 and F21

Eric Bone moved, and Frank Kuhn seconded, the following motion:

The M-21+ and F-21+ US classic and short course championships shall be a part of the annual US Team Trials. There will not be championship awards for those two classes at the US classic and short course championships.

Mike Minium moved, and David Irving seconded, to substitute the following for the main motion:

The M-21+ and F-21+ classes for classic and short courses will be awarded a new championship, to be awarded at the US Team Trials. The US classic and short course championships will continue to include championship awards for these two classes.

The motion to substitute failed:

YES—6, NO—8, ABSTAIN—1.

David Irving moved, and Walter Siegenthaler seconded, a motion to amend the main motion, the amended motion to read as follows:

(1) **New Rule.** Beginning in 2004, the M-21+ and F-21+ US individual (classic) and short course championships shall be a part of the annual US Team Trials. There will be no M-21+ or F-21+ championship awards at the US individual (classic) and short course championships. (2) **Transition Rule.** In 2003, specially-designated awards shall be made in the M-21+ and F-21+ classes for individual (classic) and short courses at the US Team Trials. In 2003, the US individual (classic) and short course championship events will include US championship awards for M-21+ and F-21+ for individual (classic) and short courses as in prior years.

The motion to amend the main motion was approved:

YES—12, NO—2, ABSTAIN—1.

The main motion, as amended, was adopted:

YES—12, NO—3.

V-O GAISF

This item is for information only. The General Association of International Sports Federations has awarded its congress to Colorado Springs

for November, 2002. There will be 96 delegations. The president will appoint a USOF delegate.

V-P Omitted

VI Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on September 20, 2002 at the Green Mountain Orienteering Club's A Meet.

VII Adjournment

By unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schneiderman

USOF Secretary

Approved by the Board: September 20, 2002

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