



**OUSA Board of Directors Meeting
March 13, 2019
Conference Call via uberconference**

Present: William Jameson
Clare Durand
Lee Todd
Nate Ohrwaschel
Alex Jospe
Ellen Stefaniak
Matthew Robbins
Pat Meehan
Kris Beecroft
Sue Grandjean

Absent: Barb Bryant (difficulty joining meeting)
Ian Smith

Meeting began at 8:05 pm

Approval of minutes from previous meeting (January 2)

Moved: William
Seconded: Ellen

Vote on bid for 2019 US Trail-O Champs on June 15-16 in Boston, MA

Moved: Ellen
Seconded: William

Discussion: This is the weekend before the World Champs in Europe. It might impact people who have already made travel arrangements to Europe. This is not the Team Trials. The last competition that counts towards the team selection is in NY in April. The team is chosen via rankings.

Vote: Approved unanimously

Vote on bid for 2020 Jr. Nationals from COC and OCIN

Discussion: Ellen had some questions: where have the most recent junior nationals been held? Do we try to move it around? Where are the other national events being held? Should we try to spread those around?

Alex: Last year, the Jr. Nationals were held in western Massachusetts and the year before was Texas, and the year before that was OCIN. COC held them in 2012. We haven't been to the west coast lately. Both clubs have hosted them before.

Both bids are good and very strong. Good course setters and course lengths. The Cascade bid has a good philosophy with the athlete village and providing more of an experience for the juniors. It emphasizes getting kids involved in orienteering and making it fun.

Alex made a motion to award the bid to COC. Ellen seconded.

Discussion: OCIN put in their bid in October, and Cascade submitted theirs in January. However, they notified Alex that they would be bidding in the spring of 2018. Until we let clubs know that we would like bids a year in advance, they shouldn't be penalized for turning them in after other clubs. The bigger events will take longer to secure the arrangements and thus hold up a bid.

COC was delayed in submitting their bid because they were figuring out how to use the area a year before. They've also been working on their junior race series, which has kept them busy. They have such a good junior program; we should take advantage of that.

Ellen: The COC bid talks about combined times to determine the champions, but that's not how they are normally scored. It should be by combined scores. It might just be a typo. Alex will talk to COC about that.

Pat: OCIN is very interested in hosting these champs. We've been saying that since October. We need the larger crowds to make a profit on these events. We didn't make a profit on the US Champs last year and we won't make any on the Master Nationals. Every year, we put on the Flying Pig and almost every other year we put on an event in the fall.

The Interscholastics we've put on in the past never had a competing bid. We've bid for them when it was apparent that there wouldn't be any other bids. So that's the history of us hosting nationals. If we don't get this one, we will definitely need to have a championship event the next year to make money. We would cancel this location for next year's Flying Pig and save it for another bid in 2021.

Alex: I did ask COC to submit this bid, partly to get it back on the west coast and due to some suggestions that it move back west. I like that both bids are in areas tailored for this event.

Clare: I feel uncomfortable to have a club saying that the Board needs to award bids to them so they can stay financially feasible. If that's the case, the club should evaluate their finances.

Pat: I understand, but that's the truth. Flying Pig alone only attracts ~125 orienteers, not enough to make money. We are too far away from the east coast and definitely too far from the west coast.

Matthew: OCIN bids on events that don't have other bids. We also try to move our events away from Cincinnati to benefit other nearby clubs.

Pat: OCIN is the hub of orienteering in the Midwest. We've started 4 of the nearby clubs. This is not just about Cincinnati...this is Midwest orienteering that we drive.

Matthew: regarding the COC bid – is the athlete village just for the juniors or can anyone stay there? Do we need to incorporate Safe Sport? Are they individual houses?

No, they are dormitories. Larger rooms with a bunch of bunks in them. With a lot of beds. There is some semi-private lodging. It would be easy to divide them up between girls and boys, but we should ask COC what their plan is.

Ellen: The COC bid is just for the Jr. Nationals, and the OCIN bid is combined with Flying Pig, so there'd be more of a mix of people. Will this detract from the importance of Jr. Nationals?

No. COC will also have the other courses. They will have classes that aren't part of the Jr. Nationals, with awards.

Vote on motion to award the 2020 Jr. Nationals to Cascade Orienteering club:

Pat: no

Lee: yes

William: yes

Kris: yes

Nate: yes

Alex: yes

Ellen: yes

Matthew: yes

Sue: yes

Barb: abstain via remote vote

Pat: OCIN will resubmit to sanctioning for the 2020 Flying Pig bid since we'll be changing venues. Also, we'll put our desire to host the 2021 Jr. Nationals on the planning calendar.

Ellen: why don't we just host all of the nationals at one event?

Alex: If we combine them, OUSA will lose revenue from the sanctioning fees from different events.

Clare: Also, historically, they've been separate, especially when we used to have so many national champs. Also, by spreading them out, it gives more clubs opportunities to bring in extra revenue.

Other Items

- Revising policies and procedures: it would be good to have new Board members on this committee since they'll have fresh ideas and opinions. Let Clare know if you're interested.

- Strategic planning: Ellen is interested in joining this. Clare will be sending out a notice for members.
- Next meeting: April 13 at 3:00 pm in the Hampton Inn at the QOC meet.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.