

USA Masters Weightlifting, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2024 8:15pm (EST)

Attendance:

Board members: Michael Cohen, Sheryl Cohen, Jeff Scott, Van Cramer, Juli Peterson

Non-board members: Jerry Dunne, Joe Triolo, Corinne Grotenhuis, David Meltzer, Les Simonton

Meeting convened at 8:18pm (EST)

Remarks by the President-Welcome. The focus at this time is 2024 Nationals in Baton Rouge.

Approved 1/21/2024 Zoom call minutes unanimously.

Old Business:

1. We are still waiting for written acknowledgement from IMWA that they will recognize World Records at the 2024 HCAM/America's Cup. MC has received verbal acknowledgement.
2. Joe and Corinne are working with IMWA on requirements to add to our National testing in order to be an International referee with IMWA. Due to his requested participation in Phuket, Thailand for the IWF World Cup (last qualifier for the 2024 Olympics) Joe will **not** be able to attend 2024 Nationals in Baton Rouge which means the testing and coordination of new referees will fall to Corinne and Jeff. A final procedure to communicate to attendees will be set at the March board meeting. A candidate does **NOT** need to be a lifter in order to be a TO but must have weightlifting knowledge. Jeff gathered TO statistics from the 2023 HCAM which showed 8% of the volunteers provided ~50% of the TO coverage. Sheryl and Juli will put together a call to action to those registered for the April meet to encourage more to step up and increase participation to be TOs/referee. Included will be a reminder of the benefits and incentives to those serving as TO's. We will also encourage those who wish to throw future meets to step up at National events.
3. "Regional" meets/events. This has been tabled until after Nationals. One goal will be to make a simple, clear policy that encourages and empowers those around the country to hold USAMW sanctioned meets as qualifiers for future events.

New Business:

1. Management report (CEO): We are in fantastic shape for an exceptional event. The Baton Rouge Sport Authority continues to partner with organizers to ensure success. MC is in the process of finishing the platforms. MC has also reworked the Eleiko contract, and they will deliver 22 sets of barbell/weights to Baton Rouge and an additional 10 to Valley Forge for the HCAM/America's Cup. MC & SC had a successful trip to Boise meeting with the Boise Barbell and Visit Boise. It is confirmed that Boise Barbell along with Visit Boise will host the 2025 USAMW Nationals on March 26-30. The

venue has ample space for a 3 platform meet over 5 days to ensure capabilities to hold a significant size meet as many lifters will want to qualify for the 2025 World Championships in Las Vegas, USA.

2. Financial report (CFO): Van shared the YTD January financials along with the DRAFT of the 2024 budget. There was a brief discussion on expanding membership options/fee structures that will be discussed further at a later date. We are up to 750+ in membership.
3. Operations report (COO): Have submitted final paperwork requests to complete our 501(c)(3) and have received confirmation that it should be approved within 90 days.
4. Mentorship program: A USAMW member sent in a detailed email suggesting multiple ways to improve our federation. We will be addressing these at future meetings after Nationals. We're grateful and open for all suggestions from our experienced membership to improve the Federation!
5. Possible inclusion of the 30-34 year old age category as a test at a single event. This will be finalized at our next meeting.
6. Member meeting in Baton Rouge: We will discuss through email the timing and exact instructions for attendance both in person and through Zoom. We must give 30 days notice of the meeting.
7. A motion passed unanimously to recognize the over 3 decades worth of contributions to not only Masters Weightlifting but also bringing women's weightlifting to the forefront of national and international competition by Dr. Dick Herrick, who passed away this month. We all benefit from his dedication to the Masters weightlifting community.

Next meeting scheduled for March 24 at 8:15pm (EST)

Meeting closed at 10:05pm (EST)