

USAMWL, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes  
7/31/2023

**Attendance**

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

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

**Meeting convened at 8:17pm (EST)**

**Approved 7/9/2023 Zoom meeting minutes**

**Old Business:**

1. 2024 Masters Nationals: Venue set in Baton Rouge, LA. Michael will do a final walk through when going through town on his way to Texas. Entry registration will go live Aug 1st including posting of two hotels with meet rates available. In addition to USAMW Nationals, there will be a CrossFit competition which will have ~125-150 teams; USAPL state championship; Arm Wrestling state championship; Strongman & Strongwoman state championship. Also happening on venue grounds is a hockey game; live music available Friday evening; and a tattoo convention. Along with the two meet hotels listed, there are 4 additional hotels within walking distance (2500 total rooms available.) Registration will be handled through Eventbrite.
2. Regional qualifiers: The focus on these meets will be pushed to 2024. We need to define requirements and standards. Because of this, much more discussion is needed.
3. USAW required reimbursement: Van continues to work with USAW to close out required reimbursement for the USAW sanctioned Masters Pan American championships (payout for meet director & technical advisor) and World Championship T-Shirts.
4. Drug education requirements: Corinne continues to work with Trent @ Drug Free Sport on this topic. Jeff asked about the free ADEL course offered by WADA; Corinne will look into this. Drug Free Sport will personalize a presentation for USAMW needs and have 24/7 access for questions at a rate of \$1200/year. We need to establish a repository for TUE's- Corinne hopes for a resolution by the end of this week.
5. Masters focused referee training: This is to offer those who wish to become an official but do not want to renew their USAW membership. A committee has been formed to establish a training/qualification system. Committee members are Michael, Juli, and David. The goal is to have parameters set by January 1, 2024 and conduct the first round of testing at Masters Nationals 2024. A proposal will be presented by October.
6. Membership system: The membership system went live on 7/21 and has 200+ members.

## **New Business**

1. Management report (CEO): IMWA has received correspondence from USAW. IMWA responded, referencing their May 17, 2023 letter and confirmed that USAMW is the accepted pathway for US Masters lifters to compete internationally.
2. Financial report (CFO): The current balance in the USAMW account is a little over \$15,000.00. It is estimated that the USAW Masters council account is ~\$70,000 (currently we have no access to these records) due to \$5 refunds and exchange rate refunds given to those who are attending Masters World Championships in August.
3. Operations report (COO): Nothing further than old business covered.
4. Disconnect official Facebook Page & the USAMW Forum page: It is important to have an avenue to post announcements without getting cluttered up by forum-type commenting. This way, any updates to the official announcement get lost. Also, is moderating a forum of adults a valuable time expense? David suggested Sheryl stay as the forum administrator so she can keep the SPAM ads off but the page will be designated as a 'Discussion Page' only while the USA Masters Weightlifting page will be the 'Official Page' used for announcements and other pertinent information by the Federation and will not have commenting available. This will allow us to use social media properly and ensure that members are still able to hold discussions on the forum as they wish. The forum/Discussion page will not be linked to the USA Masters official page.
5. Future events: The following U.S. cities have requested to hold our events; Austin and Frisco, TX; Buffalo, NY; and Oklahoma City, OK. The goal is to schedule out through 2025 both National & the HCAM championships as well as place bids for Pan American Championships. Updates will be added to future meeting agendas.
6. Draft by-laws: a special meeting has been scheduled for August 8, 2023 at 8:15pm (EST) to thoroughly read over; adjust where needed; and prepare to vote on USAMW bylaws.

**Next meeting scheduled for September 10, 2023 at 8:15 (EST)**

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:47p (EST)**