

USA Masters Weightlifting Board Conference Call - 4/29/2022

1. Call to order (Michael Cohen)

Michael Cohen called the teleconference meeting to order at 9:00 PM. Attendees included Michael Cohen, Sheryl Cohen, Joe Triolo, Corinne Grotenhuis, Les Simonton, Van Cramer, Jeff Scott and Jerry Dunne.

2. Review and Discussion of 2022 Salt Lake City Masters National Weightlifting Championships (All)

Overall, the SLC Master National Championships was both very attended (eight hundred athletes entered) and very successful. Debbie Millet, as usual, did a very good job.

There was discussion regarding improvements. Several requirements that will be specifically detailed in future contracts with the meet directors include having TV screens and water in the warm-up area, better hospitality opportunities for the officials, adding required hours for the EMT professionals and ensuring the required number of warm-up platforms.

Additionally, we discussed renting weigh-in scales rather than shipping (as the shipped scales need to be recalibrated anyway) . Les recommended we do a better job to pre-stage the medals at the end of each session to make the award process easier to manage. Also emphasized was the need to ensure more back-up and training for the IT support. IT has become the critical path to support a successful meet.

3. Religious Exceptions Impacting Lifting Session Schedules (Michael Cohen)

At the SLC Master National Championships there was an individual who requested a different time to lift outside of their scheduled session because that session conflicted with their religious day of worship. This request was accommodated, and the individual was not in medal contention, so it did not materially disadvantage her competitors.

We are working on a broader policy to accommodate these type requests balancing the needs of the requesting athlete and at the same time not disadvantaging their competitors who will not have the opportunity to directly compete with the requesting athlete.

4. Weigh-In Issue (Les Simonton, Corinne Grotenhuis)

There was a weigh-in issue in the 2022 SLC Nationals. The lifter was accommodated and competed / the process was discussed and future remediations reviewed.

5. 2022 Orlando Masters World Weightlifting Championships (Michael Cohen)

There will be a cap of 1200 athletes (one hundred classes at a limit of twelve athletes each) for this meet. Similar to Montreal in 2019 USA athletes will enter via BARs then the IWF system and if approved then pay the entry fee.

6. 2023 Masters Cup (Michael Cohen)

Currently the 2023 Masters Cup in New Zealand is scheduled for March which will conflict with the USA Masters National Championships.

7. USAW Leadership Changes (Jerry Dunne)

Phil Andrews, USAW CEO, has resigned effective July 15, 2022. At this time, it is not known what his next role is or who might replace him to lead USAW.

Implications regarding USA Masters relationship with USAW are to be determined.

8. Adjourn (Michael Cohen)

Michael Cohen adjourned the teleconference and thanked all for their attendance and participation.