

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TRI-STATE WHEELCHAIR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
MEETING AT NEW JERSEY STATE UNIVERSITY
SATURDAY DECEMBER 12, 2009**

Board Attendees: Debbie Armento, Ralph Armento, Ken Brucato, Kelly Bucchere, Jimmy Cuevas, Phil Galli, Jennifer Johnson, Daniel Martin and Trisha Yurochko

Absent (excused): Carolynne Bethka, Shaun Bucchere, and Pat Redden

Meeting was called to order at 10:17 AM. Roll call was taken.

Review/Approval of the Minutes: Ralph distributed a revised page 1 of the minutes , amended to include the Treasurer's Report. Trisha made a motion to approve the minutes, Jennifer seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ralph also distributed a Secretary's Report along with the amended minutes (attached). The report covered the following:

- **501 (c) 3 exemption.** It was discussed and agreed that we should go ahead and file Form 1023. **Trisha will work with Ralph in order to finalize the financial information. The goal is to submit to the IRS no later than January 30, 2010.**
- **Background checks:** Once we obtain our group number, Ralph will send out a cover letter to coaches and other affected personnel. **Phil will send Ralph a copy of what was sent to WASUSA board members.** The question of whether or not we should look at coaches from outside RSOs attending our meets was discussed. It was agreed that we should only look after our own. The goal is to have all the board members done by December 31; the coaches should be done by March 1. We would like to report on the status at our annual meeting on March 20.
- **Directors & Officers Insurance:** The question as to whether or not we can be covered (since we are not yet a 501(c) 3) has been answered by the broker (New England Insurance Professionals). We have been advised that we are eligible and have filed the necessary paperwork. **Phil will get back to Ralph as to the number of monthly hits on our website.**
- **Annual Meeting Items**
 1. **Bylaws:** There was a discussion regarding possible changes to the bylaws in view of the Wheelchair Sports name change. It was agreed that we should table this until the 501 (c) 3 filing has been approved. We may just decide to keep our name and incorporate a/k/a wording. **Phil will look at the wording to tighten up any ambiguity regarding the election process.**
 2. **Elections:** Ralph distributed a list of all board members and the year of their term expiration. In accordance with the bylaws, Ken appointed Dan Martin to finish out Terry's term as Vice Chair. This was approved by the Board by a margin of 9 - 0. Danny will finish out Terry's term which will end on July1, 2012.

Treasurer's Report:

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The current balance in our checking account is \$ 4,095.74. We had income items as follows:

Burke Wheelchair Games Admin Fee:	\$ 350.00 (for 70 athletes)
Donations in memory of Terry Tierney	360.00

An outstanding (uncleared) expense in the amount of \$ 399.06 was sent to Debbie Armento for the purchase of equipment. Ralph stated that this check had been deposited a day or two before the meeting. Phil made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Debbie seconded. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Tri-State Reunion:** Debbie stated that she has finished some preliminary checking as to a possible site for this event. It was reiterated that the event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 20. Since this event will be held concurrently with our Annual Meeting, it was suggested that we attempt to have a luncheon, rather than a dinner. According to Debbie's preliminary findings, transportation seems to be a major barrier from experiencing a good turnout. The other factor is price of the dinner/luncheon. It was suggested that we consider holding the event at a cost-effective venue. The New Jersey State University was brought up, as it is accessible to public transportation and the booking fee might be reasonable.

Debbie and staff will be developing a questionnaire and "save the date" publication that will be sent across all major lines of communication; Facebook, our website and through WASUSA's database. Kelly (Bucchere) will be setting up and coordinating the Facebook page.

The current staff is as follows:

New York – Jennifer Johnson and Carolynne Bethka
New Jersey - Debbie Armento (drafted Jen Armento and Lauren Baksa as reps)
Connecticut – Kelly Bucchere volunteered at this meeting

B. Meet Update:

The following represents the current status of Tri-State meet dates and status:

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Meet	Dates	Sports	Age Groups	Status	Notes
CSH Swim Meet	2/27/2010	Swimming	Adults/Juniors	Confirmed	Sanctioned
HSC Meet	4/27/2010	Track, Field, Slalom (indoor)	Juniors	Confirmed	Non-sanctioned
CSH Track/Field Meet	TBD	Track/Field	Juniors	Date TBD either 4/24 or 5/8	Non-sanctioned
Tri-State Regional	5/21/10 - 5/23/10	Track/Field, Archery, Table Tennis, Weightlifting, 5K Road Race	Adults/Juniors	Confirmed	Sanctioned The CSH swim meet will be the regional meet for both adults & juniors
Richard Cadmus Track & Field Meet (formally Masonic Meet)	6/5/10-6/6/10	Track/Field, Swimming, Table Tennis, Weightlifting, Slalom	Juniors	Confirmation of location needed	Sanctioned
Burke Wheelchair Games	9/25/10	Track/Field, Table Tennis, Slalom	Adults/Juniors	Confirmed	Non-sanctioned

NEW BUSINESS

A. Board Meeting Update

Date	Location	Comments
January 30, 2010 (+/- 7 days)	Teleconference	Phil will look at the possibility of using skype. He will also be sending us a form, asking us to list our phone service(s).
March 20, 2010	Children's Specialized Hospital	Annual Meeting
June 15, 2010 (approx.)	Teleconference	Election of Officers
October 23, 2010	TBD (Burke?)	Meeting dependent on date of NDA

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B. WASUSA News - Phil

WASUSA has received 17-19 logos for the contest. A winner should be picked shortly.

The 2010 membership form will include wording to advise the prospective member that as a result of their joining WASUSA, they are giving their permission to share their information with the RSOs, NGBs and STCs. This will allow Kelli to give us the info we need to manage our own members.

There will be a 2 year transition to move to the international age classification. Currently, we will be using A,B,C...etc. When this period expires, we will be going to an age system only.

Changes to the new rulebook:

1. Track: New starting rule adopted by the IAAF. If you have a false start, you are automatically DQ'd. We have adopted the USTF ruling which states if the athlete is at an A or B class, they are allowed one false start. C, D & E are subject to automatic DQ.
2. Field: An athlete can now use powder directly on the implement.

Ralph motioned to adjourn the meeting, Phil seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:13 PM.

Meeting Time: 1 hr. 56 min.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Armento
Secretary