



# United States of America Deaf Basketball, Inc

## Executive Board Meeting Denver, CO August 1-2, 2008

**NOTES:** Due to resignation of former Secretary Mary Perridon, Keith Westhoelter has volunteered to write these minutes based on the notes that were written by few board members.

The executive board meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ira Hendon III.

**Roll Call:** Ira Hendon III (Commissioner), Jay Krieger (Interim Deputy Commissioner), Mary Perridon (Secretary), Tim Theis (Interim Treasurer), Tom Morrison (Tournament Director), David Hamilton (International Director), Keith Westhoelter (Youth Coordinator).

Hendon coordinated the following agenda sequentially.

1. **What is USADB's mission statement?:** The mission statement was discussed and reviewed per recent Orlando minutes below:

**Law Committee recommends to adopt the mission statement.**

§ 1.04 Mission Statement.

United States of America Deaf Basketball (USADB) is a national basketball organization serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing athletes who desire to participate in organized sports activities. There are eight regional units sponsored by USADB which come together at annual national tournaments and summer basketball camps, thus to develop a sense of good sportsmanship, congeniality and leadership skills among interested and talented players. Participants for Deaf Olympics and International Basketball games are selected from the most promising players at these tournaments, to represent USADB internationally.

**PASSED.**

Krieger questioned the mission statement of USADB. He feels that some information in the mission statement should be placed in other parts of the bylaws under the guidelines. It needs to be reworded.

2. **The case of Central Athletic Association of the Deaf (CAAD):** There was a discussion regarding USADB records which indicate that the CAAD officers allowed two (2) teams to participate in their regional basketball tournament and did not require the teams to pay membership dues to the USADB. This is a violation against CAAD and USADB Bylaws. There was a discussion as to what kind of disciplinary action should be taken. The officers of the Central Athletic Association of the Deaf (CAAD) are in violation of the USADB bylaws regarding the payment of membership dues by all teams that participate in their regional basketball tournament. The Board unanimously agreed to fine CAAD a total of \$440 based on the number of players on GMAD (Greater Milwaukee Association of the Deaf Men's team) - \$260 on Lady Madison - \$180. GMAD had 13 players while Lady Madison had 9 players. The actions to be taken against CAAD will be detailed in a formal and certified letter. Contents of the letter will be posted to the website 30 days after sending.

**Motion #1:** USADB EB moved to fine CAAD total of \$440 and put them on 2-years probation.  
**PASSED.**

3. **2009 USADB National Tournament Planning:** Tournament director shared his concern about the site for the 2009 National Tournament. The target site will be tentatively held in San Antonio, TX. Commissioner stated that he planned to go to San Antonio to negotiate the gym contract at Trinity University on Tuesday of August 5<sup>th</sup>. The city of Austin, TX was another possible site that was discussed. Tournament director would

like to reserve the gym as soon as possible for the National Tournament. Timing was a concern expressed within the board. The flyer needs to get out to the regions, players and fans very soon.

All officers must be presented o March 31, 2009 and tournament will begin on April 1-4, 2009 in San Antonio, TX. House of Delegates meeting begins at 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. per Bylaws.

4. **USADB Website:** It was discussed that Krieger will coordinate to develop brand new website with assistance from Westhoelter. The proposed budget was discussed. Only \$1,000 poses some constraints on new development. The goal is to launch a new website this fall.

**Motion #2:** USADB EB moved that Krieger will coordinate the website with webmaster and contract and \$1000 will be used for website. PASSED.

5. **USADB Bylaws Update:** This issue is a serious concern for EB since the Bylaws need to be updated. The Bylaws is dense and consists of many pages including articles, constitution and guidelines. Guidelines, fine chart and other miscellaneous documents need to be separate from the Bylaws and filed under other categories. Krieger will work on the Bylaws as he needs to gather all the minutes from the last 3 years.

**Motion #3:** USADB EB moved that Bylaws will be separate and the guidelines, articles and constitution categorized. Revised Bylaws will be submitted to HOD meeting in 2009 for acceptance. PASSED.

6. **2008 Tournament Debts in Orlando:** Commissioner shared the list of debts, DUE - \$2,800, Manpower \$2,000, All-Star - \$7,000. This discussion was still questionable because there was no financial report in hand at the meeting.

7. **Manpower Committees of Florida:** The commissioner explained his experience with the verbal agreement between Michael Stultz, liaison, for the manpower committees of Florida. The name of the organization was not mentioned. There was no written contract.

**Motion #4:** USADB EB moved that USADB will pay up to \$2,000 for the manpower committees of Florida during the 2008 National Tournament in Orlando. PASSED.

8. **Macon's Appeal (Invitational Tournament):** Commissioner shared that Macon has requested a refund of half of their \$300 fee since they were unable to attend.

**Motion #5:** USADB EB moved to pay Macon \$150. PASSED.

9. **Bracket System for 2009 Tournament Site:** There was a brief discussion concerning the bracket based on past national tournaments. 16 Men's and 12 Women's bracket will be formatted based on the 2008 Orlando HOD Meeting. Up to 16 Men's Invitational will be formatted.

**Motion #6:** USADB EB moved to stay with 16/16/12 bracket for the 2009 National Tournament. PASSED.

10. **USADB New E-mail System:** Krieger gave a computer lesson about using the new USADB e-mail system which is called the Officers intranet. The lesson also included how to upload, retrieve, organize the files, etc.

11. **Duties and Roles of the Officers:** There was discussion to clarify the duties and roles of the officers in the constitutions.

12. **International Affairs/Issues:** Hamilton shared his international report in regards to men's and women's recent tryouts in Arizona on June 13-15. It went well overall. Both coaches on the men's and women's teams will have second tryouts this fall. Their target for the next tryouts is September or October. The men will have tryouts in either Indiana or Washington, D.C. Women will have tryouts in Arizona. The financial report has shared with the board.

USADB \$20 Fees	\$ 420.00
Participant \$50 Fees	\$ 2,150.00
Total Revenue	\$ 2,570.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 4,085.87
Outstanding Balance:	- \$ 1,515.87

USADB EB has requested Hamilton to send the \$420 to the USADB treasurer as it belongs to USADB.

Hamilton stated that USADB International has its own international account which is separate from USADB operating account. He stressed that all international funds came from fundraising, not a penny from USADB memberships. As of today the outstanding balance is \$4,060.23. Hamilton explained that Westhoelter is keeping track of the international account. USADB EB wanted the financial report to treasurer ASAP for filing 2007 IRS Form 990.

Hamilton shared his rich experience visiting the USA Basketball Annual Meeting in Las Vegas as he was invited to attend at the expense of USADB International. He was impressed with how the meeting ran with professionalism, efficiency, and agenda. The meeting lasted less than 2 hours. He had the opportunity to meet many VIP people there including Marketing Vice President of Gatorade and the USA Basketball Executive Committees. Expenses were a total \$295 for the two nights in the hotel and gas. The expenses were covered by USADB International funds.

- 13. Youth Affairs/Issues:** Westhoelter shared results of another successful 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Boys Elite Camp. It was an exciting turnout of the nation's best athletes gathered in Indianapolis the week of June 22-28, 2008. Total 22 campers and seven coaching staff were attended. The financial report was shared.

Camp Participants Fee	\$ 5,775.00
Donation	\$ 250.00
Total Revenue:	\$ 6,025.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 7,227.21
Outstanding Balance:	-\$ 1,202.31

He explained about the loss in the report due to one outstanding balance from a sponsor. The total invoice of \$1,122 for camp apparels is still pending to be paid by a sponsor soon. Westhoelter will pay the remaining difference (\$80.31) out of his pocket. He stated that USADB has not sponsored this year's camp due to debts in USADB. The camp is self-supported from sponsorships and camper fees.

Westhoelter stated that the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Girls Elite Camp was held at Minnesota Academy School for the Deaf. The camp director was Sabrina Overlie. It was reported that there were 18 girls and 6 coaching staff. He has not received the report from Overlie but hopes to get the report soon. He stated the girls' camp is self-supported with no sponsorship from USADB as well.

- 14. 2009 Tournament Budget:** There was a discussion on the Tournament Budget. It was agreed that the tournament expenses budgeted will be \$43,000 based on \$44,000 revenue estimate.
- 15. Communication Lines:** The commissioner explained in length in the term of communication lines within officers, members, regions, and non-members. In conflict situations, lines of communication between people and groups often break down. People stop talking to each other, they withdraw representatives that they have in the regions, or groups, and they are much less open about the information they release to the other side. The result is often frequent misunderstandings, exaggerated and overly hostile stereotypes distrust and fear. By re-establishing communication, misunderstandings can be corrected and avoided, stereotypes can be broken down, and trust can be built over time. The commissioner will be the main contact to speak for USADB.
- 16. 2009 All Stars Games and Planning:** Westhoelter is the new youth coordinator. The estimated budget will be \$8,000 pending the determined site of the national tournament. He preferred the site of the national tournament be closer to the airport and the deaf school for lodging reasons. Lodging was the major expense at the recent Orlando All-Star Games. Commissioner stated that Hawk Relay agreed to donate \$5,000 as sponsor for the 2009 National Tournament and All-Star Games. \$3,500 will go the All-Stars for both boys and girls uniforms, and medals. \$1,500 will go to the National Tournament for the awards.
- 17. 2009 Hall of Fame:** Per commissioner, Scott Morrison is still interested to coordinate the Hall of Fame for USADB.
- 18. USADB Inventory:** Westhoelter shared the list of inventory of belongings for the USADB currently housed at his residence. There are eight boxes of approximately 20-25 binders of archives including team registrations, officers' e-mails, correspondences, receipts, and financial reports. Boxes of approximately 400 plain white t-shirts, a print press, CD/DVD duplicator, LCD projector, and 30 old vents for USADB

committees that Doug Mader dropped off at Westhoelter's residency in the summer of 2008. The LCD projector was brought to the meeting today by Westhoelter. He will hand it over to new secretary Mary Perridon after the meeting. Westhoelter questioned about the inventory at his residency as he wants to hand them over to the secretary. Westhoelter stated that Myron Greenstone has all the scoring sheets from years ago at his residency. Greenstone asked to send them to Westhoelter because it is contained a 4-drawer file cabinet. Additionally, Greenstone has all the national tournament program books since 1945. It was discussed USADB needs an archive place to store all of the things.

- 19. Financial Issues for 2008 and 2009:** Treasurer reported that he does not have all the financial report because some report is still uncompleted from former treasurer Lad Baird. He stated that National Tournament – Orlando is in deep red. However, Baird has brought a box of the financial stuffs to hand to Tim Theis here at NSAD. He was unable to provide the board updated report at this time. He stated that he has opened a new account at Wachovia Bank.
- 20. USADSF:** Commissioner stated that USADB owes approximately \$4,000-\$5,000 to USADSF based on the number of USADB paid memberships for 2008: \$5 from each USADB member fee of \$20. It was emphasized that USADB does not owe USADB for the year of 2007 due to disaffiliation. No motion was made on the agreement. This was shared as a point of information to the executive board. Since USADB is facing increasing debt, there was discussion as to why the \$5 of collection to USADSF was not allotted in the financial report. That collection should not be used for other purposes on USADB related expenses.
- 21. 2009 Sponsorship Project:** Commissioner stated that he will be major contact for sponsors. He will sign the contracts with board's approval. He stated that Hawk Relay is still interested to sponsor the East/West All-Star as well the National Tournament. More information on HR will be shared to board later.
- 22. Code of Ethics:** Commissioner has shared his concerns within executive board about code of ethics.
- 23. 2008-09 USADB Team Registration Form:** There was a discussion about developing a new team registration form due to Free Agent. The form will be sent out to regions on October 1<sup>st</sup> by the secretary.  
**Motion #7:** USADB EB moved that USADB develop a new team registration form for the 2008-09 with a few modifications. PASSED.
- 24. 2009 Invitational Tournament:** There was a discussion whether to continue to invite men teams. Pros and cons were discussed based on financial impact.  
**Motion #8:** USADB EB moved to discontinue the invitational tournament for invited men teams. FAILED.
- 25. Deaf Basketball Officials (DBO):** There was a brief discussion about the progress of DBO organization and the verbal contract about paying fee per game per official for next tournament.

Recorded by:



Keith Westhoelter  
Acting Secretary