**U.S. Association of Blind Athletes**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – May 31, 2023**

**Present:**

*Mark Ackermann, Chair*

*Gary Remensnyder, Treasurer*

*Skye Arthur-Banning, Vice Chair*

*Amy Wasson, Secretary*

*Brian Eaton, Independent Director*

*Jennifer Demby, Constituent Board Member*

*Eve Wright Taylor, Board Member*

*David Cohen, Board Member*

*Matt Simpson, Athlete Board Member*

*Eliana Mason, Athlete Board Member*

*Zach Buhler, Athlete Board Member*

*Calahan Young, Athlete Board Member*

*John Kusku, Chair of Ethics Committee*

*Tracie Foster, Chair of Nominating & Governance Committee*

*Molly Quinn, CEO*

*Breann Scott, Staff*

*Amanda Duke Boulet, Staff*

*Catherine Raney-Norman, Staff*

***Absent:*** *Tyler Merren, USOPC AAC alternate representative*

*Kathy Beaver, Chair of Judiciary Committee*

The meeting took place via teleconference. The meeting was recorded.

**Call to Order / Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by chair Mark Ackermann at 6:00 p.m. EDT.

**Conflict of Interest**

Mark asked if any board members had a conflict of interest. No such conflicts were declared.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**A motion was made to approve the board meeting minutes from Feb. 24, 2023. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Board Chair Highlights**

The Youth World Team has been selected and an online fundraiser has been launched to support the team. Joe Walsh has been nominated as candidate for IBSA Executive Board election at end of June. A pledge letter has been signed by Miami-based donor Tom Abraham to contribute $100,000/year over the next five years to support USABA in the development of blind soccer. The five-year strategic plan is up for board approval.

**CEO & Staff Report**

Molly announced that we have matched the challenge grant from Gordon and Llura Gund. The new marketing manager, Lance Sarabia, has been hired and will start on June 13. Event logistics intern has also been added to the Colorado Springs office. A two-year bid is being submitted to PlayLA to help build blind soccer in the LA area. Molly in Fort Wayne and meeting with Turnstone CEO Mike Mushett regarding Olympic & Paralympic Training Site requirements. Partnership discussions are ongoing with FIFA 2026 Host Cities, Lakeshore Foundation and US Soccer.

**Sport Performance Update**Amanda Duke Boulet gave an update on goalball National Team training camps and tournaments. The first international blind soccer friendly took place in Chula Vista, Calif., in March. The talent ID process has begun for blind soccer.

**Committee Reports & Updates**

Gary Remensnyder presented the Audit & Finance Committee report and Q1 results for 2023. Forecast for the remainder of the year is that we will be $89k worse than budget on the bottom line. However, the balance sheet is strong and cash flow is in good shape. Audit update is going well, and we are ahead of schedule compared to last year.

Eliana Mason provided the Athlete Advisory Committee report. The AAC unanimously approved the addition of blind soccer to the USABA AAC charter. Now working with USOPC on how to write that in.

John Kusku provided the Ethics Committee report. The committee reviewed contractor and employee conflicts of interest and was able to approve everyone.

Tracie Foster provided the Nominating & Governance Committee report with no updates to report.

With Kathy Beaver’s absence there was no Judiciary Committee report.

A motion was made to accept all reports given. Motion was seconded and motion passed unanimously.

**Strategic Plan Update**

Molly gave an update on the USABA 5-year Strategic Plan. The plan covers organizational leadership, community impact, Paralympic sport and revenue.

A motion was made to accept the Strategic Plan. Motion was seconded and motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. EDT.