

MINUTES
USA ROLLER SPORTS
FALL ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 1-2, 2011 – LINCOLN, NEBRASKA
(Approved by USARS Board – 10/14/11)

The USA Roller Sports Annual Board of Directors Meeting was called to order in closed session at 8:05 AM on Saturday, October 1, in the Niobrara and Platte Meeting Room at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Lincoln, Nebraska. The following Board Members were present: George Kolibaba-President/Chairman, David Adamy-Vice President, Danny Brown, Josh Wood, Annelle Anderson, Jim Pollard, Trace Hansen, April Dayney-Jacobson, John Gustafson, Charlotte Nicholson and Gloria Manning. Mark Vittese and Bill Sisson-Treasurer, were both absent. Also present were Richard Hawkins-USARS Executive Director and Peggy Young-Recording Secretary.

Candidates for open positions on the USARS Sports Discipline Committees were reviewed. Non-voting positions are in place for the opportunity to gain committee experience and/or due to the requirement of 20% voting athlete representation on each committee. It was clarified that the intent was for all non-voting positions to be for one-year terms. Consideration must also be given to providing at least 20% athlete representation using the USOC requirements for recognition as an active athlete.

MOTION 1: B/D 10/1/11 8:09 AM

Approve the following as members of the USARS Roller Figure Skating Sport Committee: Jessica Gaudy for a four-year term as a voting member and Aubrey Orcutt as a non-voting member for a one-year period.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DIRECTIVE 1: When the election notice is transmitted for Board positions in the fall, it shall also include a request for nominations to fill Sport Committee seats that expire on at the same time.

MOTION 2: B/D 10/1/11 8:12 AM

Approve the following as members of the USARS Rink Hockey Sport Committee: Don Allen for a four-year term as a voting member and Pat Ferguson as a non-voting member for a one-year period.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 3: B/D 10/1/11 8:16 AM

Approve Arlene Lehman as a member of the USARS Inline Hockey Sport Committee for a four-year term as a voting member.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 4: B/D 10/1/11 8:22 AM

Approve the following as members of the USARS Speed Skating Sport Committee: Mike Bell for a four-year term as a voting member and Chris Payne as a non-voting member for a one-year period.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DIRECTIVE 2: Richard Hawkins shall review and reword USARS GR21 (the process for rule changes from our grassroots level) to clarify who has authority, their duties and responsibilities - grassroots vs administrative committees/board.

MOTION 5: B/D 10/1/11 9:40 AM

Adjourn the closed session of the board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The USA Roller Sports Annual Board of Directors Meeting was called to order in *open* session at 10:00 AM on Saturday, October 1, in the Niobrara and Platte Meeting Room at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Lincoln, Nebraska. Roll was called and those listed above in closed session were present. Chairman Kolibaba welcomed all guests: Tina Robertson from the RSA, Tony Berger, Diane Brown, Joe Cotter, Bud and Shirley Engle, Joe Hanna, Ed Harney, Charlie Lucas and Heidi Permatteo. Jane Wojnarowsky, USARS Figure Director, was also present.

Dan Ballou of the Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau, was present to make a presentation for USA Roller Sports to hold its 2013 National Championships in his city. Richard Hawkins and George Kolibaba visited Albuquerque for a site inspection in August and Ballou gave a little background on their visit. He presented a slide show that covered several main points of consideration. The Albuquerque International Sunport (airport) is located just five minutes from the downtown hotels and the Albuquerque Convention Center. There are non-stop flights from 29 major cities in the US. Participants can travel into the city via AmTrack, Greyhound bus and via two interstate highways. The Convention Center has an attached parking lot with 700 covered spaces. The current daily rate is \$6 without in and out privileges, but the Convention Center will provide this option. There are 30 restaurants within three blocks of the Convention center. With plenty of hotel and food options, many of our attendees may not need to rent cars. They have 800 rooms within walking distances of the Convention Center and an additional 1,100 within a mile radius. There are camping opportunities available. Albuquerque is located about 5,000 feet above sea level. Roller Skate City has an epoxy skating floor, is available for practices, and is located near “hotel circle”. There is also an opportunity to have practices sessions in one of the convention center halls, at no additional cost to USA Roller Sports. The Convention Center snack bar can go menu specific and also have the usual snack items. It has three locker rooms that could be used for our athlete changing rooms.

Ballou provided a list of attractions to our participants, who often combine championships participation with their summer vacations: Historic old town – 1.7 miles to the west, which has more than 200 shops, restaurants and museums. Hot air balloon rides are available year around, they can take the Sandia Pak Tramway up to a restaurant on top of the mountain. Albuquerque has botanical gardens, a zoo, an aquarium, golf courses, museums, the Petroglyph National Monument, etc. If approved for our Nationals, Ballou stated that they would have a microsite with continually updated information on our Championships, would send e-blasts to USARS members, and develop incentives with local restaurants. They could do

something in Civic Plaza, just outside of the Convention Center where they have concerts and festivals, put welcome banners in the hotels, and airport, etc. If approved, they will immediately send a \$50,000 check, and follow up with two more \$50,000 checks. They will foot the bill for the Convention Center, about \$75,000 – probably taken care of by the sport authority.

Ballou was asked if it would be possible to negotiate an agreement for 2013 and 2015 at this time, and he agreed to take that request back with him, with the expectation that a two-year agreement could produce better rates. Dan Ballou was thanked for his presentation with a promise to contact him regarding the outcome of the Board discussion.

MOTION 6: B/D 10/1/11 10:45 AM

Ratify the Mail Ballot vote that approved the Minutes of the 2011 USA Roller Sports Semiannual Board of Directors Meeting, held in Orlando, Florida, April 30-May 1, 2011.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board next turned to unfinished business. A learn to skate video was shown, which resulted from the work of the Special Committee of Gloria Manning and Tony Berger, and finalized with the approval of the RSA and USARS. The video included various standing positions and how to safely fall and get up. The plans are for it to be put online and provided for use with new customers by floor guards, etc. It was suggested that this could be given to those who book birthday and school parties for use by new skaters, to help them feel comfortable with their first visit.

At the last meeting it was approved that USARS would adopt a marketing agreement with Market America. It was previously determined that funds from Market America would be designated for athletes in all disciplines of our sport for international event expenses, including but not limited to World Games, World Championships, Pan Am Games, etc., and this shall be specified in our marketing of the program. A Committee was formed to meet monthly by phone on Market America, to include Gloria Manning, Danny Brown and Mark Vittese. Manning provided various communications on how this program is just getting started.

Almost everyone shops online in one way or another, whether it is through the purchase of airline tickets or other items. By getting to these sites via the USARS website and registering at no cost as a preferred customer, USARS athletes stand to benefit financially. The customer also accrues points with each purchase toward cash back. They will be able to purchase exclusive Market America products and others products that are not Market America. The largest return comes from the sale of Market America products. Tony Berger stated that retail profits and a commission are given to USARS. Money that is given back to the customer comes from Market America. Manning stated that the most important thing we need right now is a marketing plan and suggested that someone from our office should attend the Market America Convention in February.

DIRECTIVE 3: The Executive Director shall come up with a marketing plan. Support material is available from Market America for our use.

Richard noted that he was working with Troy Terwillager, General Manager at the Holiday Inn Downtown, to develop a plan with their corporate offices that could replace the one currently on the USARS website for LaQuinta. The organization has not received any benefits from the LaQuinta endorsement for years, and it

is the goal that both USARS and the membership can benefit from an agreement with the management of the Holiday Inn hotels.

At previous meetings the board discussed bidding to host the World Roller Figure Skating Championships in Lincoln in 2016. Jim Pollard stated that since this started, interest had now also been shown by Argentina and Colombia. Richard Hawkins stated that after 2014, Pershing Auditorium may not be available for our Speed and Roller Figure Skating National Championships, or any other event we might wish to host, such as a World Roller Figure Skating Championships. Right now we need to figure out where our Nationals will be in 2016.

Hawkins also gave a status report on the 2011 Indoor World Speed Skating Cup held in connection with the USARS Indoor Speed Skating Championships in Fort Wayne. There were few entries. The World Championships in Korea were too close to the Cup dates; and while there was some early interest, the dates were detrimental to participation by foreign skaters. By opening the Pro Elite Division up to international athletes there was no additional expense involved with the event, and Hawkins would like to offer it next year.

MOTION 7: B/D 10/1/11 11:36 AM

To continue to conduct the Indoor World Speed Cup as part of the USA Speed Skating National Championships in the Pro Elite Division, making it open to international athletes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At the most recent Board Meeting, it was planned to add two additional directors to our Board, potentially from outside of our membership. A notice was prepared and resumes collected, but implementation was delayed.

DIRECTIVE 4: (a) Richard Hawkins will contact the USOC to get a list of individuals who might be interested in serving on the USARS Board of Directors. (b) The existing notice regarding new board seats (skating industry, finance and marketing) needs to be amended by removing “current USARS membership” as a requirement. Richard will also establish a Committee to rewrite the notice, to include a job description. It should be posted on other websites besides our own.

USA Roller Sports is involved with many World and International Teams each year. Because there is some question from year to year on what each team’s staff receives, Richard asked for a standardized formula of team staff member benefits.

DIRECTIVE 5: Hawkins is to work on a formula for team staff benefits to be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval.

Calling our specific sport committees “discipline” committees can be misleading to those who don’t understand their function. Sometimes it is believed that they are responsible for initiating disciplinary action against skaters who misbehave, etc. To clarify this, Hawkins made the following recommendation.

MOTION 8: B/D 4/30/11 11:50 AM

Effective immediately, identification of the “discipline” or “technical” committees shall be “sport” committees.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was discussion of the problems experienced this year with the World Speed Team selection, some of it stemming from the loss of funding from the USOC for Senior athletes. Several of our top athletes decided not to attend the Outdoor Nationals/Team Trials, and some who did attend and who were eligible for the team chose not to go if they had to pay their own expenses to participate in the World Championships in Korea.

The wording for our World Speed Team Selection Criteria as currently written means that USARS *must* permit participation on the World Team based on placement until there are no other athletes who attended the trials – or open to the last place skater in the trials.

MOTION 9: B/D 4/30/11 11:55 AM

Accept the following speed team selection criteria recommendation:

Currently reads: SR4411 (Senior Team) and SR442 (Junior Team) ...shall each consist of six men and six women, with the 7th and 8th place men and women qualifying for residency...

Change to read... *may* each consist of up to six women and six men, with the 7th and 8th place women and men *only* qualifying for a team position due to 1st through 6th declining...

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

This brought up discussion of roller figure athletes who placing very low overall at the World Championships. Wojnarowsky feels the CIPA judges have been guided very well in the last few years on priority points for routines that qualify athletes to the World Roller Figure Team. Some countries have a selection committee but because of the size of the US and limited opportunities to watch skaters throughout the year, this isn't realistic. Pollard says that ice skating doesn't announce the team but looks at other results. That is what the rest of the world is doing, but he is not sure that we are ready to do this. They have some mandatory training camps, etc.

Gone are the days when the USA dominated the Roller Figure Skating World Championships. USA Teams have not been successful in recent years, with few individuals having personal success. There was discussion on whether or not a full team “must” be sent or “may” be sent. April Dayney-Jacobson felt that many seemed to think of participation in the World Championships as a “glorified vacation” and asked if it might not be possible to offer funding to a portion of the team, and not all who attend, giving the skaters something they could strive to attain.

George Pickard stated that this had been talked about from time to time. He feels that a participant who isn't qualified to be competitive is a burden on getting the best skaters to the World Championships. It is embarrassing for the USA to bring up last place. Skaters should not be allowed to be on the team if they are last place at the USA Team qualifying events. Whether or not they pay their own way isn't important – they must be competitive.

DIRECTIVE 6: The Roller Figure Skating Sport Committee needs to review the current world team selection requirements based on the motion above as well as consider avenues whereby an athlete may be a member of the world team without qualifying via the National Championships, in case of an injury or illness as permitted for speed via SR443. A report of their findings should be provided for the Spring Board Meeting.

A lunch break was taken at 12:21 PM. The meeting resumed at 1:30 PM.

National office reports were next. George Kolibaba reviewed some of the membership statistics. Three of the Sport Discipline Directors were present to give their reports. Other staff reports were included in the binder to be read by the Board.

Danielle Fairbanks, Sport Director for Derby, stated that this sport has been growing world wide like crazy, with registrations continuing to increase each year. It has 1,055 leagues in 36 countries. As of September 22 there were just over 13,300 individuals registered with USARS for roller derby.

The USARS Roller Derby Committee has been super busy over the last few months working on a set of rules for roller derby. The proposed rule set is being tested by some member clubs this weekend. A copy of the rules were included with the board packet. The Committee will be gathering feedback from the testing events to make subsequent alterations and clarifications to the rule set and hope to have the first official USARS Roller Derby Rule Book available for the 2012 season. They next plan to seek approval from FIRS for use of these rules world-wide.

Once the Derby Rule Book is complete, the committee will continue working on additional programs and plans for roller derby-coaching, officiating, clinics, and tournaments. Fairbanks is hoping to organize some small tournaments over the 2012 season to get some experience, and plans are in the works for regional and national level derby competitions. Derby leagues want this opportunity and it must be provided soon before they find alternative organizations that better meet their needs. Fairbanks stated that they need to have a standardized season and they are considering one that is slightly different than that of the WFTDA. She reported on several trips she had made on behalf of derby and that she has been invited to speak at the next RSA convention.

The Figure Director, Jane Wojnarowsky, reported that USARS hosted 1,183 figure skating athletes during the 2011 National Championships. Ed Harney, National Meet Director and Bob Styma, National Chief Tabulator, held face-to-face sessions for certification the day before the National Figure Championships commenced. Each seminar hosted approximately 20 attendees. Current USARS members in the tabulating seminar all came with their laptops to learn more about Mr. Styma's skate.net program and were awarded a USARS "C" tabulating commission. After discussion, Mr. Harney gave a meet directors test to those members in attendance. If both technical leaders are available, USARS would like to have this available again the day before the 2012 National Championships in Lincoln.

Three continuing education seminars for skaters, coaches and officials have been scheduled for September (New Jersey) 2011, October (Ohio) 2011, and January (California) 2012. They will feature the technical discipline of Free Skating and Choreographing all types of skating programs. The seminars include five hours of “on skates” workshop/clinic instruction by the technical leaders Bob Carrier and Bill Graf as well as seven hours of DVD and power point presentations, discussions and Q&A at the hotel meeting room over the one and a half day sessions. All attending coaches will be awarded a two-year extension to their USARS certification and attending officials will have their commission points recorded for attendance.

The Regional Coaches Representatives had a meeting on July 23, 2011 the day before the 2011 national figure championships. All of the regional coach representatives were positive in their discussions and their reports were helpful for the figure committee members to assess division requirements and any needed changes for the 2011-2012 skating season. Each representative submitted comments on the Special Committee recommendations from their regional coaching body as directed by USARS President, George Kolibaba.

David Adamy suggested that we need a referee mentoring program, similar to the coaches program. Wojnarowsky asked if he would be willing to work on this with John Cawly. Ed Harney agreed that we need referees badly.

Ricci Porter, Speed Director, gave her report. She is currently working to update our coaching educational materials. The updated speed coaches’ exams will be available beginning with the 2012 season. Overall, the 2011 Banked Track and Road National Championships, was a success. The road course was at Pikes Peak International Raceway and many coaches stated that it was the best road course we have had in years. This was the first year that we have conducted Juvenile events at the Outdoor Nationals, which resulted in a 25% increase in the numbers.

While the championships were an overall success and the numbers remained up, unfortunately some of USARS’ past World medalists were not in attendance due to the lack of funding for the World Team. Of the coaches who complained about this year’s World Speed Team Coach and the outcome at the World Championships, she noted that our *Team Coach* only had athletes for “*days*” prior to the World Championships and her question was...what did *they* do to develop these same skaters during the “*months*” prior to the Championships? The success or lack of it by the USA Team cannot be attributed solely to the World Team Coach, especially with so many extraordinary circumstances this year that were detrimental to fielding the best team possible.

The Facebook roller speed skating page has reached its maximum number of friends (5,000) and continues to receive a lot of daily friend requests. Since we are unable to expand the audience any further, we are going to go to a business page, where the number of fans is unlimited. Facebook is an excellent tool that, if used well, can help to create “top of mind awareness.”

Each Sport Director will attend the RSA Convention this year. Hawkins asked Tina Roberson, who was present, if USARS could get five booths – one for the museum and one for each of the sports (speed, figure, hockey and derby). Robertson said that booth assignments were in place but she would work on it. Hawkins has left the set up and content up to each director. Trade show set up is from 2:00 -8:00 PM on Monday with the trade show taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday, the first week in May.

Richard Hawkins reported that there has been some reorganization of staff responsibilities in our office, told about the purchase of a new CD/DVD copier and touched briefly on sales and marketing. For several years now we have been talking about having online membership registration. At our last meeting a budget was set to implement e-pay (online payments) into our business plan. We have just completed the first stage of the implementation process – CRM (Customer Relations Management). The system will be integrated into our financial services software and will also handle club charters. It will result in the saving of a tremendous amount of work in our office. When the potential member hits submit, their names shall immediately show up in our online member rosters. They will be able to print off a receipt with a card that can be cut out. Membership insurance kicks in once the membership is submitted by the applicant online. Transfer from one club to another, however, will have to be done directly with office staff. The new program for processing memberships should be up and running on December 1 for clubs and members. Coaches are not yet able to register online because of testing requirements.

Annelle Anderson, President of the Museum Board of Trustees, gave the Museum Report. Anderson stated that there will be a new sign in front of the National Office that will replace the existing one, funded by a Lancaster County Visitors' Improvement Grant. There will be a contest among local artist to submit designs for the sign. George Pickard, author of "Titans and Heroes of American Roller Skating, has worked on another book to generate income for the museum, titled "Skater's History on Ice and Roller Skating", which is being republished from 1916, with a preface written by George. The original printed copy was enlarged and the print quality enhanced with much work by Suzanne Pickard. The Museum Trustees held their annual meeting last year in Orlando in conjunction with the RSA Convention, where a raffle was run to also generate funding to support the Museum.

George Pickard gave a Foundation report on the funds that it manages for our sport. Funds are back to where they were when the market collapsed in 2008. Their investment philosophy is to protect the base of the funds and have enough to distribute to the programs of USARS. It has been a cautious year. There are professionals with UBS (United Bank of Switzerland) watching these funds on our behalf. Members of the Foundation are confident enough in the management of USARS funds that they have their own money similarly invested. The Foundation's fiscal year runs from September 1 through August 31.

Pickard has been asked to follow the PH2 program, officially titled "Make A Skatement, the Revolution of Roller Skating". The program right now is directed at bringing skaters into the doors of skating centers, but does need to be targeted more at competitive skating to benefit USARS. He will work with getting that direction to the marketing company which has been very professional in handling the campaign. Tina Robertson stated that the program is at a bit of a standstill with between 225 and 250 rink operators signed up at \$200 each annually. Their goal is to have 500 supporting the program to fund it. The program needs to be sold to rink operator "who are fun people who will buy energy". Right now they are working on a 15 minute video clip to use to generate involvement among skating center owners. USARS and the RSA are both in the skating business. Pickard agreed that this is very true, there is a commonality. Through the Foundation, we made a commitment to do something to build roller skating programs. The first thing to do is to get people into the rinks.

George Pickard, Chairman of the Inline Hockey Committee, provided a report from his committee (See Addendum A). He stated that the report was included with each agenda book, but he had two items for Board consideration. USARS/AAU has been notified through its CIRILH Executive Committee representative, Keith Noll, that the International Federation's 2011 revision to the inline hockey rules book is now completed and momentarily will be released to all national federations. The USARS Inline Hockey Committee feels that it is important for USARS to remain in conformity with FIRS rules, as we have been

previously directed by the USARS Board of Directors and questioned whether or not a motion was needed to do so. Kolibaba told Pickard that adoption of international rules was now automatic for USARS events.

Pickard reported that there had been significant advancement made, and there are now four NHL hockey teams supporting inline. The NHL looks at this as development of future players and customers. Pickard stated that the AAU insurance policy is unbelievably cheap and all inclusive since they have power in numbers with 800,000 athletes.

Pickard reported that at the upcoming Let's Play Hockey Expo in Las Vegas, October 16-17, final written agreements from the Ducks will be sought regarding the conduct of the 2013 World Inline Hockey Championships. With these assurances, USARS may be able to commit to supporting the bid for the USA as the Championships site.

The USARS Inline Hockey Committee seeks to continue Team USA inline hockey teams to travel to the 2012 World Championships in Colombia without accompanying USARS medical staff. The host country has committed to provide such services under their contract with CIRILH and this will be reconfirmed by CIRILH President Portier in contract form. With continued transportation increases and the falling value of the USA dollar, inline hockey under FIRS for four World Championships (Senior Men, Senior Women, Junior Men and Junior Women World Cup) made financial support of the international program almost out of reach. The inline hockey program will save approximately \$10,000 per annum by reliance on the host country to provide team emergency medical services. USARS will continue to purchase USOC medical insurance for overseas competitions which covers hospital and doctors costs, including air-ambulances. The Committee feels this arrangement has proven workable last year, and was resubmitting this request for 2012.

MOTION 10: B/D 4/30/11 3:05 PM

Approve sending the 2012 World Inline Hockey Team to Bucaramanga, Colombia without medical staff, pending receipt of confirmation that adequate coverage is being provided by the event host.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A break was taken at 3:20 PM.

Danielle Fairbanks noted that the Derby Committee had been meeting regularly and had just finished a set of rules that was being tested (see Addendum B for meeting minutes). She stated that we will not require that all who register with USARS use our rules, which are being tested now. Plans are to have the rule book ready to go at the beginning of the season and then start to develop coaches and officials. They are thinking that the Nationals Championships should be open and not require qualification through regional events. It was noted that a Derby Committee has been identified, but no terms of service were in place.

MOTION 11: B/D 10/1/11 3:55 PM

Approve the Derby Committee for two year terms, expiring following the close of the 2013 Fall Annual Board of Directors Meeting: Danielle Fairbanks – *Staff Director*, Bruce Bragassa, Jenna Klauk, Fernando Regueiro, John McNeel, Sabra Bunger

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ricci Porter gave the Speed Committee Report, which was provided in the board binders. A report from the Indoor Championships Meeting Director was also included.

MOTION 12: B/D 10/1/11 4:00 PM

Approve the Speed Committee Report. See Addendum C.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Charles Lucas, this year's World Speed Team Coach, gave a report on the World Championships. The Outdoor Nationals, used to select the team, was one week before the team left for Korea – no time for any type of a residency program and this is important to team success. In addition to other problems, including the long trip to Yeosu, Korea, the team was exhausted before they even got started. In addition to some problems with several team members and alcohol, some were not inspired to do their best. Lucas provided his wish list on how to field the best team, which included confirmation of the head coach and assistant coach by November 1, for at least two years. The Assistant Coach should take over the head coach position after the second year and a new assistant in place for the following three years and so on.

Lucas feels that Outdoor Nationals should be held in June. There is a park behind his rink, where the city of Waco could build a speed track if assurances of an economic impact of \$200,000 to the city could be made. Potentially this could be met if it were to become the site of the 2014 World Championships and two Outdoor National Championships. There are sufficient hotels and DFW and Austin both have airports for easy access. Lucas thinks this is a good idea but doesn't want to damage our relationship with the USOC. First we need to get date from the USOC for Nationals this year to see if the timing will work to field a successful team. The track in Couderay could host our Nationals in 2012. Having a residency program is critical. The USA was down from bringing home 22 medals in 2010 to only 4 in 2011.

Ricci Porter stated that this year Pan Am Sports could only expect date confirmation three months prior, but in the future she has received assurances that we will have four months advance notice. The dates for the 2012 World Speed in Italy will be September 3-15. Lucas stated that Outdoor Nationals needs to be eight weeks prior to the World Championships, and the team staff needs to be confirmed as soon as possible.

DIRECTIVE 7: Richard Hawkins and the Speed Committee should contact representatives from the City of Waco to discuss the possibility of them building an outdoor speed skating track. We should be able to get an impact statement from worlds and for nationals and try to get a commitment for 2015.

Richard Hawkins, our Roller Skating Representative to the USOC, read his letter to our Sports Partner Kelly Skinner regarding our disappointment with the withdrawal of funding for World Speed Team Members and how the WHIP program did not live up to what was committed, and then read Kelly's response back. The problem now is that the trek from roller speed to ice skating is now easy to make and our athletes are attracted to the lure of ice and Olympic Gold.

Jane Wojnarowsky gave the Figure Committee Report, and explained how she followed Directive 7 from our last Board Meeting relative the process to follow for restructuring events.

In the Figure Committee Meeting Minutes of August 2, a motion was made that "C" division events would only be conducted as "regional only" events. Kolibaba noted that this has financial ramifications that would be highly detrimental to USARS.

DIRECTIVE 8: Send the recommendation of the Special Roller Figure Skating Committee regarding "C" division events being conducted as "regional only" events to the Finance Committee for consideration before implementation. This will not be enacted this year.

MOTION 13: B/D 10/1/11 5:43 PM

Send Motion 2 from the Minutes of the August 31 Figure Committee Conference Call (relative to mandatory USARS membership for seminar leaders who program results in certification extensions) back to the Figure Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 14: B/D 10/1/11 5:50 PM

Accept the Figure Committee Reports (except for the two items that were referred back for additional review). See Addendum D.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The requirements for dances and figures will be posted on the USARS website and sent to the clubs. Diagrams need to be distributed as well.

Because he was attending the Men's World Championships, Bill Sisson, Chairman of the Rink Hockey Committee, was not present but provided a written report for the Board which indicated that the 2012 Rink Hockey National Championships would take place in Cumberland Maryland at the YMCA – July 7 – 13. The report also noted that the mixed team tournaments at the 2011 Nationals raised approximately \$1,800 for the Rink Hockey Foundation. The games were played at the end of each day.

MOTION 15: B/D 10/1/11 5:52 PM

Accept the Rink Hockey Committee Report. See Addendum E.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting was recessed, with directions to reconvene at 8:30 AM on Sunday.

The meeting was called back to order at 8:36 AM on October 2, 2011. All Board members who were present the previous day were in attendance. Guests included Tina Robertson-RSA Vice President, Tony Berger, Diane Brown, Bud and Shirley Engle, Ed Harney, Heidi Permatteo, and Jane Wojnarowsky-USARS Staff.

The Executive Committee had only had two brief meetings since the last Board meeting, and these minutes are attached as Addendum F. Chairman Kolibaba informed those present that the Finance Committee would be meeting in Lincoln following this Board Meeting, and that Finance Committee Chairman Billy

Sisson would be arriving directly from Argentina, where he has been attending the Men's "A World Championships. Minutes will be sent to the Board following the meeting. Kolibaba noted that there is concern about the cost to families when they have more than one skater involved in the sport. They want to break down the income and cost by each sport (discipline) and look at the budget for next year.

DIRECTIVE 9: Delete Special Committees F-17 (assigned with restructuring Figure Skating Divisions) and F-18 (directed to update educational materials) from future agenda material. Add Brent Benson to F-19, the Special Market America Committee that currently includes Gloria Manning, Danny Brown and Mark Vittese, which has been formed to meet monthly by phone.

Hawkins asked for a clarification regarding the structure of the Regional Coaches Representatives Committee, particularly regarding who should be preparing meeting minutes. Kolibaba replied that the Sport Committee Staff person in the office is the Chair and can do this or assign this task to someone else.

MOTION 16: B/D 10/2/11 8:44 AM

Approve giving free membership in USA Roller Sports to those age 4 and under as of January 1 for all disciplines.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Honorarium is something that is given in addition to per diem. In the case of the expense-compensated Speed World Team Staff members who give up a great deal of time to attend residency and the World Championships, there is no recognition of lost work time. The only per diem they receive for residency is \$20 for each of the travel days to and from Colorado Springs, since USARS pays the OTC for bed spaces and food is included. In discussion it was determined that this is really more like a speed clinic and nothing like it is in place for the world teams of any of the other sports.

MOTION 17: B/D 10/2/11 8:50 AM

Approve providing honorarium of \$100 per day per person, with a maximum of \$600 per week, during speed residency for USARS World Team staff members whose expenses are paid for while attending the World Championships.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Proposal from Danielle Fairbanks-USARS Roller Derby Director relative to club charter prices was reviewed. It is common for derby clubs to have more than one chartered facility - and many of them may have as many as five locations that they apply to charter. They may practice at three different locations and have events at the other two.

MOTION 18: B/D 10/2/11 8:53 AM

Approve the sale of derby clubs charters *for the first two locations at the full charter fee, and any additional charters are half price*. The club name (as requested on the charter application) must be the exact same in order to qualify and the application must be sent to the USARS National Office. The discount is not available via the online service that will be available starting in 2012.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

George Kolibaba briefly discussed the relation of AAU inline hockey with USARS, from its inception till now. He stated that the inline program from USA Hockey (ice) is now finished. There are still a number of inline hockey groups in existence. The original intention of the relationship with the AAU was for USARS to get a set amount for each inline hockey member that enrolls in the grassroots program, being administered on behalf of USA Roller Sports. This has not happened. At this time the only financial benefit that USARS is receiving is support for the World Team to attend and participate in the World Championships. When USA Hockey (ice) discontinued their inline division, they specifically wanted to direct their former inline hockey athletes to USA Roller Sports for membership. The problem is that we are a membership driven organization and we cannot grow the sport (a USOC mandate for National Governing Bodies of Sport) without funds to do so. We have allowed control of USARS identified inline hockey programs to drift away and this needs to be remedied so that we can coordinate the sport on the national level as required by our sport mandate.

Kolibaba talked about having avenues for other groups to obtain access to our world team trials - whose male athletes who are not AAU members who must play in one or more of the events they conduct, or be involved with the AIHL program through competition in a set number of games each year as the qualification. We may be looking at making these other groups "class" member. Class V is open only to non-profits, and this would not work for some of these groups. Finance will discuss ways for other inline hockey groups to be members of USARS and the cost for this. Danny Brown agreed that USARS clearly has to stand up and say that we are the ones who are responsible as the NGB. We need to be leading the charge. Kolibaba indicated that he would make sure that Charlotte Nicholson (Hockey Athlete Representative to the Board) and Mark Vittese (also a Board Member involved with inline hockey) get copies of any and all correspondence on this subject.

Richard Hawkins stated that the Hall of Fame and Honors Committee carefully screens all candidates for the Coaches Hall of Fame and that we should automatically award Elite status to those who are inducted.

MOTION 19: B/D 10/2/11 9:45 AM

Approve awarding Elite coaching status to USA Roller Sports Coaches Hall of Fame inductees.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was a discussion of the question of when a placement at a competition is actually considered irreversible and a request for a rule(s) to cover final placements in all disciplines was made. For example, once a medal has been presented to an athlete that placement would be final and could not be reversed due to official error, etc. Manning stated that this is the rule used for ice skating.

DIRECTIVE 10: Richard Hawkins will contact the Olympic ombudsman to see it would be acceptable to the USOC to pass a rule that stated that once a medal has been presented to an athlete, that placement is final and cannot be reversed due to official error, etc.

The Board discussed a recommendation to establish a procedure for figure skating regarding notification of infractions, especially between eliminations and finals, so that corrections may be made prior to the final event. That situation existed this year in Fort Wayne at the Roller Figure Skating National Championships. A skater did an illegal jump during the elimination and was 1st place, but ended up in 2nd place following the finals, with the deduction noted on the bottom of the scoresheet. Harney noted that the judges did deduct for it during eliminations, but it was not on the scoresheet from eliminations so the skater did not realize she was doing an illegal jump. This has the potential to effect World Team qualification, even though in this instance the skater did qualify for the World Team.

DIRECTIVE 11: The Speed and Figure Committees were asked to review the request for a procedure regarding notification of rule infractions between competition in the elimination and finals.

Hawkins felt that it would be good to recognize the extra effort and extra responsibilities that FIRS certified officials have at events, because they have spent their own money to become certified, sometimes even traveling out of the country for testing. Giving them a higher amount in per diem would recognize their extra efforts.

MOTION 20: B/D 10/2/11 10:11 AM

Approve providing diem for officials with international certification \$50 per day (\$15 for breakfast, \$15 for lunch and \$20 for dinner). All other officials would continue to receive up to \$40 a day in accordance with the current policy.

CARRIED

A short break was taken.

The subject of providing different per diems for individuals based on their level of certification as officials was readdressed. The government publishes guidelines for businesses to use in giving per diem. The impact this could have on local and regional events was also mentioned, since they usually follow the per diem provided by USARS for officials and volunteers at our National Championships. It was felt that something could be done to recognize them, but per diem is strictly an allowance to cover daily expenses and not relative to rank.

MOTION 21: B/D 10/2/11 10:30 AM

Rescind the previous motion to give additional per diem to officials with international certification.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Instead of extra expense-compensation in the form of per diem, it was suggested that recognition could come in the form of USARS paying the annual CIC, CIPA and CIRH international official dues. There is no charge at this time for CIRILH international referee accreditation.

MOTION 22: B/D 10/2/11 10:34 AM

Recognize international officials by USARS paying their international dues for figure, speed and hockey.

CARRIED

A requested had been transmitted to George Kolibaba from the U.S. Freestyle Skaters Association (USFSA) for recognition by USARS. They could perhaps join as Class V members and it is expected that athletes who compete in the World Championships would hold a USARS membership card.

MOTION 23: B/D 10/2/11 10:38 AM

Recognize the United Skates Freeskating Association as the organization eligible to nominate skaters to attend the World Slalom Skating Association international competition in October, 2011.

CARRIED

This year, mail ballot elections were conducted to fill the seats of the Club Representative and the Speed Athlete on the Board. Annelle Anderson received the most mail ballot votes for the Club Representative position and there was a tie for the Speed Athlete seat on the Board. Ballots have been sent out to the eligible speed athlete voters for a run-off election, with a due date of November 1.

MOTION 24: B/D 10/2/11 10:43 AM

Ratify the mail ballot re-election of Annelle Anderson as the Club Representative on the USARS Board for a three year term that will conclude at the close of the 2014 Fall Annual Board Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Grassroots and At-Large Board positions are filled by the Board during the Annual Board Meetings. In 2011, the Grassroots position is up for election. As previously certified, Bill Sisson and Diane Brown met the nomination procedures and qualify based on the established criteria.

NOMINATION FROM THE FLOOR FOR GRASSROOTS ELECTION – Ed Harney – moved and seconded.

Ballots were passed out to all Board Members, with the results tallied by Tina Robertson and Richard Hawkins. A tie resulted from the balloting among these three candidates, with the lowest vote-getter being eliminated on the next round.

Based on the results of the second ballot, ED HARNEY WAS ELECTED TO A THREE YEAR TERM AS THE GRASSROOTS DIRECTOR, WHICH WILL CONCLUDE AT THE CLOSE OF THE 2014 FALL ANNUAL BOARD MEETING.

Board Chairman Kolibaba questioned the need to annually vote on Richard Hawkins as the Corporate Secretary, which is automatic based upon his employment as the USARS Executive Director.

Although the election results from the speed athlete mail ballot run off election were not yet known, it was decided to go forward with the election of officers. If Josh Wood is successful in being re-elected and wishes to void these results at a later time, he can so petition the Board for a re-election of officers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (moved, seconded and only candidates nominated):

- Elected by acclamation – George Kolibaba for a one-year term as President
- Elected by acclamation – David Adamy for a one-year term as Vice President
- Elected by acclamation – Billy Sisson for a one-year term as Treasurer

A Code of Ethics for Board and Committee members was approved in 1998, however, only Board Members have been asked to sign it in recent years.

DIRECTIVE 12: All Board and Committee members must sign the USARS Code of Ethics. A copy will be sent to all committee members who are not on the Board or not present. Those present should sign and return it to the recording secretary.

It was noted that at the Spring Board Meeting, the following Foundation members were re-elected for three year terms to expire in 2014: Scott Kleiman, David Ramsey, George Pickard

Next was the Committee on Committees report which contained recommendations for Committee membership for the next year. A change in membership does not mean that someone is not doing a good job - items that are considered for committee assignments may include male/female, sport representation, athlete representation, etc.

DIRECTIVE 13: National Office staff should send a letter of appreciation for committee service to those who were not carried forward for this year's committees. These letters should be signed by the Executive Director and the Chairman of the Board.

MOTION 25: BD 10/2/11 10:52 AM

Approve the following to serve on the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** - George Kolibaba-Chairman, Jim Pollard, Mark Vittese, Annelle Anderson, Josh Wood-Athlete

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 26: B/D 10/2/11 10:55 AM

Approve the following to serve on the **FINANCE COMMITTEE** - Bill Sisson-Chairman, George Kolibaba, Annelle Anderson, Ed Harney, Trace Hansen-Athlete

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 27: B/D 10/2/11 10:56 AM

Approve the following to serve on the **MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE**: David Adamy-Chairman, Kurt Anselmi, Ed Mueller, Danny Brown, Mark Vittese, Josh Wood (speed), Trace Hansen (figure), Charlotte Nicholson (hockey)-Athletes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 28: B/D 10/2/11 10:56 AM

Approve the following to serve on the **ATHLETE PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE (SPORTS MEDICINE)**: Dr. Scott Kleiman-Chairman, Lori Brandon, David Pittman, Kylee Berger-Athlete

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 29: B/D 10/2/11 10:59 AM

Approve the following to serve on the **HALL OF FAME AND HONORS COMMITTEE**: Richard Hawkins-Non-voting Chairman, George Pickard, Jim Pollard, Bill Sisson, Annelie Anderson, John Gustafson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 30: B/D 10/2/11 11:03 AM

Approve the following to serve on the **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**: Gary Castro-Chairman, Trace Hansen – AAC Member, and three TBD annually (membership of last three rotates between Regional Officers)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was a discussion about the proposed amendment to committee membership. It was also noted that the Hall of Fame and Honors Committee awards Coaches Hall of Fame recognition that could be tied in with Elite Coaching status, possibly eliminating the need for this committee. The Elite Coaches Selection Committee, as recommended by the Committee on Committees was formally advanced for approval.

MOTION 31: B/D 10/2/11 11:12 AM

Approve the following to serve on the **ELITE COACHES SELECTION COMMITTEE**: Richard Hawkins-Non-voting Chairman, Bob Labriola, Bill Sisson, Ken Shelton, Gloria Manning, Mark Vittese

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was discussion on the reason that Speed had an Elite Officials Committee when none existed for Figure or Hockey. With the new awards that are in place for recognition of officials for roller figure skating, speed, rink hockey and inline hockey, it was again questioned whether or not this committee was needed, and because it had not been active for some time, the following motion was made.

MOTION 32: B/D 10/2/11 11:16 AM

Delete the Elite Officials Committee for Speed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sites for the 2012 Regional Championships were not approved, as the information received was incomplete, pending receipt of the outcome of the regional meetings to select their sites for next year. Kolibaba stated that the Executive Committee can make this approval once they have been received from each region. Hawkins would like to see this remain an item of consideration for the annual board meeting with the expectation that regions can move this item for their earlier approval.

Based on a presentation from Dan Ballou of the Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau on Saturday, the Board was asked if they were interested in awarding Albuquerque our National Championships.

MOTION 33: B/D 10/2/11 11:25 AM

Approve conducting the 2013 and 2015 Indoor Speed and Roller Figure Skating Championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico, pending final financial considerations from the city.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A couple of items that should be included in discussions are the cost per person to SMG and the use of an adjacent convention center hall for practices.

George Kolibaba stated that we will try to hold our Board Meeting in Albuquerque in April, rather than in Las Vegas, so that the Board will have an opportunity to visit Albuquerque prior to our Championships. Tina Robertson, RSA Vice President, stated that they have appreciated including our Spring meeting sleeping room count in the negotiations for hotel rooms for the RSA Convention and have done so for 2012, so will need to go back and amend that with the hotel. When they begin to work on 2013, we must be in communication with each other to assure that we are all on the same page. Kolibaba stated that the RSA dates were in conflict with his anniversary, and Robertson said that she understood.

Trace Hansen, the USARS Athlete Representative to the USOC Athlete Advisory Council, gave a report from the Olympic Assembly that took place September 23-25 in Colorado Springs. He noted that there were several items that he would like to see placed on our website including the availability of an Athlete Career Program that could help athletes continue to train and compete. In addition to this, he wanted to post a notice of an open position for an athlete director with the US Anti-Doping Agency. Hansen noted that he had spoke with Alan Ashley of the Sport Performance Division, who basically said that he was not able to be of assistance to USA Roller Sports request for team funding because Pan Am Sports are not mentioned in the USOC Mission Statement.

Hansen stated that they covered fundraising. Every NGB should have a Marketing Committee and a Fundraising Committee. These committees should meet monthly or quarterly at the minimum via video conferencing. People have the capacity to give, but must be encouraged to do so, and that is the focus of these two committees.

DIRECTIVE 14: The Executive Director shall put a notice on the website for marketing and fund raising volunteers, collect resumes and make the them available at the next Board Meeting.

Jim Pollard, CIPA President and FIRS Central Committee Member, reported that roller skating would be involved in the World Artistic Games in 2012, potentially in Rome in November and hosted by Sport Accord. The hosts are paying for travel, hotel and food for officials and athletes. Qualification will be from the 2012 World Artistic Championships, using the same formula s the World Games. The World Games will be held in Cali, Colombia in 2013. At the recently concluded Shanghai Cup, \$100,000 in prize money was given. They had close to \$1 million in sponsorships. The 2012 World Championships are September 29-October 13 in Auckland, New Zealand, and the 2013 World Championships are planned to take place in Paris, France.

Just returning from a FIRS Central Committee Meeting, Pollard continued by giving an update on other International Championships. The World Speed Championships are planned for September 3-15, 2012, in Rome. Bucaramanga, Colombia, will host the Inline Hockey World Championships, June 13–20, 2012. The 2012 “B” Men’s World Rink Hockey Championships are in Uruguay. The World Games are scheduled for July 24-30 in Cali, Colombia.

The Pan Am Games in Toronto, July 10-26, 2015 will include speed and figure skating and they are still trying to get hockey included. The 2013 Pan Am Games qualifier is planned to take place in Buenos Aires during the IOC Meeting where they will vote on sports for the next Olympic Games, This could be used to highlight our sport to those in attendance.

The Pan Am Confederation of Roller Sports (CPRS) has an Ordinary Congress scheduled for Guadalajara, Mexico, on October 24, 2011 at 10:00 AM. A letter of nomination has been sent for the CPRS elections that will take place at that meeting.

MOTION 34: B/D 10/2/11 12:15 PM

To adjourn the 2011 Annual Board of Directors Meeting

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**2011 USA ROLLER SPORTS
ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ADDENDA**

Inline Hockey Committee Report.....Addendum A

Roller Derby Committee Minutes.....Addendum B

Speed Committee Report.....Addendum C

Roller Figure Committee Minutes.....Addendum D

Rink Hockey Committee Report.....Addendum E

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.....Addendum F



**USARS INLINE HOCKEY COMMITTEE REPORT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Lincoln, Nebraska - October 1 & 2, 2011**

USARS INLINE HOCKEY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: Brent Benson - Staff Director, George Pickard (Chairman) – Nebraska, Keith Noll – Wisconsin, Arlene Lehman – Colorado, Mark Vittese – New Jersey, Jon Roux – Pennsylvania, Jetta Rackleff (Athlete) Oregon and Charlotte Nicholson – (Athlete) North Carolina.

Committee procedures: All members of the Inline Hockey Committee are active participants in the administration of USARS and AAU inline hockey tournaments and championships. As meet officials, they interface directly with one another throughout the season. The two athlete members of the committee were participants on the 2011 World Championship Women's Team USA. In addition to this, we maintain open committee networking via telephone and email. All members of the committee have been solicited for their views in preparing this report.

***PLAYING RULES CHANGES - USARS/AAU** has been notified through its CIRILH Executive Committee representative, Keith Noll, that the International Federation's 2011 revision to the inline hockey rules book is now completed and momentarily will be released to all national federations. We are told it has been completely reformatted (without substantial changes in actual playing rules) which leads us to believe that some of the rule numbers and interpretations may be changed along with application subtleties for the referees. The revised rules were to be distributed at the 2011 World Inline Hockey Championships in Italy, but this did not happen. The USARS Inline Hockey Committee feels that it is incumbent on USARS to remain in conformity with FIRS rules, as we have been previously directed by the USARS Board of Directors. Therefore it may be necessary to acquire the Board's permission to go to the USARS Executive Committee to expedite USARS compliance with our national rule book for inline hockey, so that our officials and athletes are prepared before the next World tournament.

IMPORTANT: MAJOR HOCKEY EXPOSITION GROWS AND CHANGES DATES

This year, the 14th annual **2011 Let's Play Hockey International Expo** has moved its dates from Winter in late January to Fall on October 16-17, 2011 at the Las Vegas Hilton. This is the largest industry-wide show in the world for ice and inline hockey, figure skating and arena design and development. This year **Reebok-CCM, Easton, Riedell, Sher-Wood, Vaughn and Warrior** headline the list of over 125 exhibitors at the annual Expo, that was rescheduled by request of the participants, and which brings back to the Expo the important hockey equipment manufacturers of Reebok-CCM, Easton and Warrior.

The President of **Let's Play Hockey**, Doug Johnson states in a news release: "For 14 years, the focus on the show has been to make products and product knowledge available to retailers both small and large. Over 125 companies will now be displaying their latest products for the buyers from hockey retail stores, figure skating pro shops and arena personnel. Dozens of new companies will be display products designed to achieve attractive profit margins."

"USARS, USA Roller Sports, the National Governing body for inline hockey in the United States including AAU hockey, a grassroots program featuring 5,000 new ice hockey athletes, plus 50,000 inline players in many states, will hold several meetings beginning October 15th, prior to and during the Expo. Their AIHL organizations from California to New York will hold their annual meetings during the show. In addition, USARS will host Team USA meetings and conduct national coaches and referee seminars." The USARS calendar of events will be decided for 2012 while more than 100 club presidents are present and can express their views."

"With the ever-changing landscape of the sporting goods market, the Expo has become a source for the industry to keep an open dialogue for the manufacturers with the retailers who are the backbone of these sports. It is important to have face to face time during these economic challenges. Reebok-CCM will be this year's sponsor of the Opening Night Party on October 16, at the Las Vegas Hilton. Reebok is an innovative and high performance brand that is a global leader in the sporting goods industry, and is also the official outfitter for professional National Hockey League."

GOOD NEWS FOR USARS/AAU RELATIONSHIP FROM THE RESULTS OF THE 2011 INLINE HOCKEY SEASON

Demonstrating the growing strength of the USARS grassroots development program through the facilities of the AAU, the AAU Junior Olympic Inline Hockey Games held June 29-July 10, 2011 in Huntington Beach & Irvine, California had the following participation figures: 275 teams participated from 8 countries, playing slightly more than 800 games in 12 days of inline hockey within the five rinks reserved for this greatest inline hockey tournament in the world. We will explain later on why this tournament will be even larger for 2012.

WORLD INLINE HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS REPORT

The United States won three medals in FIRS official 2011 Inline Hockey World Champions at Rocccarso, Italy and another in the Junior Women Inline Hockey World Cup in Huntington Beach, California, for a total of two team gold medals, one team silver medal and one team bronze medal.

FINAL PLACEMENTS - SENIOR MEN World Inline Hockey 2011: 1. Czech Republic - Gold Medal, 2. Italy Silver Medal, 3. USA - Bronze Medal 4. Canada 5. France 6. Switzerland 7. Argentina 8. Great Britain 9. Spain 10. Australia 11. Germany 12. Mexico 13. Colombia 14. Namibia 15. Iran 16. Venezuela 17. Korea 18. China

FINAL PLACEMENTS - WOMENS WORLD INLINE HOCKEY: 1. USA - Gold Medal 2. Canada - Silver Medal 3. France - Bronze Medal 4. Spain 5. Czech Republic 6. Great Britain 7. Germany 8. Finland 9. Italy 10. Australia

FINAL PLACEMENTS - 2011 JUNIOR MEN WORLD INLINE HOCKEY:

1. Czech Republic - Gold Medal 2. United States - Silver Medal 2. United States - Silver Medal 3. France - Bronze Medal 4. Spain 5. Colombia 6. Switzerland 7. Australia 8. Germany 9. Great Britain 10. Italy 11. Mexico 12. Brazil 13. China

FINAL PLACEMENTS - 2011 JUNIOR WOMEN WORLD CUP - HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA: 1. United States - Gold Medal 2. New Zealand - Silver Medal 3. Columbia - Bronze Medal 4. Canada.

Based upon verbal commitments, the opportunities appear good for next year to double the team entry for Junior Women World Cup which will lead to it becoming a regular World Championship event in 2013.

DATES OF MAJOR TOURNAMENTS AND QUALIFIERS:

The 2012 World Inline Hockey Championships has been awarded by CIRILH to Colombia in South America, however, the final choice of cities has not been made. Bogota or Cali are the leading contenders, but a third city might yet be chosen, based upon site inspection by CIRILH President Gilbert Portier, whose decision will be influenced by venues available and the support and quality of the host city's hotel and transportation facilities.

The 2013 World Inline Hockey Championships are still on target for hosting by the AAU and the NHL Ducks Professional Hockey Organization in Anaheim, California. Reebok/CCM will be the title sponsor. The Ducks organization have indicated to Keith Noll that they are prepared to provide a first class world championship by furnishing rink venues of which will include the Honda Center, the necessary hotel rooms needed for officials and ground transportation from and to Los Angeles International Airport, including the necessary fees due FIRS.

The Anaheim Ducks have recently made a considerable investment in inline roller hockey, purchasing a three rink facility in Irvine, the existing 3 rink building in Huntington Beach and already owning the 2 rink facility in Corona, California. The Anaheim Ducks have taken over the scholastic inline hockey program for most of Southern California, as sanctioned by the AAU, which provides the necessary facility owners insurances and guarantees sought by the various educational authorities involved in the program. Keith will obtain final written agreements from the Ducks at the Let's Hockey Expo, during the annual meeting of

AIHL Inline Hockey. With signed assurances from AAU and the Ducks Organization, USARS may then examine these contracts and financial arrangements to become comfortable that these events will not result in legal or financial jeopardy for USARS, and may thus give approval as National Governing body for FIRS for award and sanction of the Inline Hockey World Championships.

WORLD GAMES 2013 - CALI, COLOMBIA

The starting dates for Inline Roller Hockey is July 26, 2013. Closing date is July 30, 2013.

Date of Arrival (with jet lag day) July 24 and departure July 31, 2013.

Between arrival and departure dates the Organization Committee will pay for accommodation and meals for: Inline Hockey Athletes - 112; Officials - 18; this will be an expansion to 8 teams from 6 in previous years, with 14 players allowed per team. (8 X 14 = 112). Officials include 8 team coaches and 6 referees.

***WORLD TEAM MEDICAL STAFFING**

The USARS Inline Hockey Committee seeks to continue Team USA inline hockey teams to travel to the 2012 World Championships in Colombia without accompanying USARS medical staff. The host country has committed to provide such services under their contract with CIRILH and this will be reconfirmed by CIRILH President Portier in contract form. With continued transportation increases and the falling value of the USA dollar, inline hockey under FIRS for four World Championships (Senior Men, Senior Women, Junior Men and Junior Women World Cup) made financial support of the international program almost out of reach. The inline hockey program will save approximately \$10,000 per annum by reliance on the host country to provide team emergency medical services. We will continue to purchase USOC medical insurance for overseas competitions which covers hospital and doctors costs, including air-ambulances. We feel this arrangement has proven workable last year, and we resubmitted this request for 2012.

ADVANCES IN INLINE HOCKEY PROGRAM PARTICIPATION FOR 2011

Earlier in the Spring of this year, USA HOCKEY (Ice) withdrew from the promotion of inline hockey in favor of USARS, the USA Olympic Committee recognized National Governing Body. This was decided by USA Hockey after more than 15 years of rivalry, creating havoc for USARS by outspending and out promising the NGB. As previously pointed out to the USARS Board in these annual reports, there still remains a considerable number of rival programs, offering competitions, prizes and game opportunities for inline hockey families, but little else in the form of promotion for the sport, training and education of officials or players at either the grass roots or elite levels.

After the withdrawal of USA Hockey, USARS/AAU picked up about 30 rinks nationwide, largely because of the AAU insurance offer to facility owners and managers. In the first two weeks of September (the AAU registrations begin September 1st through August 31st, as once did USARS), AAU hockey registrations were up about double from the previous year to 5,000 players. The AAU offers a youth membership card for \$12, but for an extra \$2 the card's comprehensive injury insurance can be extended to include the player participation in non-USARS/AAU sanctioned competitions. AAU personal injury insurance bears only a \$200 dollar deductible for the otherwise uninsured. If the injured party is insured, the AAU card will cover its deductible or medical charges above allotted payment. This \$14 card is the one that Keith Noll advises club officers to use for their programs, in recognition of the countless opportunities and enticements offered players to participate in independent hockey tournaments. It is long been a fact of life that inline hockey is a team sport where players just want to play the game, and give little regard or attention to personal fealty for any single group or sport organization.

There has been other significant growth in our grass roots inline hockey, spurred on by NHL professional hockey teams becoming involved in inline hockey. The Pittsburgh Penguins are sponsoring 140 scholastic teams in the PIRHL, the Greater Pittsburgh area, registering and insuring through AAU. The Philadelphia Flyers have joined the inline hockey scholastic movement with AAU and sponsor 7 inline rinks in Philadelphia and suburbs. Long time AAU coach Eddie Delgado has recently put together an inner city inline hockey program (Buddy Up) through the AAU with sponsorship by the Colorado Avalanche helping to support community sport diversity. Keith Noll is staying in touch with several other NHL teams who are studying the inline hockey progress made by other league teams and could get on board with a similar program should this format prove successful to their business plan.

With expectations of great peace in this sport, Keith Noll has been in conversation with Tim McManus who runs "State Wars" inline hockey tournaments. They have been discussing the idea of reciprocity for entry into each other's tournaments now conducted, recognizing their individual registration cards. If discussion continues, they might ultimately recognize the other's

membership for tournament access, but this would not include insurance responsibility. If a non-member player is injured in the other's tournament, the issuing organization is responsible to cover the injury. AAU will stand behind its own \$14 roaming player policy, for all tournaments it does not directly sanction. AAU already recognizes the USARS card on the same basis.

Respectfully submitted for the USARS Inline Hockey Committee



George Pickard
Chairman

September 23, 2011

ADDENDUM B

MINUTES **USA Roller Sports Roller Derby Committee Telephone Conference Meeting Wednesday, September 14, 2011 7:45PM**

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM central time on September 14, 2011. Attending were: Bruce Bragassa, Jenna Klauk, Fernando Regueiro, John McNeel, Sabra (Stormy) Bunger, and Danielle Fairbanks, USARS Roller Derby Director. The minutes from the previous call (August) were approved by those in attendance- motion by Fernando, second by Stormy, no one opposed.

Jenna began by giving a brief overview of the rules draft (version 4) that she previously sent out. She noted that there is some new terminology (special terms) and she pointed these terms/phrases out. Jenna was able to meet with Kenny Goodenow (serving as a consultant to the committee) over the weekend and she shared some of his ideas regarding the draft; most accessible level of the sport and some streamlining options.

The following rule changes were approved by the committee during the call:

- 1) Tightening the engagement zone to 10 feet instead of 20
- 2) Adding one more seat to the penalty box for each team (4 seats total- space for 3 blockers and 1 active scorer)
- 3) Add whistle blast (one short) to go with hand signal for Pivot going out
- 4) Setting an overtime period of 5 minutes (like most other sports) and then moving to "sudden death"
- 5) Jammers accelerating before whistle not permitted
- 6) False start by jammer will result in a re-start with jammer that false started 10 feet behind jammer line- 10 feet back for first offense, 20 feet back for second offense, and penalty for third
- 7) Relative player position defined by center point of hips
- 8) Clarification on term out of bounds: any part of skate outside boundary
- 9) Language clarification: In bounds player can actively engage- to block or be blocked must be completely in bounds
- 10) Refer to area between pivot line and back blocker line as the 'Pack Area'
- 11) Eliminate the 'Mercy Rule' and keep all jams at 2 minutes
- 12) Add an Objective of Game to beginning- overview of how the game is played
- 13) Switch RD10.01 & RD10.02 around

Items discussed, but no action taken include (may be addressed in the future):

- Sending players that commit a minor penalty trackside for one lap instead of to penalty box: may be nice to incorporate this into rules for minors/juniors
- Impact on the game is very subjective when you let the impact of the penalty determine severity of the foul
- If a Jammer is late to track then they serve a penalty: Punishment doesn't fit crime

- Suggestion that officials timeouts have a required minimum time- will allow event organizers more time to do videos and/or promos; Most other sports don't do this- officials meet for however long they need, decision is made and immediately go back to game
- Remedy for official error (accommodation for human nature): allowing "challenges"; types of calls that would be reviewable & what process would look like
- Player numbers: in other sports= numbers only; Footnote or addition that for national qualifying competition and official USARS tournaments will be limited to 2 digits only
- Player Names will need to be discussed as well
- Starting jam one whistle may still create slow start or slow derby- will just have to see how testing goes

The committee agreed that the rule set that will be tested should be posted online before the testing events so that others can view them before attending and also offer feedback. The rule set will be sent to those clubs that have agreed to do testing for USARS before the official announcement is made and Danielle would like to get that email sent out next week. A press release will be prepared to announce the release of the rules draft. Danielle asked all committee members to send over a brief biography so she can put together an additional announcement for the USARS website.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:19 PM central time.

MINUTES
USA Roller Sports Roller Derby Committee
Telephone Conference Meeting
Thursday, August 18, 2011 7:45PM

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM central time on August 18, 2011. Attending were: Bruce Bragassa, Jenna Klauk, Fernando Regueiro, John McNeel, and Danielle Fairbanks, USARS Roller Derby Director. Absent was Sabra Bunger. The minutes from the previous call (July) were approved by those in attendance.

Danielle explained that we were going to discuss new league information first as most of the meeting would be focused on the playing rules. Jenna said that she had sent Danielle a PDF file with the information for new league/club formation. John has a CD that D Enforcer shares with forms and information that her league has used and is willing to share. John will contact her and then send the CD on to Danielle. Some templates for leagues to utilize will be posted online with the guide. Danielle would like a couple of people to be contacts that she could refer leagues to if they had specific questions or wanted additional information; Jenna volunteered to be one and Danielle will be contacting a couple of others.

Linda McNeel is working on the skills development and it should be complete soon. This will include basic skating skills to advanced and on the track skills. Minimum skill requirements can be drawn from this and will be needed to go along with the rule set.

John and Danielle gave a brief recap on RollerCon. Both agreed that most of the comments were supportive of the idea of USARS rules and any team being capable of earning their way to the National Championships. There were also quite a few people that weren't even aware of what USARS was planning and currently working on for derby.

Every committee member was given an opportunity to provide suggestions and/or approval of the last rule set that was sent out. A few minor changes were recommended and approved by all. Danielle is going to finish formatting the rules and make the changes and then send another revised copy out to all committee members. Jenna requested an opportunity to go through the rules for language clarification purposes and the committee seemed fine with this so a workable copy will be sent to her as well. As soon as she gets through with it, another copy will be sent out to the committee. Fernando volunteered to work on a track diagram for the rule set also.

There was a consensus that the rules are almost ready for beta testing. John has 4 teams that are willing to beta test in a tournament type format: High Country, Port City, Sintral Valley, and Merced. Danielle reported that Race City Roller Derby (NC) and Mother State Roller Derby (VA) have also agreed to beta test. She is also checking with some additional leagues to see if they would be interested. It would be ideal if beta testing could be completed in September so a report could be given at the USARS board meeting in October.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:55 PM central time.

MINUTES
USA Roller Sports Roller Derby Committee
Telephone Conference Meeting
Thursday, July 14, 2011 7:45PM

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM central time on July 14, 2011. Attending were: Sabra Bunger, Bruce Bragassa, Jenna Klauk, John McNeel, and Danielle Fairbanks, USARS Roller Derby Director. Absent was Fernando Regueiro. The minutes from the previous call (June) were approved by those in attendance.

Discussion on the proposed rules followed. All agreed that we want the rules to be simple, concise, and easily understood. Some felt that we should not make any drastic changes from WFTDA rules- majority in favor of this. General feeling seemed to be that we will create the rules needed for a USARS program, but we must keep in mind that most league utilize the current WFTDA rules or something very similar and we need our first impression to be very positive- can always make more drastic changes in the future.

John will incorporate the latest changes to the rules draft and a revised PDF file will be sent to all committee members when that is complete.

Jenna touched briefly on her progress on the how to program for new leagues- mainly working on some formatting and clarification of the 'Starting an Organization Guide'.

It was agreed that everyone like the Evolution of the Revolution with the star the best out of the 3 graphics.

Danielle shared the press release in the Roller Derby Inside Track.com and suggested all committee members take a look at it when they get a chance.

Danielle confirmed that there will be a USARS booth at RollerCon. We will need some printed materials (something they can take home and review later) and signs to get people to stop and look. It was also suggested we survey skaters, coaches, and fans that come by the booth asking their opinions on pivot breaking out to jam or other suggestions they may have (obtain their contact information if they are willing to share and/or assist).

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:54 PM central time.

MINUTES
USA Roller Sports Roller Derby Committee
Telephone Conference Meeting
Thursday, June 16, 2011 7:45PM

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM central time on June 16, 2011. Attending were: Sabra Bunger, Bruce Bragassa, Fernando Regueiro, John McNeel, and Danielle Fairbanks, USARS Roller Derby Director. Absent was Jenna Klauk. The minutes from the previous call were approved by those in attendance.

John discussed the working draft of the rules for USARS Roller Derby. These are generic and without ages at this time. They are a compilation of all of the organizations rules. When the rules are approved other types of derby and ages will also be included.

John said that he had four teams willing to play by the rules when they are ready. This will give the rules a chance to be evaluated before they are made public.

Bruce had some concerns about several things in the rules draft. Danielle suggested all committee members put their concerns about the rules on our derby site for discussion. When these are complete John will attempt to include them as determined by the committee.

Bruce stated that he was stuck on completing the requirements for the coaches program until the rules are complete and until he gets more feedback from the other committee members. He would like to put this on the backburner until the rules are complete.

Danielle is still trying to lock in a location for our committee at RollerCon. She suggested having a meeting of those present at RollerCon also. When the schedule is known a time and location can be established, but tentative scheduling looks like Saturday or Sunday morning may be the best options.

Stormy shared the media contacts she now has and said she is working on getting more. All of the ones listed in the yahoo group have confirmed their information.

Fernando asked if it was appropriate to respond to some of the comments being made after the recent press release from USARS was published. Danielle said she felt like it was fine as long as we keep it positive, non-threatening and low key.

It was suggested that each committee member could publish a short bio on our site to answer the questions of "who are they".

All committee members are to post their concerns, comments, and feedback on the rules via the yahoo group ASAP as that is the top priority right now.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:06 PM central time.

MINUTES
USA Roller Sports Roller Derby Committee
Telephone Conference Meeting
Thursday, May 12, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM central time on May 12, 2011. In attendance were committee members: Sabra Bunger, Bruce Bragassa, Fernando Regueiro, John McNeel, Jenna Klauk and Danielle Fairbanks, USARS Roller Derby Director. Absent was Jerry Seltzer.

Danielle informed the committee that Sarah Erlanger stepped down from the committee due to other commitments which were not allowing her to dedicate enough time to the committee's current workload. It was also noted that a list of names of individuals that are willing to assist in whatever way possible has been posted to the yahoo group and all members are encouraged to utilize those people as additional resources.

First, the minutes from the previous call were approved.

Discussion on the mission statement followed. Comments were made on the 4 proposals and a vote ensued. There was a consensus to combine the third and fourth options for the mission statement and present to the committee. Danielle will combine the 2 and send out via email to all committee members.

Bruce asked the committee to review the coaches' program information and give him feedback via phone or email. Ideas are needed on how to grandfather some individuals in to higher coaching levels and there seemed to be agreement that grandfathering should only be allowed for a certain period of time when the program is initially made available to USARS members- could include a resume submission and evaluations. There was also discussion about how to give the coaches program value and get them to buy in to the program. Sabra recommended that the coaching materials/handbook include some information on basic First Aid and injury prevention. The majority of the committee felt that this is something that should definitely be included to some extent. Bruce is working to get level one completed very soon.

Next, John discussed the rules of the different associations and how all could be combined and modified into one book. The differences were heard one by one and the committee made a decision on which way to go with each item. Items discussed included: game length, rosters, jam length, starting positions of jammers, jammers going out of bounds, lead jammer calling off the jam out of bounds, pivot become jammer, leaping out of bounds, natural conclusion, passing the star, use of quad skates only, and penalties (minor & major). John is going to take all the suggestions and decisions and make the necessary revisions. Each person on the committee will then get a draft to go through and critique. One area that the committee would like more feedback on from the derby community is penalties (minors= 1 min; majors= 2 min). Committee members should discuss this with leagues/clubs around them and see how players and coaches feel.

Sabra and Jenna updated the committee on the work for new league information. Jenna is going to add a little more information to the 'Starting a League' guide and both will be posting additional files/forms to be utilized as resources. Jenna recommended that terminology be used that will help mainstream roller derby as a true sport. Examples include: bout vs. game and skaters vs. players. The committee did not disagree with this recommendation and John is to update the rules draft accordingly.

Fernando spoke about the press release and talking points documents that were sent to all committee members. The talking points document outlines some ideas that will help ensure that the committee is on the same page (consistent) when answering questions presented by the derby community or press regarding the committee's work. Danielle mentioned that she would like to see a little less emphasis on the Olympics- that is the ultimate goal, but we do not want to give the impression that it's the only thing that that committee is striving for because it's FIRS that makes the decision to petition to the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The mission statement will be included in the press release when it's official and the goal is to have the press release out by the end of the month.

Finally, Danielle discussed RollerCon and what a great opportunity for the committee to present to the derby community. Danielle, Sabra, John, and Fernando all plan on attending. Danielle would like to set up a booth or table where attendees can stop by at their convenience rather than trying to pick a time to give a seminar and then hope that people show up. Danielle will look into this and see what can be accommodated. John's wife, Linda, is willing to assist if need be.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:23 PM central time.

MINUTES
USA Roller Sports Roller Derby Committee
Telephone Conference Meeting
Thursday, April 14th, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM central time on April 14, 2011. In attendance were committee members: Bruce Bragassa, Jerry Seltzer, John McNeel, Sabra Bunger, and Danielle Fairbanks, USARS Roller Derby Director. Absent were Fernando Regueiro, Sarah Erlanger, and Jenna Klauk.

The minutes from the previous call were approved and it was noted that they would be submitted for the upcoming annual USARS Board of Directors meeting.

The first order of business was our Mission Statement. It was agreed that we need a Mission Statement so it is clear what we are doing as a committee and others may see and understand this as well. Committee members will send Danielle ideas for the Mission statement and we will discuss and modify these at our next meeting (hopefully one will be decided at that time, if not sooner).

John McNeel related to the committee where his progress was in simplifying the rules. He stated that he was simplifying the WFTDA rules first and had completed 20 pages, condensed to about 7 so far. When he is through the rules part of the book he would like the rest of the committee to look at, comment and contact him for possible changes or reasons for minor modifications in the rules. When we have completed this we will want to include OSDA, M.A.D.E. rules for consideration. Hopefully most of these will all ready be included. Danielle asked John if he could have these simplifications completed by May 1st and he replied that he would.

Bruce Bragassa shared with the committee his progress on the development of a coaches program for USARS Roller Derby. He has some of it on the committee site and will have more of the actual training materials coming soon. He said that he could have it (level one at a minimum) completed by May 1st also. Some discussion was brought up on how to handle the progression of the coaching levels for those who may already be qualified for a higher level- they may feel undermined if we make them start at the bottom. These coaches could possibly be grandfathered in before the coaches program is launched or have them submit resumes and referral letters and let a special coaches committee decide if their accomplishments and coaching experiences warrant a higher level of coaching credentials.

Sabra Bunger shared with the committee her work on new league development. It is not possible to cover absolutely everything in one document so the goal is get the basics down on paper. Danielle has sent USARS information to her and she is gathering information for a central resource for anyone who wants to develop a Roller Derby program. Danielle will check with the USARS webmaster to see if a forum of this nature could be run from the USARS website. Sabra also stated she could have this ready by May 1st.

Danielle then asked Jerry Seltzer if he could work on promoting the sport of Roller Derby and helping individual leagues. He responded that he would be glad to and would have something (guide, resources, etc.) ready by May 1st.

Sabra recommended that there be a “Grand Opening” to introduce exactly what the committee is working on to help curb some of the misconceptions that are out there. This could be done via a press release that could possibly be launched via the USARS website, Derby News Network, Blood & Thunder Magazine, One World Roller Derby. It will be crucial that this announcement is delicate as to not threaten the other derby associations that are out there- not trying to undermine what they are doing rather standardize everything across the board.

There was also some discussion on how to obtain feedback from others in the field as we work on these programs- do not want them to feel like the committee hand picked everything on their own. All committee members seem to welcome feedback so developing some surveys to ask questions on certain topics may be the best route for this- it will be up to people to take the time to complete such if they want a ‘voice’ in what is happening.

Final note is that all programs will need to eventually include flat, banked, junior derby, and of course both genders so members are asked to keep this in mind.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 PM central time.

ADDENDUM C

October Report to the USA Roller Sports Board of Directors from the Speed Discipline Committee
Proposed Rule Changes:

1. SR938 Distance Rule Definitions for Outdoor Nationals

SR938.1 Distance Rule Definition for Elimination or Points Elimination Races for Junior World Class and World Class

In this event skaters will be eliminated by the bell down to the 5 skaters remaining with 2 laps to go in

The race. Skaters may be eliminated if distanced by the leaders only if they are not contending for a point’s positions

2-8. Skater’s distanced by the race leaders who have lost contact with the 8th place skater may be distanced at the discretion of the head referee.

Distanced skaters will be placed in reverse order of their elimination for overall race placement.

In elimination races other than Junior World Class and World Class skater will be placed by the order they are eliminated by the bell or distanced.

2. SR961 The Chief Referee

SR961 The Chief Referee presides over all of the officials and is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that each contest is a fair event and that all competitive rules are enforced. *The Chief Referee must be a CIC certified official unless there are no CIC certified officials available.* The Chief Referee vouches directly for his own actions to USARS and will have complete and final authority over the running of the events and the handling of disputes that

may arise. When any condition, such as inclement weather or insufficient light hinders the safety of the competition or any of its competitors or the continuation of the same, the Chief Referee MUST stop the competition until

conditions are corrected or cancel it. When the interrupted competition re-convenes, only those skaters who were competing at the moment of the interruption shall be allowed to participate. The Chief Referee is in charge of the technical and disciplinary control of the competition. Therefore, he or she shall:

3. SR590 Video Replay

SR590 Video replay can be utilized at the indoor national championships for “team fouls” and “technical fouls” for clarification. The only video permissible will be from the official video supplier of the indoor national championships. In order for a foul to be overturned, the video evidence must be conclusive.

SR590.1 No video review will be allowed at any national championship of a non-team foul (officials decisions SR503.2) for any reason.

4. SR600.1 Fouling Disqualification

SR600.1 Fouling Disqualification-If a skater has committed a foul, the referee may call the skater out immediately or allow him or her to continue in the race and announce the disqualification after the race is finished. **All disqualifications must be turned into the chief placement judge before the next race or the disqualification will be nullified.** If a skater refuses to leave the track when ordered out by a referee, the referee may recommend to the meet director the immediate suspension of the skater from the remainder of the speed competition.

5. Statement to be added to SR 111.1 and SR 112.1

At no time shall boys and girls or men and women compete against each other in the division races at a regional qualifying event or national championship.

6. SR170.4 Novice eligibility rules

SR170.4 Skaters are eligible to compete in the Novice Inline Speed program, **unless** they have meet any of the following conditions the previous or prior years.

- A. Skaters placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in an individual event in Freshman or above at Quad National Championships in 1992, or any year prior to 1992, are not eligible for Novice events.
- B. Skaters entering individual *elite* events at the Inline National Championships are not eligible for Novice events the next season or thereafter, except as follows:
 1. Participation or placement in the Tiny Tot division will have no effect on Novice eligibility.
 2. In the Primary and Juvenile divisions only the participants that place 1st, 2nd, or 3rd overall will not be eligible for Novice events the next season or thereafter.
- C. Skaters placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in Junior World Class or World Class events at the Outdoor National Championships, excluding the marathon and relays, are not eligible for Novice events the next season or *thereafter if the Outdoor National Championships are held prior to the Indoor National Championships. Skaters are ineligible to skate Novice after Outdoor National Championships if the event is after the Indoor National Championships.*
- D. Skaters placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in an event at the Novice Inline National Championship are not eligible for Novice events the next season or thereafter.

7. SR831 Scoring Speed Contests

SR831 Scoring Speed Contest

SR831.1 All overall division placements in all speed skating contest and championships will be determined by the greatest number of points awarded in all final distances.

SR831.2 In any final distance, points will be awarded to the top 6 skaters in each final to determine the overall placements in each distance final.

SR831.3 To facilitate the selection of the overall champion, points will be awarded to the top six placements in each distance final event as follows:

First Place	15 points
Second Place	13 points
Third Place	10 points
Fourth Place	8 points
Fifth Place	5 points
Sixth Place	3 points

SR831.4 The overall champion will be the defending champion in any division where the overall champion continues to have age eligibility.

SR831.5 In case of a tie (dead heat) in any final distance, the points will be awarded as follows:

- A. In a dead heat for first place the points for first and second place will be added together and divided equally between the tied skaters.
- B. In the event of a dead heat for second place, the points for second and third will be added together and divided equally between the tied skaters.
- C. The dead heat formula above will be used for any other placements where a dead heat occurs in a distance final.

SR831.6 The skater compiling the largest total score under the above standard point system will be declared champion of the division, the second largest total score shall be declared second, etc.

SR831.7 In the event of a tie for the overall champion, the tied skater's 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place finishes in each distance skated will be used and applied per the SR832 tie breaking formula in the current Speed Skating Rule Book.

SR832 Tie Breaking Formula

Tie-breaker points for placements for Divisions by distance:

	First	Second	Third	Fourth
W/C 100 Meters	93	62	31	15 ½
Short Distance	96	64	32	16
Middle Distance	108	72	36	18
Long Distance	120 ¾	80 ½	40 ¼	20 1/8

Example – John Doe and William Roe are tied for first place with in the Senior Men's division. Each has a total of 23 points under the standard point system. These points are set aside and the tie-breaker point system is used instead. John Doe won the 3000 meter and took fourth in the 1500 meter while William Roe got second the 1500 meter and took third in the 3000 meter.

John Doe is awarded 120 ¾ points for the 3000 meter and 18 points for the 1500 meter. William Roe is awarded 72 points for the 1500 meter and 40 ¼ points for the 3000 meter.

John Doe has 138 ¾ points while William Roe has 112 ¼ points. John Doe would be first and William Roe would be second.

SR833 In the event of a meet disqualification prior to the conclusion of all distances within a division, all points previously earned by the disqualified skater shall be excluded for the tally of overall placements.

SR834 Under no circumstances will points be awarded to any skater for placing in heats or eliminations, or semi-final distances.

SR835 Tie-breaking points NEVER supersede those earned by a skater placing higher in the division by the standard points system. Tabulators are cautioned not to be confused by the higher totals resulting from use of the tie-breaker formula.

SR836 Unbreakable Ties – When an unbreakable tie occurs in determining a championship overall placement, the tied skaters will be required to compete in a tie-breaking run-off of the middle distance to determine the overall placement. In the case of a dead heat in the Elite division both skaters would be awarded the same medal for that distance and no medal would be awarded for the next subsequent placement.

SR837 The club plaque “John Wintz” award will be presented only to the overall elite division champion. Additional awards will be presented to the first, second, and third overall placements for all Elite divisions.

8. Other Actions proposed

- a. The Speed Discipline Committee will be doing a study of the effects of Novice divisions on the retention of skaters moving to the Elite divisions and will make recommendation to the Board at the next Board meeting. The Committee feels that the elimination of Novice at the indoor championship may help to reduce the cost of operations at the championship plus increase the participation in the Elite events. Currently the largest events are those that do not have a Novice equivalent.
- b. Present to the Board a proposed booklet for Coaching Development I for new speed coaches.

Presented to the USARS Board of Directors for implementation for the 2012 season by the Speed Discipline Committee

Ed Mueller Chairperson

ADDENDUM D

MINUTES
USA Roller Sports
Figure Technical Committee
Conference Call
Wednesday, August 31, 2011
5:45 pm CST

Figure Technical Committee members participating: John Cawly, David Adamy, April Jacobson, Tony Berger, Jessica Gaudy, Jim Pollard, and Jane Wojnarowsky.

MOTION #1

Approve the minutes of the August 2 - 3, 2011 meetings from Ft. Wayne, IN.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

USARS continuing education seminars was the next topic of discussion. Richard Hawkins has sent the following information upon requests to host a seminar event:

Local or Regional Meetings, Events or Seminars

Requests for recognition of participation in a meeting, event or seminar as a method of re-certification should include the following and be in writing: (1) dates, (2) location, (3) agenda and explanation of the topics to be covered, (4) meeting leaders, and (5) contact person responsible for submitting participant names to USA Roller Sports for certification points. Submission should be made at least thirty days prior. Upon receipt and review by the USA Roller Sports Executive Director a determination will be made as to whether the meeting, event, or seminar will qualify for certification extensions for USARS member judges and/or coaches.

The Figure Committee members discussed setting criteria for the technical staff of all such seminars for certification extensions for current USARS coaches and officials.

MOTION #2

Commencing September 1, 2012, all event or seminar technical leaders/instructors for local, regional or national meetings leading to certification extensions for USARS member judges and/or coaches must themselves be current USA Roller Sports member skaters, coaches and/or officials.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jim Pringle emailed the USARS figure director of his willingness to work on materials regarding the How To's in grassroots teaching of Pairs skating. Mr. Pringle's proposal also included a bronze level achievement test program. The committee felt this would not only be beneficial to the skaters and coaches, but also to the judges. Linda Miner, Mike Jacques, Danny Brown and Shirley Engle will be notified of Mr. Pringle's proposal of interest to assist in this discipline as a RSA Achievement test bronze level program.

The committee discussed 2011 national championship placements 1-2-or 3 in the combined figure/loop domestic events.

MOTION #3

If a skater placed 1-2-or 3 at the national championships in a domestic figure/loop combined event, but did not place 1-2or 3 in the individual events leading to the combined figure/loop national medal, the skater is not mandated to move to the next higher division in subsequent skating seasons.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The figure committee had been sent a report on all of the 2011 figure skating national championships data by Scott Clifford. There was a short discussion on the contents from the report which included individual skater data, count of contestant/team entry by regions, skater by event and levels, etc. 2011 National data report attached with these minutes.

USARS 2011-2012 competitive requirements for regional and national championships attached to these minutes.

The figure committee discussed the name of the division "Intermediate" and determined the membership would relate to the title Freshman/Sophomore.

Further discussion continued from the Ft. Wayne meetings regarding the splitting of the Junior and Junior World Class divisions. No change to these divisions for the 2011-2012 skating season.

The procedure to be taken in a two skater/team dance event that has an interruption that incurs the contestant/teams to compete out of the announced sequence of judging order of skating. Determination deferred to the Judges Committee.

DIRECTIVE #1

The Judges Committee is asked to develop criteria for the rules pertaining to interruptions in the conducting of a two skater/team flight fro inclusion in the 2012 USARS Figure Rule Book. This should include:

1. What is the procedure/protocol when a skater is interfered with by another skater?
2. Should there be a penalty imposed when a skater interferes with the skater being judged? If so, what sort of penalty?

3. What is the procedure/protocol when a skater starts improperly which, in effect, changes the skating order of the flight?
4. To develop procedures that either give the referees and judges specific instructions about remedies and/or penalties for such actions.

Meeting adjourned approximately at 9:00pm CST.

MINUTES
USA Roller Sports
Figure Technical Committee
Tuesday, August 2, 2011 and Wednesday, August 3, 2011
Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
Ft. Wayne, IN

Figure Technical Committee members participating: John Cawly, David Adamy, April Jacobson, Tony Berger, Jim Pollard and Jane Wojnarowsky. Athlete: Jessica Gaudy was not present.

MOTION #1

CIPA figure events to be conducted by the event referee in the same manner as during the world championships. The event referee will signal the skater to start with a soft whistle when the judges are positioned around the skater's circles.

This rule is to be included in the USARS Figure Rule Book in the referee duties of the running of a CIPA figure event;
AR17.15.04

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION #2

All Primary division skaters who place 1-2-3 at the national championships must move to the next higher "A" division event in subsequent skating seasons when mandated by age in the discipline involved.

This rule is to be included in the USARS Figure Rule Book for all Primary division events.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION #3

Short Program elements for Junior/Junior World Class and World Class Free Skating divisions to be listed in the 2011-2012 USARS Figure Rule Book as:

JUNIOR/JUNIOR WC and WORLD CLASS FREE SKATING

SHORT PROGRAM ELEMENTS (MEN & WOMEN)

- Axel-*This can be single, double or triple.*
- Toe Assisted Jump- *This can be single, double or triple.*
- All other required elements to remain as written in USARS Figure Rule Book as determined by CIPA.

RECOMMENDATION FOR FUTURE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULES

Consideration to be given in scheduling CIPA events the last few evenings of the Youth events during the national championships.

The committee discussed materials handed out during the July 23, 2011 Regional Coaches Representatives meeting as well as comments from this meeting regarding the Special Committee recommendations. These handouts included:

- Tally of comments from all regional reports from the participating coaches.

- George Kolibaba's report on event numbers during the national championships spanning from 1973 to the present.
- The present number of RSA rinks (approximately 780) and the number of USARS clubs (158) and how many members per club in the nation.

The committee reviewed the handouts.

Mr. Kolibaba's report was enlightening to be reminded of the increase in the national championship schedule came not only when we merged with the Junior Olympic events, but also with the inception of Solo Dance as well as the gender separation of the adult solo dance events.

The Figure Committee members discussed extensively back and forth about the competitions during the 2011 nationals. The number of skaters within the events from each region was reviewed. Discussion on consolidating the Freshman and Sophomore events for women, adult division age grouping, youth division three (3) year age bracketing, etc.

April Jacobson said the Juv/Elem A Boy's events and the Fresh/Soph A Men's events at the nationals were well contested and well skated. The boy's events in the figures from Juvenile up through the Junior World Class were skated better than the girl's events. Is this because they have been combined together for the past few years allowing the skater's to have more time in the event to master their skills before moving into the next age category?

The Special Committee's recommendations regarding the "C" division events as "regional only" events was also discussed. The majority of the comments from the coaches in the regional reports preferred this level event to remain on the regional level only. The Figure Committee determined the elimination of the "C" division events from the national championships only saves 13 ½ hours of time. The loss of income would have to be determined by the USARS Finance Department as this also effect's the amount of individuals attending the national championships and USARS bid contract with the host city.

The committee adjourned after five hours of discussion to reconvene the next day.

On Wednesday, August 3, 2011 a motion to accept the Special Committee Recommendations, with the vote being polled.

MOTION #4

Cawly- Yes
 Adamy- Yes
 Jacobson- Yes
 Berger- No
 Wojnarowsky- Yes
 MOTION PASSED

ADDENDUM E

**RINK HOCKEY MINUTES
 October 2, 2011
 Lincoln, Nebraska**

2012 Nationals – Cumberland, MD @ YMCA facility – July 7th thru 13th. Hosted by Pat Ferguson – Riverside facility, 601 Kelly Road, Cumberland, MD 21502, phone 301-777-9622, fax 301-777-3467, email: sminnigh@allconet.org

Information – The Mixed Team Tournament held at the 2011 Nationals raised approximately \$1,800 for the Rink Hockey Foundation. The games were played at the end of each day.

**MINUTES
USA Roller Sports
Executive Committee
Conference Meeting
Friday, August 5, 2011**

George Kolibaba called the meeting to order approximately 3:00 pm central time. Members present were George Kolibaba, Annelle Anderson, and Jim Pollard. Richard Hawkins, USARS Executive Director was also present. Bill Sisson and Josh Wood reviewed the request via phone calls.

MOTION I Motion was made to approve Mario Valencia, a member of the 2010 World Speed Team, as a member of the 2011 World Speed Team based on SR443, USA World Speed Team Injury Plan, listed below.

SR443 USA World Speed Team Injury Plan

- A. Skater must be a USARS member in good standing.
- B. Skater must have written proof of injury from physician to USARS Executive Director.
- C. Skater must be a world medalist the previous year in a Junior or Senior individual division.
- D. Two-thirds of the participants in the qualifying event at World Team Trials must approve by secret ballot the inclusion of the injured athlete in the residency program.
- E. Skater must attend residency program at his or her own expense to try to qualify in the five races on the track and four races on the road against all same gender in nine races.
- F. Athlete must have entered the Outdoor National Championships and paid the appropriate entry fee(s).

There being no residency program, section (E.) above has been waived. Final approval is to be based on the positive outcome of section (D.) above, which will be conducted at the Outdoor National Championships on August 12, 2011.

Unanimously Approved

The meeting adjourned approximately 3:20 pm central time.

**MINUTES
USA Roller Sports
Executive Committee
Conference Meeting
Friday, August 26, 2011**

George Kolibaba called the meeting to order approximately 3:00 pm central time. Members present were George Kolibaba, Annelle Anderson, Bill Sisson, Josh Wood and Jim Pollard. Richard Hawkins, USARS Executive Director was also present.

MOTION I The committee reviewed an appeal from Trace Hansen that would allow a Junior World Class Pairs team to participate in the 2011 World Figure Skating Championships. The team failed to achieve the minimum score required in the USARS Figure Rule Book to advance to the World Championships.

Motion Defeated

The meeting adjourned approximately 3:20 pm central time.