U.S. Association of Blind Athletes Board of Directors Meeting
May 6, 2006
Tele-conference Call
Minutes

Call to order at 8:05 a.m. MDT

Role call: Present - Tom Parrigin, Tracie Foster, Oral Miller, Kevin Szott, Jerry Donley, Tom Culliton, Trischa Zorn, Walter Dean, Pam McGonigle, Staff - Mark Lucas, and Ryan Ortiz, Absent – Lou Moneymaker, Bill Ramsey, Jeannie Derber, Beth Scott, and Dan Parisi

I. Presidents Welcome, Comments and Review of the Agenda:
Szott informed the Board about multiple sport and fundraising activities that have occurred during the first quarter of 2006.

a. The Judo program membership is increasing with the hard work and effort of Walter Dean and staff.

b. Rachael’s Ride: Rachael Scdoris became the first blind athlete to finish the Iditarod race. Rachael helped raise $116,684 for fellow Blind and Visually Impaired athletes. Szott suggested to the Board that USABA bring in Rachael to the next face to face Board meeting to recognize and thank her for her fundraising efforts that will benefit USABA Athletes.

c. Kevin recognized Beth Scott’s efforts in developing a working relationship between Jim Gibbons, CEO of NIB (National Industries for the Blind) and USABA as a possible sponsor of USABA events/athletes.

II. USABA Board of Directors reviewed the minutes from the December 2005 board meeting. Dean made motion to approve minutes. Culliton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Committee Reports

1. Treasurers report: Jerry Donley and staff met with the auditor (Ken Waugh) on May 4, 2006. Donley stated the USABA had a good 2005 as indicated on the preliminary audit report which was e-mailed to all USABA board members on May 5.

Current USABA Finances as of May 4, 2006
Money Market Accountant $10,135
Cascade Investment $149,870
U.S. Olympic Foundation $65,051
First Community Bank Checking $33,695

Account Payables
Women’s Goalball Team (Canada competition) $9,500

Account Receivables
Tiger Claw $6,500
USOC (first two quarters) $66,000
Daniels Fund $17,500
Standard Insurance $15,000

Revenue $98,538 (as of March 31)
Expenses $91,613 (as of March 31)
2. **Disciplinary Report**: (Zorn) The issue regarding the two boys with knives during the Sports Festival last summer will be tabled until Lucas can obtain the decision of the Court for both individuals. Further, the committee will look at the policies and procedures manual for the particular disciplinary action pertinent for this incident. Finally, the committee will make recommendation to the Board based on the above two facts.

3. **Sports Tech**: (Lucas) Sighted Athletes Playing Goalball: This issue will be tabled until goalball athlete representative Lisa Banta can increase her survey of participants in Goalball. Foster suggested the Board prepare an introductory paragraph on the survey describing the issue at hand and the pros and cons of the discussion. The survey will be in print as well electronically.

Miller suggested that the wording on the survey should emphasize that this topic is purely an initial opinion of USABA and not a final decision by the Board. The survey task is solely investigatory and will include twelve months of data by goalball athletes and participants.

Lucas updated the Board on future USABA events.

Miller made a suggestion to the Board regarding how to gain possible new members into USABA. He suggested that USABA include demonstrations of other sports at regional and national sporting events. Examples of possible demonstrations were Archery, Five a Side Football, and Equestrian.

**IV. Old Business**

a. **Strategic Plan update**: (Lucas) A Strategic Plan was developed in 1996 and the board and staff revisited and executed a new plan in 2000 for the years 2001-2006.

Lucas met with former board member and facilitator John Buck to discuss the organizations goals and receiving a RFP to conduct a strategic plan for USABA. John recommended (Lucas) explore receiving a bid from another facilitator. Lucas contacted Kimberly Sherwood and the two of them met to discuss USABA’s mission and goals.

John Buck and Kimberly Sherwood have met and have agreed to co-facilitate the USABA strategic plan. John Buck will be the head facilitator while Kimberly will be co-facilitator. Within the next several months, both individuals will contact each board member to collect information. The Board will meet in the Fall face to face to finalize and adopt the strategic plan.

Cost of the strategic plan will be less than $5,000.

b. **Voting for Regional Reps**: (Parrigin) In order to stagger the election of regional representatives to the USABA board, the board flipped a coin to determine which region would be elected for two years and which region for four years. In 2006, East Region will have a two year term and the West Region will have a four year term represented. Lucas and staff will conduct the voting process out of the front office in Colorado Springs. This procedure is in the bylaws under Art. 4. Section 6.
V. **Next Board meeting**
Lucas will send out two possible dates for the face to face Fall Board Meeting. Currently November 30-December 3 are the dates being earmarked to conduct the strategic plan and fall fundraiser in Colorado Springs. The board would arrive one day earlier than usual to coincide with the strategic plan.

VI. Dean made a motion to close the meeting. Parrigin seconded the motion. Motion passed to adjourn meeting at 10MDT.