



# MINUTES

USA Team Handball Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, Dec. 14 at SnapSports Conference Room  
Duration: 9am - 11:30am

**Attending:** Dieter Esch, Brad Krassner, Kerry Moller, Steve Pastorino  
**Via Phone:** Marilyn Gauthier, David Thompson, Heins Kart Pedersen  
**Absent:** John West, Tomuke Ebuwei, Ralf Uhding  
**Guests:** Jeff Utz, John Bates, Angie Webb, Mariusz Wartalowicz

Steve Pastorino opened meeting and welcomed guests including Jeff Utz (plans to launch SLC Handball Club), John Bates (USATH Chief Legal Counsel) Marius Wartalowicz and Angie Webb (USATH staff).

Pastorino announced decision of USOC to grant full status to USA Team Handball and congratulated Board, staff and everyone in the USA handball community for coming together in the past 18 months since USATH was granted "probationary" status.

Dieter Esch introduced a motion to amend USATH By-Laws and expand Board of Directors by three persons (two independent, one athlete). Rationale is that several individuals have been identified who are interested to make a significant financial contribution to USATH. After discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Esch then announced his intention to resign from position of President (retaining title of Chairman of Board) and nominated Brad Krassner as President. Resignation was accepted and Krassner was elected, by vote of 5-0.

Kerry Moller nominated David Thompson as Vice President. Thompson accepted, and he was elected, 5-0.

Esch delivered Chairman's report, including recent travels to Basel (IHF), Hamburg (Bundesliga, German Federation and Group Club Handball 14), Paris (French Handball Federation), Zagreb (Croatian Handball Federation). USATH has signed or handshake agreements with federations of Poland, Croatia, Germany, France and Sweden. GCH14 is also excited to work with USA Team Handball. It was discussed that five "full" partnerships are sufficient, in order to be able to manage and activate. Pastorino said that relationships with Iceland, Canada, Norway, Denmark, Barbados, Mexico and other countries are important – but may not be as comprehensive.

Esch said that IHF President Dr. Hassan Moustafa would discuss the USA motion to form a new North American & Caribbean Handball Federation at meetings with IHF Executive Council in China (Women's World Cup) and Vienna (EHF European

Championships). USATH motion will be voted upon at April 23-24 IHF Congress in Rome, Italy.

USATH has received signed contract from Germany to participate in Germany vs Poland match in Chicago in July. Brad Krassner will chair the event organizing committee. Invitees to serve on the committee may include Mariusz Wartalowicz, Felix Murokh (Midwest Region Board), Jacque Messel (Chicago Inter), Scott Meyers (World Sport Chicago), Kevin O'Finn (UIC Pavilion) and representatives from German and Polish communities in Chicago.

Esch said that club-to-club interaction is a next important step in international cooperation. Partnerships include TV Grosswallstadt/Atlanta, HC Empor Rostock/Carolina Team Handball Club, Rhein Neckar Lowen/NYC THC, Berlin Fuchse/LATHC.

Steve delivered General Manager's report:

- 2008 IRS tax return (990) has been filed and will be posted at [www.usateamhandball.org](http://www.usateamhandball.org)
- An internal "State of the Union" census was completed indicating:
  - 131 organizations with 4,066+ players in contact with USATH, including 35 colleges or universities
  - 600+ paid members (goal of 1,000 this year)
  - More than 40 referees certified, or in process
  - 20 Men, 7 Women in Europe by July 1010, not including Iceland HS program (8 in 2009, goal of 15 in 2010)
  - Six Futures programs established (Denver, Colorado Springs, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Dallas, Bozeman)
  - Six National Team pools established with goal of 30 athletes in each (to be updated 1-2 times per year). Goal is to develop U16 team by end of 2010 as well. Current numbers:
    - Men National Team: 30
    - Women National Team: 25
    - U21 Men ('89-'91): 11
    - U21 Women ('89-91): 5
    - U18 Men ('92-'94): 30
    - U18 Women ('92-'94): 20
- 2009-10 Budget will be approximately \$1,000,000 (up from \$553,000)
  - 2010 USOC High Performance Funding totals \$260,000 and includes:
    - European Resident Athlete Program (\$50,000)
    - Futures Program (\$25,000)
    - National Team Development (\$175,000)
    - Domestic Development (\$10,000)
- 2009-10 Event Calendar was presented

Motion to approve 2010 Budget, Calendar and Plans was tabled until next meeting pending additional discussion.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for late February, 2010.

## 2010 USA Team Handball Calendar

### Domestic Events

January 1-4	Big Apple Tournament	New York, NY
April 23-24	USATH College Nationals	Myrtle Beach, SC
May 28-31	USATH High School / Futures Nationals	Colorado Springs, CO
July 1-3	Big Mountain Jam Handball Festival	Sandy, UT
July 15 – 18	USATH Club National Championships	Elgin, IL
July 17	Poland vs Germany	Chicago, IL
Aug. 7-13	Florida Cup U18 Youth Tournament	Kissimmee, FL
Aug. 27-28	USATH Beach Handball Championship	Huntington Beach, CA

### Selected International Events

Jan. 19-31	EHF European Championships	Vienna, Austria
April 10-11	Lufthansa Final Four (Bundesliga)	Hamburg, Germany
April 23-24	IHF Extraordinary Congress	Rome, Italy
May 29-30	EHF Champions League Final Four	Cologne, Germany
June 6	Bundesliga All-Star Game	Berlin, Germany
June 28-July 4	World University Championships (Men)	Nyiregyhaza, Hungary
June 26-28	Canada Cup (Women)	Edmonton, Canada
November	PanAm Champs D1 Tournament (Women)	TBD
December	Pan Am Games Men's Qualifier	USA & Canada
December	Pan Am Games Women's Qualifier	USA & Canada

### Women's National Team Camps

April	Regional Camp (all)	tbd
Summer	Summer Training Program (all)	Colorado Springs, CO
August	Iceland Kickoff Camp (U18)	Reykjavik, Iceland
September	Europe tour/camp (WNT)	Germany

### Men's National Team Camps

May 28-31	Memorial Day Regional Camps	Los Angeles & New York
May	Europe tour/camp (MNT)	Germany
June 20-25	World University Games preparation camp (MNT)	Atlanta
Sept. 3-6	Labor Day Regional Camp	Chicago or Texas
September	Europe camp/combine	Germany

