

A board meeting was held on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 via conference call.

Here is the meeting agenda:

1. Cal to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Remarks from the President.
4. Old business (Records / Hall of fame).
5. New Business.
6. Financial Report.
7. Close meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05.

Roll call was taken. 11 members were present. 4 members were not present. The results of the roll call are listed here:

Chris Smith, President - Present

Jeff Scott, Secretary - Present

Jerry Dunne, TOL - Present

Dena Smith, TOL - Present

Frank Mintz, Technology Chair - Present

Joe Rodriguez, Treasurer - Present

Sara Soto, Athlete Rep - Present

Kevin Ostrander, Athlete Rep – Not Present

Juan Blanco, Club Rep - Present

Kurt Roderick, Club Rep - Not Present

Ryan Hansen, Governor, Zone 2 – Not Present

Samuel Axten, Governor, Zone 3 - Present

Ryan Stoffle, Governor, Zone 4 – Not Present

Arhtur Drechsler, Ad Hoc member - Present

Joe Triolo, Ad Hoc member – Present

The President presented his remarks to the board. Here is a summary of what he said:

Contact with Niagara. NYS meet is a go in HV. Looking to 2020 event. Possible stipend to meet director. Best practices. Keep the meet in a central area, no further down than HV. Must participate in one year in order to run meet in the next year. Timing of event is critical so as not to conflict with national calendar.

Speaking with Governors. Trying to get things going in Zones 2,3 and 4. Governors reach out to meet directors to find out what they need. Push for developing LWC referees. List referees by Zone. Looking to come up with equipment to support each Zone.

Webpoint access for those who need it. Let Chris know if there is an issue.

The President described how he had contacted all the newly elected officers and asked them if they intend to accept and serve in their elected positions. One governor has not acknowledged that he has accepted his position as Governor. Arthur Drechsler pointed out that the LWC by-laws have no requirement for a person to accept an elected position. A discussion ensued about the ramifications of an elected board member who is not participating in the process of governance. The process for the removal of an officer of the board was discussed.

Old business.

Records.

Technology Chair Frank Mintz spoke about the impact of the new weight classes on LWC records. There was a discussion about formulas to use to come up with standards where records cannot be identified. The record standards discussed will apply to senior records for female and male athletes. The records for Youth, Junior and Masters will be established as record standards based on the qualifying totals of each respective national championship.

Youth - up to age 17

Junior - 15-20

Masters - all age groups recognized by USAW.

Records will be based on the qualifying total of the respective national championships. Snatch and Clean and Jerk records will be calculated as the snatch being approximately 45% of the total and the clean and jerk being approximately 55% of the total.

#### RECORDS - WOMEN

Old class	New class	Record / Standard
None	W45	Based on comparison of IWF record standard to next higher weight class (W49)

W48	W49	W48 record
W53	W55	W53 record
W58	W59	W58 record
W63	W64	W63 record
W69	W71	W69 record
W75	W76	W75 record
None	W81	Based on comparison of IWF record standard to next higher weight class (W87)
None	W87	See note 1 below
None	W+87	See note 2 below
W90	None	Not applicable – see historical records
W+90	None	Not applicable – see historical records

Note 1: Records carry over for the Athlete who held the records in the old W90 kg class while under the bodyweight limit for the new W87 kg category.

Note 2: Records carry over for the Athlete who held the records in the old W+90 category.

#### RECORDS - MEN

Old class	New class	Record / Standard
None	M55	Based on comparison of IWF record standard to next higher weight class (M61)
M56	M61	M56 record
M62	M67	M62 record
M69	M73	M69 record
M77	M81	M77 record
M85	M89	M85 record
M94	M96	M94 record
None	M102	M94 record plus 1 kilogram
M105	M109	M105 record

M+105

M+109

See note 3 below

Note 3: The Athletes who held former M+105 category records were heavier than the new M+109 category lower limit, so the old records carry over.

Jerry Dunne made a motion to accept Frank's recommendations. Arthur Drechsler seconded the motion. The President called for a vote. The result of the roll-call vote was as follows:

Chris – Y

Jeff – Y

Jerry – Y

Dena – Y

Frank – Y

Sara – Y

Juan – Y

Sam – Y

Artie - Y

Joe T – Y

Joe R – Y

The proposal passed by unanimous vote.

Hall of fame.

The President spoke of adding Danica Rue and Konstantin Starikovitch to LWC HOF. There was a vigorous discussion about the requirements for the LWC HOF. Frank Mintz will provide HOF criteria for further review. Arthur Drechsler agreed to provide background information on DR and Chris Smith agreed to provide background on Konstantin Starikovitch.

Arthur Drechsler called for the consideration of the minutes from last board meeting. The President made a motion to accept the minutes, Sara Soto seconded the motion. The President called for a vote. The result of the roll-call vote was as follows:

Chris – Y

Jeff – Y

Jerry – Y

Dena – Y

Frank – Y

Sara – Y

Juan – Y

Sam – Y

Artie - Y

Joe T – Y

Joe R – Y

The vote was unanimous and the minutes were accepted.

There were three proposals for consideration that involved changes to the LWC by-laws. The proposals are listed below as they were presented to the board.

Amendment proposal 1:

- Proposal 1:

*Problem* - The duties and requirements in the bylaws for the Meet Director, Competition Secretary, and 'Qualified Individual' are overlapping and conflicting. This includes conflicting information regarding what is in a Meet Report, who is assigned the Meet Report, who is held responsible for the lack of Meet Report, and who files Meet Results nationally and with the LWC.

*Solution* - Cut the requirements for the Qualified Individual. The Qualified Individual position is superseded by the Competition Secretary position.

~~From Article 7 - Section 4 CUT: "To obtain a sanction a potential Competition Director must secure a commitment of a LWC Officer or National Level or higher Technical Official to attend the event. This person must agree to assist with running of the competition and report back in writing to the LWC Officers. A potential Competition Director must present the name(s) of qualifying individuals who will support the competition. This requirement is waived for Competition Directors who either have run a competition as a Director in the LWC in the calendar year of 2016 that was satisfactorily done or is a National or higher Technical Official."~~

*Solution* - Cut the requirements of a new Meet Director (circa post 2016) to sign a written agreement with the LWC to hold a meet and the list of requirements that are to

be included in the agreement. Some of these requirements are the same as those required by USA Weightlifting, but some of these requirements of the Meet Director are superseded by the position of Competition Secretary.

· From Article 7 - Section 4 CUT: ~~“A potential Competition Director must also confirm via a countersigned written commitment with the LWC to do/provide the following: 1. The LWC Zone in which the competition will be held. 2. Draft entry form with tentative schedule and name of LWC Officer or Technical Official that has committed to supporting the event. 3. Confirm kilogram barbells and weights will be used for the competition. 4. Confirm all officiating, including weigh-ins, will be done by LWC or higher Technical Officials. 5. Submit/upload official competition results to USAW’s Webpoint database and email them to the LWC Officer designated in the written commitment within 10 days of the completion of competition. 6. Ensure a meet report is presented, in writing prior to or verbally in person at the next scheduled LWC meeting. (Form to be provided by the LWC). 7. All rules of weightlifting competition will be followed.”~~

*Solution* - Cut the requirements for the Meet Director to send in reports to the LWC, and clearly assign this requirement to the Competition Secretary of the meet. In addition, clarify the requirements for what is in a Meet Report given by the Competition Secretary.

· From Article 4 - Section 1 CUT: ~~“Each meet director will submit participation records to the Secretary to be tabulated.”~~

· To Article 5 - Section 1: ADD: “report back to the LWC Secretary with all official documentation from the meet, a participation record of all Officials and Volunteers for the meet, and an overall approval or disapproval of the competition”

*Solution* - The Meet Director is penalized for the failures of the Competition Secretary. The Meet Director should receive sanctions that are determined to be their fault, but cannot accept responsibility for failures of the Competition Secretary. The Competition Secretary is a position that may be appointed by the President of the LWC, and the Meet Director should not be sanctioned for their actions.

· To Article 5 - Section 1 Cut: ~~“failure to provide the required documentation may result in the denial of a future sanction request”~~

· To Article 5 - Section 1 Add: “failure to provide the required documentation may result in being ineligible in the future for Competition Secretary or Meet Director. If the Competition Secretary is able to show that the Meet Director has failed to provide the required documentation for the Meet Report, the Meet Director may be subject to denial of a future sanction request.”

*Solution* - The Competition Director is held responsible by USA Weightlifting for filing the Meet Results in a timely manner (14 calendar days or 24 hours in the case of last minute qualifiers). The LWC bylaws task the Competition Secretary with this duty. WebPoint does not allow for the Meet Results to be filed by someone other than the Meet Director.

· To Article 5 - Section 1 Cut ~~“to report the results to the national office in a timely manner and”~~

The President called for a vote. The result of the roll-call vote was as follows:

Amendment proposal 1.

Chris - N

Jeff – N

Jerry – N

Dena – N

Frank – N

Sara – N

Juan – N

Sam – N

Artie - N

Joe T – N

Joe R – N

The vote was unanimous and the proposal was defeated.

Amendment proposal 2:

Proposal 2:

*Problem* - The bylaws grant the President and Technical Committee the ability to act as a jury to any Local Competition. This contradicts the rules outlined in the USA Weightlifting Addendum to IWF Technical Rules, which gives this power to the three referees officiating at local events.

*Solution* - Make the bylaws in agreement with the USAW Addendum.

- To Article 7 - Section 3 CUT ~~“In lieu of a jury, at any local meet the President and Technical Committee can act as such, with all the powers delegated to a jury under the rules of the IWF Technical and Competition Rules and Regulations (See said document Section 7.5 Jury).”~~

The President called for a vote. The result of the roll-call vote was as follows:

Amendment proposal 2.

Chris – N

Jeff – Y

Jerry – Y

Dena – N

Frank – N

Sara – Y

Juan – Y

Sam – Y

Artie - N

Joe T – Y

Joe R – N

The vote was 6 in favor, 5 opposed. The proposal was defeated.

Amendment proposal 3:

Proposed article:

**Article 8. Amendments to Bylaws**

Section 1: Amendment Proposal

Amendments may be proposed by any board member. The Board member may propose such an amendment in writing, by submitting the proposal to the President and Secretary of the LWC at least 21 days prior to the next LWC Board meeting. The President and/or Secretary must circulate the proposed amendment at 14 days prior to said meeting, where the proposal will be voted on, if there is a quorum. Alternatively, a proposal for an amendment to the bylaws may be made at any regular board meeting and seconded. In such a case, written notice of the proposal shall be given to all Board members and a vote shall take place at the next meeting, provided a quorum of at least fifty percent of all Board members.

Section 2: Amendment Approval

At least two thirds of the votes present is needed in order for an amendment to be approved and added to the bylaws.

The President called for a vote. The result of the roll-call vote was as follows:

Amendment proposal 3.



Chris – N

Jeff – N

Jerry – Y

Dena – N

Frank – Y

Sara – Y

Juan – Y

Sam – Y

Artie - Y

Joe T – N

Joe R – Y

The vote was 7 in favor, 4 opposed. The proposal was defeated.

There being no further old business items, the President opened the floor for new business.

New Business.

The President addressed the issue of ambiguity and poor wording in the by-laws. He announced his intention to form a sub-committee to review and correct errors and provide clarity, particularly with regard to the role of the TOL. The composition of the sub-committee will be addressed at the next board meeting.

Six proposals were e-mailed to the board by Kurt Roderick in advance of the meeting. The proposals were sent by Kurt Roderick to all board members. Sara Soto called for the consideration of the proposals. Proposal 1 concerns the NYS Championship event. Proposals 2 -6 are by-laws amendments. The proposals submitted are listed here:

PROPOSAL #1:

- UNDERSTANDING REGARDING STATE CHAMPIONSHIP:

Prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the Metropolitan LWC Executive Board will meet in person or via phone conference to outline a set of criteria and guidelines they wish to prioritize for the following year's New York State Championships. They will specify by majority vote what criteria they view as essential, and what is simply desirable. The President of the Metropolitan will be guided by this decision by the Executive Board in the negotiations with the Niagara LWC President over the final criteria for the State Championships. The President may use his or her discretion in the negotiations of 'desirable'

criteria, but will be bounded by those deemed 'essential' by the board. If the President finds that an 'essential' item is detrimental to negotiations with the Niagara LWC President, he or she may ask the board via email to remove the restriction. The Board will be obliged to vote up or down on the removal of the 'essential' item within 24 hours of President's email. The President will be bound by the majority vote.

After all bids have been received the LWC President will share all the bids with the Metropolitan LWC Executive Board. The Board will convene a meeting in person or via phone conference no sooner than 48 hours. The Board will have three votes that will be decided by majority vote: 1) the top bid, 2) the bids that are acceptable, and 3) the bids that are unacceptable. Any board member that serves as Meet Director or Competition Secretary for a particular bid must abstain from voting. The President must attempt to secure the top bid, but may accept any bid that is deemed acceptable by the board when negotiating with the Niagara LWC President.

- REASON: *This is a way to balance the needs of the LWC President to negotiate the terms of the State Championship with the Niagara LWC President AND the desire of the executive board to express its very real interest in the competition.*
- *I do not think this needs to be a Bylaw change, but merely an understanding by the board.*

#### PROPOSAL #2:

- *Problem* – The bylaws create a potentially powerful position in the TOL, but with very little guidance on what powers the position has and what its relationship is to the Competition Secretary, or even the Meet Director. It is unclear if the Competition Secretary is obsolete or simply redundant. We now have three powerful positions empowered with overseeing the running of meets: the TOL, Meet Director, and Competition Secretary (and Qualified Individual if we don't get rid of Article 7/section 4). This is ripe for conflict and for inefficiency in the running of meets in our LWC without properly outline the TOL position.
- *Solution* – Cut the position of the Competition Secretary. Clearly list the relationship of the TOL as support to the meet director in the areas of advising on rules, verifying the qualification of officials, helping to support the meet, and outlining best practices as adopted by other LWC meets. Remove any direct punitive role assumed by the TOL position. Charge the TOL with reporting to the Executive Board (either at a meeting or via email), their opinions regarding the meet. Clearly delineate that the meet director will be final authority regarding their meet. No punitive measures should be taken against a meet director without the full support of the Executive Board.
  - From Article 4 Section 1: CUT: ~~“...who share the responsibility of overseeing the Competition Secretaries for all LWC Competitions.”~~
  - From Article 4 Section 1: CUT: ~~“The TOLs may appoint or accept a CS for a particular competition but the TO have final responsibility for that competition.”~~
  - ADD to Article 4, Section 1: “There shall be two TOLs who share the responsibilities for supporting Meet Directors by advising on rules for local competitions, verifying qualifications for referees and officials, and outlining best practices as adopted by other LWC meets. The TOL will report to the executive board their opinions regarding the

meets they oversee. The TOL position will not be construed as to restrict the powers of the Meet Director in the running of the meet.”

- CUT ARTICLE 5 Competition Secretary.
- CUT Article 7, Section 2: ~~Management Every sanctioned competition shall have a meet director who is stipulated on the sanction form, and a competition secretary.~~
- CUT Article 7, Section 3: ~~Monitoring Every sanctioned competition shall be monitored by a Competition Secretary (see Article 5). After the Competition Secretary has conducted his duties, he shall report back to the president and secretary within one month from the date of the competition with a full report on the event including an overall statement of approval or disapproval.~~
- ADD Article 7, Section 3: “Every sanctioned competition shall be monitored by the TOL or by a Competition Secretary appointed by the TOL. The Meet Director will have final authority in the running of their meet. If the TOL feels that the Meet Director is incorrect in their judgement, they may bring such issue up in their report to the Executive Committee. After the TOL has conducted their duties, they shall report back to the LWC Secretary with all official documentation from the meet, a participation record of all Officials and Volunteers for the meet, and an overall approval or disapproval of the competition. The TOL will also provide results for the meet to the Technology Chair to be included on the Metropolitan website. The TOL may ask the Meet Director for further information regarding results of the competition if the Meet Director wishes to provide. No punitive measure may be taken against a Meet Director without majority approval of such measures at an Executive Meeting.”

#### PROPOSAL #3:

- PROBLEM: Weigh-ins are to be conducted by two LWC Officials with SafeSport and Background checks. This is an undue burden on meet directors and is unnecessary. We do not need to have two officials for adults weighing in with their singlets on. It is silly, and it takes away a referee who may be better suited to helping run the actual meet. Obviously we want our athletes to be safe, particularly minors. The existing USAW requirements for the weigh in official to have a background check and be safesport certified is enough in conjunction with the USAW requirement that there be a second person in the weigh in room with a minor (who weighs in with their singlet). The rules for local meets already require that there be a second person for weigh ins for minors and that that person may be the parent or a coach.
- SOLUTION: Cut the ridiculous requirement that two LWC officials with Safesport and Background checks need to be present for weigh-ins for adults, and follow the reasonable USAW rules that only require 1 weigh in official with Safesport and Background and require two people for a weigh in of minors.
  - CUT Article 7, Section 2: ~~Management Every sanctioned competition shall have a meet director who is stipulated on the sanction form, and a competition secretary.~~ Referees shall be selected on a first come first serve basis, but the highest ranking referees will have priority. The meet director must contact all national, category I, and category II referees one week prior to the meet to assess their availability and the need for local referees. ~~Weighins must be conducted in a private room, not a bathroom or open area~~

~~whatsoever. The LWC will adhere to IWF rules. Two referees must be present at weigh-ins. At no time may a referee be alone in the weigh-in room with a minor.~~

#### PROPOSAL #4:

- **PROBLEM:** New referees need to practice and should not be pushed aside in conducting meets by higher ranking officials. While difference to experience is a sign of respect, allowing the younger generation to run meets and to operate as officials at meets is prudent if we want meets to be run in the future. I will put new officials in certain positions at my meets to help them learn and to hopefully get them to want to be officials more often. If a higher ranking official bumps them, they are less likely to be an official later.
- **SOLUTION:** Cut the requirement for meet directors to give priority to high ranking officials, and let the meet director decide how best to run their meet.
  - ~~CUT Article 7, Section 2: Referees shall be selected on a first come first serve basis, but the highest ranking referees will have priority. The meet director must contact all national, category I, and category II referees one week prior to the meet to assess their availability and the need for local referees.~~

#### PROPOSAL #5:

- *Problem* – The Bylaws create the super committee of the LWC Administrators that include the President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Technology Chair. This practice itself is not an issue as it allow for temporary decisions to be made that can be overturned or approved by the next Executive Meeting. I think we can all recognize that at times, expediency of decision-making is important. However, only two of these positions are voted on and held directly accountable by the membership. There can be arguments that the Treasurer should be included on this committee for reasons tied to holding the purse, and perhaps because of the dual role of the Technology Chair as Bookkeeper speaks to their qualifications, however, I believe arguments could be made that a Governor, or Club Rep, or Athlete Rep, or TOL could equally be on the board.
- *Solution* – The President and Secretary should be the two essential members of the LWC Administrators. The Executive Board should vote on the other two members of the committee. The President may appoint any one Executive Board member to join the committee and the Board, by majority vote, may approve. The second member of the LWC Administrators Committee may be nominated by any two members of the Executive Board. The nomination that receives the most votes will be named the fourth member of the LWC Administrators Committee.
  - ~~TO ARTICLE 4, SECTION 1: CUT: The President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Technology Chair are all LWC Administrators. If 3 out of 4 of these individuals agree on the resolution of an issue, the resolution will stand until the next Executive Board meeting at which it will be voted on for approval.~~
  - *ADD AT END OF ARTICLE 4, SECTION 1: At extraordinary times it is essential that decision-making is expedited. Given that the full executive committee may not be able to be convened in a timely matter to resolve pressing, time sensitive issues, there will be*

*a Committee of the LWC Administrators. This committee will consist of the President, the Secretary, and two other members. The two members must be Executive Board members. One of these positions will be appointed by the President for a one year term, and approved by the Executive Board by a majority vote. The other may be nominated by two Executive Board members. The nomination that receives the greatest votes will be a member of the committee for a one year term. If 3 out of 4 of these individuals agree on a resolution of an issue, the resolution will stand until the next Executive Board meeting at which it will be voted on for approval. The Executive Board will be made immediately aware of any resolution made by this committee and will convene no later than 30 days after such a resolution.*

PROPOSAL #6:

- Problem – Article 9, Section 2 stipulates no proxies shall be allowed at meetings in the context of bylaw. However, the new Governor positions allow for proxies.
- Solution – cut the no proxies.
  - TO ARTICLE 9, Section 2: CUT: ~~“No proxies shall be allowed.”~~

There was a brief discussion regarding the proposals.

Proposal 1 was tabled until the 7/14 meeting.

Proposals 2-6 were seconded by Jerry Dunne and Juan Blanco.

Juan Blanco presented a proposal to amend the by-laws. The proposal was e-mailed during the meeting to the Secretary and it is presented here as it was written:

PROPOSAL: Article 4, Section 1 “To be considered for the Presidency a candidate”

- **Problem** – Since the growth and evolution of USA Weightlifting, the advent of professional weightlifting coaches and weightlifting businesses is upon us. The current prerequisite limits inclusion and the opportunity for future Professional coaches with management and leadership skills to fulfill the role.

- **Solution** – add “ National referee or **National Coach** for the two preceding years”

The proposal was seconded by Jerry Dunne and Sara Soto.

The President spoke about equipment subsidies for the Zones. A budget for the current year of \$ 2,000.00 was suggested. There were questions about what the funds could be used for. The issue will be addressed in further detail at the 7/14 board meeting.

Frank Mintz gave a Financial Report.

As of 5/31/2019:

LLC held funds \$ 6,169.56

USAW held funds \$ 14,909.50

Petty Cash \$ 133.50

The Secretary made a motion to accept the report. Juan Blanco seconded the motion.

The start time for the 7/14 board meeting was set at 10:00 A.M.

The meeting was closed at 10:25.