

A general membership meeting was held on Friday 11/20/2020 at 8:00 P.M. via Zoom conference.

The meeting agenda was as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Opening remarks by the LWC President
3. Membership trend in the LWC during COVID
4. Live event opportunities in the LWC
5. On-line event opportunities in the LWC
6. Upcoming elections in the LWC
7. Outlook for 2021 and beyond
8. Member questions & answers
9. Close meeting

The meeting was called to order at 8:00

Board members present:

Chris Smith, President

Jeff Scott, Secretary

Jerry Dunne, TOL

Joe Triolo, Ad Hoc Member

Dena Smith, TOL

Frank Mintz, Technology Chair

Sara Soto, Athlete Rep

Joe Rodriguez, Treasurer

LWC members present:

Lyn Kajihara

The president thanked everyone for joining the meeting in these difficult times.

The president gave a brief report on the status of USAW membership in the LWC. Members have dropped from 1050 at this time last year to 631. To try and reverse the downward trend, the president encouraged everyone to make a call for membership.

There are 3 live events coming up in the LWC. 12/12 at Swagler Strength (Zone 4 – open meet), 12/13 hosted by LIW (Zone 1 – open meet) and 12/20 Hosted by Muder of Crows (Zone 1 – closed meet).

The AO Finals have gone virtual. There are no on-line events scheduled in the LWC through the end of 2020. Two on-line test events were held this fall and the events were well received. The secretary discussed the details of the test events conducted in the LWC.

The president addressed the USAW on-line event parameters. USAW is charging \$ 1,500.00 to run an on-line local event for up to 60 lifters.

The possibility of sending in video taped lifts for qualification purposes was discussed. It is not known at this time what the status of is. The secretary will follow-up with USAW.

Gyms in NYC may be closing soon. This could affect upcoming events.

Events coming in 2021 were discussed. They include:

Stan Bailey memorial Jan 30 2021 hosted by LIW (Zone 1 – open meet)

Larry Mintz memorial Apr 10 2021 hosted by LIW (Zone 1 – open meet)

NYS Championships Oct 2021 hosted by Swagler Strength (Zone 4 – open meet)

A number of positions on the LWC board are up for election. The president announced that the positions up for election are::

Governors in Zone 2, 3 and 4 (three positions)

Athlete rep (female) (one position, must be female)

Athlete rep (male) (one position, must be male)

Club rep (one position)

Technical Official Leader (one position)

A call for nominations is going out soon from USAW. The president reminded everyone that nominees must formally accept the nomination through USAW in order to be elected and serve in the position.

The president opened the floor to Q&A.

There is a general concern that the closing of gyms may hinder on-line events.

Frank Mintz gave a summary report on the LWC member survey that was recently sent out. A detailed report will be presented at the next board meeting.

Frank received around 60 responses -- about a 10% response rate -- from current members. The survey was also sent to expired members from March 2020 to the present -- Frank reported about 60 responses from that group.

There may be an on-line unsanctioned event Jan 9 or 10.

There may be an on-line sanctioned event in March or May – Frank Mintz will send out an interest survey to determine if there is enough enthusiasm in the LWC to warrant engaging USAW for a sanctioned on-line event.

The status of LWC equipment on-loan was discussed. It was noted that some of the clubs that received equipment have closed or folded and should no longer be holding LWC equipment since they can no longer hold contests. It was agreed that this stipulation does not apply to clubs that are still active but have lost the use of their facility due to COVID. The president will follow-up with the clubs regarding the loaned equipment.

It was agreed that a board meeting would be held, via, at 7:00 P.M. on 12/11/2020.

There being no further questions, the meeting was closed at 9:01 P.M.

Jeff Scott

Secretary, LWC 06