

A board meeting was held on Friday, 9/3/2021 via Zoom meetings.

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 P.M. by LWC President Christopher Smith.

Board members present:

Christopher Smith, President

Jeff Scott, Secretary

Dena Smith, Technical Official Leader

Richard Siebert, Club Rep

Frank Mintz, Technology Chair

Joe Rodriguez, Zone 2 Governor

Jamie Swagler, Zone 4 Governor

Joe Triolo, Ad Hoc member

Also attending were:

John Fiorella, President of the Niagara LWC

Ian Matlack, Athlete and LWC member

The agenda for the meeting:

1. Opening remarks by the President - USAW WSO reorganization
2. NYS Championships event
3. Bid package for the 2022 NYS Championships event
4. Media coverage at the NYS Championships event
5. 2019 and 2020 LWC outstanding athlete awards
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Close meeting

Agenda item 1.

The President began the meeting by thanking everyone in attendance for the dedication to the sport of weightlifting. The President conducted a review of the recent USAW by-laws changes that converted the LWC organization that currently exists into the new model based on WSO's (weightlifting state organizations). New York will become a unified WSO with the Metropolitan and Niagara LWCs merging into one organization – the NY State WSO. The President encouraged board members to review section 5.9 of the new USAW by-laws so as to familiarize themselves with the new structure of local weightlifting governance. Everyone present was briefed on the new funding model by which USAW will provide money to the WSOs.

Agenda item 2.

The upcoming NYS Championships event is scheduled for October 23-24 in Auburn NY. Jamie Swagler is the meet director. In previous meetings, it was agreed that the LWCs (Metropolitan and Niagara) would each contribute to the event cash prize fund the sum of \$ 1.50 for each LWC member as of January 1, 2021. The President was concerned that low membership numbers would impact the cash prize fund negatively. The idea of changing the contribution rate was brought up, but there was not widespread support for the idea. It was agreed to leave the cash prize fund contributions as they were previously agreed to (LWCs = \$ 1.50 per member as of 1/1/2021 and meet director = 10% of gross entry fee total). After much debate, cash prizes were set at 300/200/100 for categories receiving cash awards.

The technology plan for the 2021 NYS Championships event is a big concern. The Secretary asked that the discussion of the concerns be postponed to a separate meeting. The President agreed to revisit the issue during another meeting to be scheduled in the very near future.

Agenda item 3.

The conduct of a WSO championship is a key element in WSO funding under the new structure. As such, the President asked the board to start giving consideration to the bid packet for the 2022 and possibly the 2023 event too. A lively discussion ensued after which it was agreed that a draft of the bid packet for 2022 would be prepared for review post-haste and a meeting would be held on Sunday 9/12 at 7:00 P.M. to review the draft of the bid packet. Distribution of the 2022 packet is to be completed by 9/30/2021 with a response deadline of 12/15/2021 or thereabouts. It was agreed that the 2023 packet should be worked in the meantime and sent out after the award for the 2022 event is made.

Agenda item 4.

The President brought up the topic of media coverage for the NYS Championships. Media coverage is essential to promoting the event and the sport of weightlifting. The President asked if the board would be willing to spend some funds on media coverage for future events. The board was receptive to the idea provided there was some idea of the costs involved. There are no current arrangements for the 2021 event.

Agenda item 5.

The President addressed the status of LWC outstanding lifter awards for 2019 and 2020. Awards for 2019 will be presented at the 2021 NYS Championships event. 2020 award recipients have not yet been selected. Response to the call for nominations for 2020 was sparse. The President suggested reopening nominations. The Secretary argued against the idea. The board, with mixed feelings, agreed to stick

with the published deadline. Award selection for 2020 will be conducted at a later date and the 2020 awards will be presented in conjunction with the 2021 awards at the 2022 NYS Championships event.

Agenda item 6.

The President opened the floor to the discussion of old business, but none of the members present had any old business to discuss at the present time.

Agenda item 7.

The President opened the floor to the discussion of new business. The Secretary asked when a general membership meeting would be held. The President indicated that it was his desire to hold a general membership meeting, possibly via Zoom, after the conclusion of the 2021 event in Auburn. The date would be determined later, but would most likely be in November so a board meeting could be held in December as a follow-up.

The president floated the idea of providing t-shirts for Zone Team members at the upcoming NYS Championships. After a brief discussion the President called for a vote. The board voted in favor of the idea with one member opposed and one member abstaining.

The issue of a demand letter for the return of misappropriated LWC equipment was discussed. The letter has not been sent yet. The President will make some edits to the letter and send it out to the party who is holding LWC equipment.

Agenda item 8.

There being no further business to discuss, the President closed the meeting at 10:43 P.M.

Jeff Scott

Secretary, LWC 06