

United States Sumo Federation  
February 12 2024  
Agenda Prepared by:  
USSF Board of Trustees and Executive Officers

Minutes Prepared by: Kellyann Ball

I. Call to Order: 5:05pm

II. Roll Call

- A. ~~Ed Suczewski (President)~~
- B. Andrew Freund (Trustee)
- C. Daniel Avila (Trustee)
- D. Ramy Elgazar (Trustee)
- E. Kelly Gneiting (Trustee) Partial
- F. Kellyann Ball (Secretary)
- G. Americus Abesamis (Treasurer) Partial
- H. Marky Naas (Webmaster)
- I. ~~Tom Zabel (Executive Director)~~

III. Approval of previous meeting minutes (prepared by Kellyann Ball)

- 1. Motion for approval to happen via email - **Motion carries** - unanimous support.

IV. Reports

V. Unfinished Business

VI. New Business

1. Interpretation of the Sanctioning Regulations

- a. Who is currently under suspension that the USSF community needs to be aware of? Does suspension include staff, e.g. corner judges, streaming staff, drivers etc. ?
- b. Regarding participation in Goldman's events, does this caution apply only to those who would be wrestling, or does it include ANY participation in the event?
  - i. Andrew sent an e-mail to the board about 3 weeks ago, with a summary of his understanding, in the hopes that board members would disseminate some of the history to members with questions. Since none of the board members have responded yet to member questions via e-mail, the suggestion now is to reply to those

members who asked questions, individually, and also to send a group e-mail (per paragraph, below).

- ii. Kellyann to draft an email to clarify the original email sent January 11th to USSF members. Clarify that the bylaw language is “may” not “will”, and the USSF will be contacting the IFS for additional clarification. Also, members should be informed that the basis for the advisory e-mail was based on past IFS precedent (banning the people in question), and not simply due to the lack of a sanction.
- iii. Andrew will draft an email to IFS requesting direction regarding Noah Goldman’s league and events. Clarify whether non competitors could also possibly be banned/suspended by the IFS.

**c. USA Sumo’s event held in Australia**

- i. Bylaws do not address events held outside the US. Proposed to clarify the bylaws regarding sanctioned events via email.
- ii. Andrew suggested adding “Any USSF members running/producing in a foreign jurisdiction should consult with that foreign jurisdiction’s national government body for any necessary approvals” or Option 2: Requiring a normal USSF sanction regardless of what county the event is held in.
- iii. Danny suggested an overall review of the USSF bylaws to clarify ambiguity

**2. North American Presidency**

- a. Andrew to contact the IFS before the end of the month, regarding the election of the North American President.

**3. Qualified Member list**

- a. Andrew suggested automation of the list if possible.
- b. Marky will look into options to make automation possible, including using squarespace’s subscription option, and provide his findings via email.

**4. Trustee voting process**

- a. Qualified members list must be created before trustee nomination requests can be emailed out.

**5. Ryan White’s Resignation**

- a. Ryan White resigned from Vice President and Trustee positions effective January 24, 2024.

**6. Review of Nationals**

- a. To be discussed at the next meeting, proposed dates of Feb 28th or March 6th.**

**VII. Adjournment: 6:47pm**