

**USA Canoe/Kayak
Minutes of Assembly
Oklahoma City, OK
August 27, 2010**

1. Call to order

Pursuant to Section 5.6(a) of the Bylaws of USA Canoe/Kayak, the USA Canoe/Kayak Assembly convened at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 2 West Reno Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK at 7:00 p.m. with the following directors present:

1. David Backer, Chair
2. Fred Mechini
3. Peter Newton
4. Richard Perlmutter
5. Scott Shipley

Ross Flemer, Marian Hanson, Jen Storms and Humpy Wheeler were absent.

The following staff members were present:

1. Joe Jacobi, Chief Executive Officer
2. Stacey Hepp
3. Shaun Caven, Sprint National Team coach, U-23
4. Guy Wilding, Sprint National Team coach

2. Opening of Assembly and comments by Board Chair

David Backer welcomed the athletes, volunteers and others in attendance and during his remarks emphasized the importance of the interdependence of the national office staff, the Board of Directors and other volunteers to the ability of USA Canoe/Kayak to fulfill its mission as an organization.

3. Report on the activities and financial condition of USA Canoe/Kayak by Executive Director

Joe Jacobi provided an overview of USA Canoe/Kayak's current financial and organizational challenges and goals, including the importance of and progress in USA Canoe/Kayak partnerships outside of the United States Olympic Committee, creating a more progressive "performance environment" for our high performing athletes, and creating a better business environment for competitive paddle sports.

4. Open forum with comments and questions from members

The Board invited comments or questions from the people in attendance at the Assembly. The following people chose to speak and the Board or the Chief Executive Officer attempted to provide answers to all questions that were asked:

Johann Dahl: Expressed a desire to see USA Canoe/Kayak support marathon canoe.

John Baltzell: Asked why the US Canoe Association, rather than USA Canoe/Kayak, hosts the marathon national championship.

Shaun Caven: Suggested that USA Canoe/Kayak hold the marathon national championship at the conclusion of the sprint national championships.

Kevin Seitz: Suggested that a protocol be implemented to better coordinate competition schedules to minimize scheduling conflicts for athletes.

Pam Boteler: Pointed out that the Lake Placid International Regatta had a marathon competition.

Richard Hagler: Suggested the formation of a committee to serve as a clearing house for scheduling events to minimize scheduling conflicts.

Scott Greifenberger: Suggested that USA Canoe/Kayak provide additional value to event organizers by holding an event clinic.

Suzanne Britt: Suggested that USA Canoe/Kayak create a committee that could help event organizers be more successful.

Debby Page: Asked about Paralympic status for paracanoe.

Dan Henderson: Requested that the Board summarize its strategic plan and goals for improving international performance.

Kevin Seitz: Asked how long the Board reasonably expected it would take to see an improvement in international competition results.

Scott Greifenberger: Suggested that USA Canoe/Kayak's slalom and sprint coaches conduct a joint training camp in Oklahoma City.

Suzanne Britt: Asked for an explanation of where the funds would come from to pursue the elements of the strategic plan in light of the shortage of funds available to USA Canoe/Kayak.

Jim Watson: Asked how USA Canoe/Kayak can assist in educating a community about paddling opportunities.

Scott Greifenberger: Commented about a lack of follow through by USA Canoe/Kayak in creating an alumni group and suggested that the Bylaws be amended to create a class of alumni membership.

Debby Page: Asked whether USA Canoe/Kayak has a target for a specific amount of money when looking for sponsorship funding.

Maggie Hogan: Asked what plans USA Canoe/Kayak has for fund raising to make the organization self-sustaining without the need for sponsorships.

Scott Greifenberger: Suggested that solicitation from individuals will be more successful if USA Canoe/Kayak creates specific funding opportunities for people when making a funding request, rather than a request for general funding.

5. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned at 9:45 p.m.