APBA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TELECONFERENCE MEETING 12-17-19

1. The APBA Board of Directors teleconference was called to order by the Vice President, Chris Fairchild at 9:00 PM.

2. Roll call was taken. In attendance were: Chris Fairchild, Steve Compton, Mary Williams, Adam Allen, Kyle Bahl, Fred Hauenstein, Jean MacKay-Schwartz, Jan Shaw, Robert WiIson, Matt Yarno, Aaron Stephens, Mark Wheeler, Bob Wartinger, Jeff Conant, John Wlodarski, Mikey Pavlick, Patrick Gleason, Rachel Warnock, Richard Fuchslin, Sheri Greaves, Rich Luhrs, Dutch Squires, Jeff Brewster, Robin Shane, Jeff Williams, Pete Nichols, Richard Shaw, Jeff Titus, Tom Johnston, Bill Pavlick, Denver Ray Mut, David Hale, Sherron Winer, John Runne, Russ Dodge, Charles Dodge and Becky Nichols.

3. Vice-President Fairchild announced that Howie Nichols had resigned from the APBA Presidency and the Board of Directors, effective December 10, 2019.

4. Mark Wheeler made a motion to amend the agenda to add an election for the office of President to fill the unexpired term. Seconded by Jean MacKay, the motion passed unanimously. Mark also made a motion to amend the agenda to add an approval of an appointment to the Board to fill the unexpired term. Seconded by Jean Mackay, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Jean MacKay nominated Chris Fairchild to fill the unexpired term as president, seconded by Jan Shaw. There were no other nominations. Motion by Kyle Bahl to close the nominations and elect Chris, seconded by Mark Wheeler. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Chris Fairchild made a motion to nominate Abby Pond to the Board of Directors to fill the 2 years remaining on the unexpired term, seconded by Jean MacKay. There were no other nominations. The motion passed unanimously.

7. With the election of Chris Fairchild to the Presidency, there is now an opening for the position of Vice President. President Fairchild asked to leave this position open until he could research possible candidates. The Board concurred with this request.

8. President Fairchild presented the results of an email vote taken by the Board in June. There were several issues from the Safety Committee:

a. Allow the use of the MSA Gallet Helmet for use in Capsule boats.  Results of the Board vote were 1 in favor, 6 against, and 2 non-votes

b. Allow the use of helmets that do not require Snell Ratings. Results of the Board vote were 0 in favor, 7 against, and 2 non-votes.

c. Allow any color lifejacket for use in Capsule boats. Results of the Board vote were 4 in favor, 3 against, and 2 non-votes.

d. Allow any color helmet for use in Capsule boats. Results of the Board vote were 2 in favor, 5 against, and 2 non-votes.

e. Headquarters has asked the Board to review the Driving School Incentive policy put in place a year or 2 ago.  Results of the Board vote were 2 to leave it alone, 4 to review the policy, and 2 non-votes.

 Motion by Jan Shaw seconded by Jean MacKay to approve the results of these votes. Motion passed unanimously.

Jan Shaw reported that per Bylaw 12.3, the Board of Directors does not approve rule books for those groups that APBA has contracts with. Director of Operations, Becky Nichols, reported that the Offshore rule book is in place.

9. Motion by Mark Wheeler, seconded by Adam Allen to approve the minutes from the 10-1-19 Board Teleconference. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Old Business:

a. OPA/Offshore memberships. President Fairchild reported that the Office is still working on this. Becky Nichols reported that the Offshore Hall of Champions inductees are all current APBA members.

b. 14 Month Inboard Memberships. APBA gained 9 members using this program. Adam Allen questioned if these were new-to-APBA members? Dutch Squires, Inboard Chairman, reported that some were HRL members, some were former APBA members who took advantage of the program instead of Single Event memberships. One was a racer who had left racing but came back to racing and joined APBA using the 14-month membership.

11. New Business:

a. President Fairchild reported that he had met with the APBA office staff on Monday. Over the past few months, the roof has been fixed, IT problems have been solved, and a new Director of Operations put in place, all of which have made the staff happy.

b. Committee assignments were presented. Several names were added to various committees. Becky Nichols reminded the Board that there is an opening on Council to be filled. President Fairchild will work on this. Bob Wartinger, Safety Committee Chairman, said a couple of members of the committee had asked for a description of the Safety Committee’s responsibilities. Mark Wheeler will write a statement up and submit it to Bob and Becky. Motion by Mark Wheeler to approve the committee assignments as revised, seconded by Adam Allen. The motion passed unanimously. (Copy attached).

c. Director of Operations, Becky Nichols, spoke on a new committee request. The Digital Age Committee will help APBA provide a more modern footprint in the media generation through special media presence, blogs, etc. Motion by Mark Wheeler to approve the committee, seconded by Kyle Bahl. The motion passed unanimously.

d. A brief discussion was held on bylaws which need to be reviewed to clear up discrepancies. A committee consisting of Mark Wheeler, Jean MacKay, and Director of Operations, Becky Nichols will work on this prior to the national meeting.

e. Bob Wartinger said he had some suggestions for safety rule changes. He will send these to President Fairchild, Mark Wheeler, and Director of Operations, Becky Nichols prior to the national meeting.

f. A discussion was held on the concept of offering a “special” for returning APBA members who have been gone for a certain number of years. Rachel Warnock suggested letting past members know of the new options for membership, such as Associate membership or Kids membership. Becky Nichols reported that she was working with staff members on a letter to go to each member upon their renewal to thank them for renewing their membership and showing them APBA’s appreciation. A letter to new members showing them where to go to find information, is also in the works. She will add the letter to past members as well.

g. President Fairchild reported that the insurance rates for the 2020 season have gone up $100 across the board for all categories.

12. Other Matters:

a. President Fairchild presented a letter from Region 3 asking the Board to remove Kyle Bahl from the Board due to an incident in 2019. President Fairchild gave a review of the disciplinary steps taken in the case. There was no discussion or motion from the Board.

b. President Fairchild announced that the 2021 Annual Meeting will be held in Orlando, FL. He thanked Jan Shaw for all her hard work on this year’s annual meeting.

c. Rich Luhrs stated that at last year’s annual meeting he had proposed having a new racing year to coincide with November Offshore events and having multiple year memberships available for members. He requested an update on these two requests. Director of Operations, Becky Nichols, reported that the calendar year is set by our bylaws. In order to change the racing year, we would have to change the membership year from the current year-end date of October 31st. At this time, changing this arbitrarily would affect the Hall of Champions, year-end reports on participation, in addition to having IRS tax implications. The request for multiple year memberships would also affect the same things. This change cannot be made immediately, but she will look into it.

d. Chris Fairchild reported that the cost of Offshore memberships will be going up for the 2020 racing year. To date we have received all of the racing year memberships for Race World Offshore and P1. We are still short about 40 memberships from OPA. Director of Operations, Becky Nichols stated that she hoped to improve these numbers in the future if they get OPA under contract again.

13. There being no further business, motion by Jan Shaw, seconded by Kyle Bahl to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Williams

APBA Secretary