



National Governing Body of DanceSport, Member Organization of the US Olympic Committee, and the World DanceSport Federation

GC Transition Meeting 3/1/17		
Voting Member	Title	In Attendance
Glenn Weiss	President	Yes
Ann Durocher	Senior VP	Yes
Daphna Locker	Secretary	Yes
Scott Coates	Treasurer	Yes
Bill Davies	DanceSport-VP	Yes
Jim DiCecca	Social VP	Yes
Roger Greenawalt	DanceSport Delegate	Yes
Inna Brayer	DanceSport Delegate	Yes – left at 8
Irina Feingold	DanceSport Delegate	Yes
Carole Barber	DanceSport Delegate	Yes
Herb McGurk	Membership	Yes
Kym Zion	K12 Programs	Yes
Ruth Long	Development	Yes
Gary Stroick	Admin Support	Yes
Hannah Cole	College Network	Yes – 7:45PM
Leland Whitney	Chapter Liaison	Yes
	Publicity Dir	

**MEETING MINTUES**

Have a quorum of 15, out of the 16 current GC members

1. Approval of Minutes - last meeting – all minutes of previous meetings have been approved and posted on the website.

2. **By-Law Discussion and Vote** – Gary Stroick

The definitions below are tied to the addition of the Ethics Committee to the Bylaws:

New addition:

**INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR**

An Independent Director shall be determined to have no material relationship with USA Dance; either directly or through an organization that has a material relationship with USA Dance. A relationship is “material” if, in the judgment of the Nominations and Elections Committee, it would interfere with the person’s independent judgment. To assist it in determining whether a director is independent, the GC adopts the guidelines set forth below, which shall be applied on a case-by-case basis by the Nominations and Elections Committee

A director/person shall not be considered independent if, within the preceding two (2) years:

- a. the director/person was employed by or held any paid position or any volunteer governance position within USA Dance or the international federation of WDSF
- b. an immediate family member of the director was employed by or held any paid position or any volunteer governance position within USA Dance or the international federation of WDSF
- c. the director/person was affiliated with or employed by USA Dance's outside auditor or outside counsel
- d. an immediate family member of the director/person was affiliated with or employed by the USA Dance's outside auditor or outside counsel as a partner, principal or manager
- e. the director/person held a paid position or governance position at a national level within USA Dance's association member bodies
- f. the director/person is an executive officer, controlling shareholder, or partner of a corporation or partnership or other business entity that does business with USA Dance

Gary presented the Motion to approve the definition of 'Independent Director': Scott – 2<sup>nd</sup> the Motion

Opposed – none,

Abstentions – none

Approved – unanimously

#### Definition Update - Current Bylaws:

##### CHAMPIONSHIP ATHLETE

Any voting member who has represented the United States in international DanceSport competition held under the jurisdiction of the WDSF within the preceding ten (10) years or who as a competing eligible athlete is qualified to dance only in the Championship proficiency level of any DanceSport category in any age group as defined in the rules approved by the Governing Council of USA Dance and who has placed in the top 50% of couples entered in such championship event within the preceding ten (10) years.

##### Proposed Change:

##### ELITE CHAMPIONSHIP ATHLETE

Any voting member in good standing who has represented the United States in an international DanceSport World Championship held under the jurisdiction of the WDSF within the preceding ten (10) years for which they were selected by USA Dance through a competitive selection process or who as an amateur athlete competes in the Championship proficiency level of any DanceSport category in any age group as defined by USA Dance and who has placed in the top 50% of couples entered in such National Championship events within the preceding twenty four (24) months.

Gary presented the Motion to change the definition of Championship Athlete to Elite Championship Athlete and to also change the time frame for those Athletes who have not been selected to attend a WDSF Championship event from 10 years to 24 months. Roger 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

During the discussion it was discussed that this meets the requirements of the IOC, USOC and NGB criteria and that until there is a WDSF World Championship Event in Rhythm & Smooth those athletes will have their elite status for only 24 months, as will everyone else who is in the top 50% of the Championship category but hasn't been selected for a WDSF World Championship event.

Opposed – none,  
Abstentions – none  
Approved – unanimously

#### Article IV.E - Current Bylaws:

##### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. The USA Dance Voting Delegates on the GC shall have been Voting Members in good standing for not less than one (1) year preceding their holding any Voting Delegate's position on the GC and shall remain Voting Members in good standing in order to qualify to continue to serve on the GC.

##### Proposed Change:

QUALIFICATIONS: The USA Dance Voting Delegates on the GC shall have been members in good standing for not less than one (1) year preceding their holding any Voting Delegate's position on the GC, with the exception of Presidential appointees, and shall remain voting members in good standing in order to qualify to continue to serve on the GC.

Gary proposed the Motion to change the qualifications re: membership for those members of the GC that are nominated by the President of USA Dance.

Carole 2<sup>nd</sup> the Motion

This change will allow the President to expand the pool of individuals being considered for appointments and thereby populate the GC with highly respected and qualified individuals in the sport and industry. They will have voting privileges as GC members and this would be a way to highlight the advantages of joining USA Dance. Everyone appointed by the President would have to be a member by their appointment and would have to retain their membership for the duration of their appointment.

Opposed – none,  
Abstentions – none  
Approved – unanimously

The following change is a retraction of the vote in December to allow non-Athletes to vote for DanceSport Delegates. This change violates USOC NGB requirements and as such needs to be rescinded. In addition to this retraction, the DSC and the Director of Administrative Support are establishing an action item for investigation.

#### Article IV.F.2 - Current Bylaws:

F. SELECTION AND TERM:

2. DANCESPORT DELEGATE: Each DanceSport Delegate must have placed in the top fifty percent (50%) of Championship Athletes in any style or age category at the USA Dance National Championships within the previous ten (10) years or have been a WDSF World Representative within the previous ten (10) years preceding his/her election, provided he/she is a USA Dance member in good standing for the duration of their term in office. Each DanceSport Delegate shall be elected in an at-large election by voting DanceSport Members in good standing as of July 1st . The date of the election shall be on or about November 1st of each election year. The person elected shall be the person receiving the plurality of votes.

Proposed Change:

2. DANCESPORT DELEGATE: Each DanceSport Delegate must be an Elite Championship Athlete. Each DanceSport Delegate shall be elected in an at-large election by voting Amateur Athletes in good standing as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. The date of the election shall be on or about November 1<sup>st</sup> of each election year. The Elite Championship Athletes elected are those receiving the plurality-at-large and shall take office on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following the election.

All NGB's need to have their athlete representatives, selected by the vote of athletes' only, as specified in the Ted Stevens and USOC bylaws.

Gary proposed the motion to change the voting for DanceSport Delegates from all DanceSport members to only DanceSport Athlete members.  
Bill 2<sup>nd</sup> the Motion.

During the discussion it was emphasized that there needed to be a way for our junior athletes to have a voice in the organization and if the parent members of our junior athletes can't vote for the dancesport delegate because that would be a violation of the USOC & Ted Stevens bylaws, we needed to develop a way that was not in violation.

To this end, the following Action Item was established:

Action Item:

Investigate how other USOC NGB's address the representation of youth athletes in their organizations and present those options to the GC by the first GC meeting on or after June 1, 2017.

Opposed – none,  
Abstentions – none  
Approved – unanimously

3. **Announce Acting PR Director** – Glenn Weiss – Mel had to resign due to personal reasons – Ruth has been assigned as the as the “Acting PR director.”  
a. Ruth has assigned 3 people to the Publicity/Communication Team. They will be going to a training next week with Natalie Plumb. Ruth has reviewed approximately 50% of the policies Angela has written and will be sending those policies to the GC for final vetting.  
The Team members are: David Getchell – CA, West Coast

Kerpu Soong – NC, East Coast  
Advisor: Natalie Plumb (not a full-time member)

c. **Action Item:**

Restructuring PR Director position long term – In the future we will be discussing changing from PR Director to Director of Marketing and expand the role to include overall marketing them committees underneath that include PR, branding, etc, thus expanding the scope of what we are doing. Will be a way to meet the needs of the organization today.

d. **Action Item:**

FaceBook Announcement - a FB announcement that Ruth is acting PR director, will be making a FB announcement and also asking for volunteers for the long-term permanent director of PR

4. **Nationals Update** – Ann Durocher: Press releases have been sent, additional volunteers are needed, the Annual General Meeting as well as an organizer’s meeting has been scheduled, along with WDSF workshops and examinations.

5. **Update – Insurance (Travelers)** – Gary, Scott or Ann, Taxes (Scott) – received a notice from the Insurance company that they will insure us again, once we get a rate we will shop around to make sure that we will be paying the best rate. No information yet from the IRS about our tax liability.

6. **Nominations and Elections Committee** is in process of completing selection for the Ethics committee and hope to have this done by end of March.

7. **Minutes of 12/10-11/2016** – Ann Durocher, Gary Stroick – Gary sent to the GC the draft of the minutes.

**Action Item –**

Daphna will send out a motion to approve the minutes this weekend. – Completed 3/6/17

8. Suggested by Herb: I would like to change the policy we have with the American Dancer magazine. We presently send out the magazine to all members that expired in the last 60 days. The reason this policy was in place was to encourage members to come back to us. It has not proven effective and reducing it will save on cost of printing and shipping by avoiding additional magazines sent.

Motion proposed by Herb was revised to state that once membership has expired magazines will not be sent to those expired members and will only be sent to current members.

Ann 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.  
Opposed – none,  
Abstentions – none  
Approved – unanimously

9. Ann proposed a Motion for a Life-Time Membership to be presented at Nationals.  
Jim 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.  
Opposed – none,  
Abstentions – none  
Approved – unanimously

Meeting was called at 8:25PM