



Canadian Team Handball Federation
7665, boul Lacordaire
Saint-Leonard QC H1S 2A7

info@handballcanada.ca
www.handballcanada.ca

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Date: January 23rd, 2025
Time: 4pm PST / 5pm MST / 7pm EST
Location: Online

1. Call to Order:

Meeting Opening at 7:03pm EST

2. Quorum Check:

Present:

Alexandre Touzel (Men's Athletes Representative)
Alexis Bertrand
Carrie Kuypers
Kathryn Howden
Michael Hebert
Vassilia Gagnon (Women's Athletes Representative)
Ward Hrabí

Staff: Kris Fernandes

Other: Steve Fodor (Beach Handball Representative)

Absent: Saribel Deslauriers

3. Amendments to Agenda:

No amendments made.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve October minutes by Michael. Seconded by Alexis. Motion carried.

5. Beach Handball Updates (Steve):

Steve presented a late opportunity provided by the NACHC for U17 boys and girls competitions in Mexico. It would be used to help for Youth Olympics Qualification..

Steve proposed hosting a February information session open to membership to generate interest for tryouts. This would be complimented with an additional session dedicated solely to coaching beach handball and tactics.

Even with the short timeframe provided, it was decided to pursue all of these initiatives to accelerate the growth of beach handball.

6. Executive Officer Updates (Kris)

a) Sport Canada:

- The application to Sport Canada for regaining recognition and funding through the Sport Support Program (SSP) was submitted in December. We are told it will be spring when decisions are sent to NSOs. However, with the Prime Minister resigning a couple of weeks ago and a looming federal election ahead, it is widely expected that decisions from the government could be delayed.

b) Registration System :

- Initial deadline of Jan 31st has been sent to provinces for fall season registrations and payments. We have offered to guide each province through the process to ensure accuracy and comfort with the registration system. There is a strong likelihood that not every province has collected all of their registrations and payments so we may need to be patient on it.

c) Executive Assistant:

- Kris proposed to extend Teo's contract as Executive Assistant with the same hours and pay rate as the previous contract to alleviate the organization's heavy workload while ensuring that our current progress remains consistent. Michael mentioned that it can work financially.

d) Own The Podium Requests:

- Sport Canada is working with Own The Podium (OTP) for high performance items for SSP funding. OTP have asked for a series of submissions pertaining to national teams including the yearly training plan, LTAD, integrated support teams, OSIC signatory status among others. Kris will work with Ward, Alexis, and national team coaches to obtain these for submission.

7. President's updates (Carrie)

a) 'Strategic Plan' Document:

- The feedback from everyone on the board and staff on the Strategic Plan content and design was very positive. Now we will have it translated into French and then release it to the public. Allocation of funds to be spent on having a translator and not use DeepL or online translation services.

b) Pin Order:

- We need to reorder the pins for national teams to take on tournaments this year. Staff will contact the previous provider in Quebec to get a quote and estimate on production time. Carrie asked for an approved design and it was unanimous to go with the current blue, red, white design.

c) Rebranding:

- Our branding is outdated and we will move forward with assessing the options for a complete rebrand this year to modernize our organization. This will make us more attractive to potential sponsors as well as provide a sense of pride to our national team members.

8. Vice President's Updates (Ward)

No new updates to provide at this time.

9. Finance & Expense Reports. Budget Review (Michael)

Michael presented financials and explained we are on track to have a better fiscal year than last. Last month we received an auditor's letter from the accounting firm that will conduct the audit for the organization. It is estimated to take some time to complete as the coming months are very busy in the accounting world, likely a few months.

10. Communications & Marketing (Kathryn)

No new updates from communications and marketing.

11. High Performance update (Alexis)

Edmonton has been selected to host the Junior National Championships from May 23-25. The age category will be for U21s, those athletes born in 2004 or younger.

It was noted that registration fees have been greatly reduced due to the strong efforts of Alberta Team Handball and is expected to only cost \$100 per person which includes hotel, local transportation, and operation costs. March 21st is the deadline for entries.

There is no host yet for Senior Nationals but everyone agreed to work towards finding a solution that will provide senior teams to compete.

It was unanimously agreed that more advance notice for future years to host nationals is needed. The aim needs to be 1-2 years of advance notice depending on the competition.

12. Vacant Board Positions:

a) Director of Sports Development:

Carrie and Kathryn will create a posting for the position to go on the website and social media platforms to attract quality applicants to fill in the role.

b) Competitions and Events Director:

The role has been left vacant for a few months now after Hadi's departure. Carrie suggested a name change to Director of Tournaments to be more specific to what the role entails. Carrie and Kathryn will create the position listing.

13. Other Business

None

Motion to adjourn meeting by Carrie. Seconded by Ward. Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm EST.