

# USATOWA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MTG

MARCH 25, 2017

**PRESENT:** Shelby Richardson, President; Joe Hunter, Vice President; Harold Heindel; Lisa Heindel; Rick Peterson, Bruce Ebnett, Joel Larson, Steve Mormon; Loren Young; Dave Kruse; Ryan Neuhaus; Steven Durey; Roger Knapp; Tammy Knapp; Bill Gallagher; John Gallagher.

**NOT PRESENT:** Larry Heindel, Ginny Nyhus.

Meeting called to order at 10:17am

**President:** 2016 was a rocky year but we got through it. Looking forward to 2017 and to building teams and the Association.

**Treasurer:** Written Report submitted .

Question about line 29 – Irish Fest/Nationals Travel. What does that entail? – Income from and payout for those events.

This should be the last year we need to pay for tax preparations. Should be able to just submit by postcard after this.

Motion to approve the report as submitted made by Joe Hunter and seconded by Rick Peterson. Approved with no opposition.

### **Vice President:**

We have 5 ropes left if anyone is interested.

Future meeting sites will either be an alternate Colony building in Peosta or in Monroe. Losing the use of this building.

Team Summary handout 2014-2016 there was a reduction in the number of teams in competition over that period of time.

We are closing out our indoor events for the year today.

Outdoor Schedule for 2017 has been published already in the newsletter.

06/24/17 pulling in both Oregon and Footville discussion on what weights to pull, will pull a 600 at both locations. Lighter weight classes will pull in the afternoon at Oregon and heavier weight classes will pull in Footville in the evening.

### **Secretary:**

Minutes published and sent out ahead of meeting. Motion made to forego the reading of the minutes made by Rick Peterson, seconded by Joel Larson. Motion passed with no opposition.

### **International Rep Report:**

TWIF election results:

Sr Vice President – Pete Dyer

Treasurer - Dan McCarthy

Proposals that may effect us:

580k being reinstated vs a 560k class

Daily weigh ins vs weigh in on Wednesday and pulling on Sunday

Will post information when Larry returns from Congress.

2018 Indoor Championships March 2018 in China

Indoor shoes – can be resoled 20% bigger than the foot.

Requirements for Senior division:

Men – can pull from the beginning of the year they turn 18

Women – can pull from the beginning of the year they turn 16

**Chief Judge's Report:**

Meeting held at Glenn Johnson's on 3/4/17, judges list is the same as last year.

Membership ethics policy will be included in the new rule book. (there have only been 2 disciplinary hearings in 40 years of existence)

Herb wants to change some hand signals:

Winning team – indicate with arm to the side vs above shoulder height

Cautions – if a third caution indicate by holding up 3 fingers

Needs more discussion.

Irish Fest/larger competitions

If we have the extra people willing help so that we can have side judges, marshalls, it would be nice to have so that the flow of the pull can be better.

They would be able to get teams where they are needed on time and be able to help keep the coaches informed about cautions, etc.

BUT – all teams are given a pull sheet so they need to pay attention to that as well so that they know when they are up to pull and get there on time.

### **Equipment:**

Larger trailer purchase discussed again. Bill Gallagher has the info. Looking for 12-14ft size. Hoping to address this sometime this summer.

Indoor mats -Shelby will contact Dan McCarthy for more information. No other new information.

GOAL – to have a team in the indoor championships in 2021. We need to get training. Need to break into the top 6 sooner rather than later.

World Games coming up in Alabama

**Scholarship Committee:** Written report submitted.

Deadline is 7/01/17

USATOWA member

Team member in good standing.

**State Associations:** Nothing at this time

### **Irish Fest:**

Visiting teams from Canada and Sweden(14 men & women)

The host hotel has rooms blocked, we have bussing information from Chicago to Milwaukee airport and Hotel pick up at the Airport to the hotel.

### **New Business:**

2018 is USATOWA's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. N Ireland is planning to come over for Irish Fest that year since they were the ones that taught us how to pull in this style.

We need other ideas on how to commemorate the anniversary. Possibly invite other teams?

Committee to help work on this:

Volunteers: Rick Peterson, Lisa Heindel

Please join us in coming up with more ideas!

Thank you Joe Hunter for all that you have done to help so far.

### **ELECTIONS:**

Team Votes:

DJ's - 34

Power Train - 20

Mt. Vernon - 27

Oregon - 14

GLD - 5(no proxy submitted, no votes)

Black Fab - 22

Stockton - 1

Muddy River - 17

Unaffiliated - 3

TOTAL: 143

**President:** Nominee Shelby Richardson

Called for nominations from the floor three times, received none. Bruce Ebnett moved to close nominations and approve Shelby Richardson as President, seconded by Rick Peterson. Passed with no opposition.

**Treasurer:** Nominee Ginny Nyhus

Called for nominations from the floor three times, received none. Joel Larson moved to close nominations and approve Ginny Nyhus as treasurer, seconded by Bruce Ebnett. Passed with no opposition.

**Chief Judge:** Nominee Harold Heindel

Called for nominations from the floor three times, received none. Rick Peterson moved to close nominations and approve Harold Heindel as Chief Judge, seconded by Lisa Heindel. Passed with no opposition.

Comments from President Shelby Richardson:

We will be asking for more out of the Association for help with what needs to be done. Bear with me, I appreciate your faith in me as your President.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Rick Peterson and seconded by Joel Larson. Meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm