

**Road Runners Club of America**  
**Minutes of the Board of Director Meeting**  
**November 09, 2019**  
**Vinoy Renaissance Hotel**  
**St. Petersburg Florida**

President Garner called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. All members present.

Roll Call:

Mitchell Garner, President, present  
Treasurer, Craig Minyard, present  
Vice president and Western Region Director, George Rehmet, present  
Eastern Region Director, Blaine Moore, present  
Central Region Director, Sue Brown-Nickerson, present  
Southern Region Director, Betsy Boudreaux, present  
At large Director, Jean Arthur, present  
At-Large Director, Lisa Rippe, present  
At-Large Director, Goody Tyler, Present  
Executive Director, Jean Knaack, present  
Program Manager Andy Smith, present

Minutes

President Garner called for approval of the March 2019 minutes:

- At large Director, Lisa Rippe moved for approval of the March minutes. Approved unanimously.
- At large Director Goody Tyler moved approval of the annual meeting of the membership held on March 30, New Orleans, Louisiana. Approved unanimously

President's Announcements

- President Garner announced the members of the nominating committee tasked with developing a recommend slate of board members for 2020-2022. Committee will be chaired by Kelly Richards (past board member) with members to include John Brust (club president from California), Brenda Groskinsky (KS State Rep), and Grattan Garby (VA State Rep)
- President Mitch Garner noted he has been elected to the board of USATF as the representative for the 5C organizations. He will complete the recently vacated term through December 31, 2020.
- Recommendations for the Presidents' Award were discussed

Finance Items

- Third Quarter financials
  - Treasurer, Craig Minyard reported on the most recent Finance Committee meeting. Finances are stable. Investment accounts are up.
  - ED Knaack reported that the investment accounts are healthy. She is managing cash flow for the operating account as 2020 renewals start and may or may not need to draw down from the investment account. Investment performance will be reviewed at end of the year and recommendations will be made about potential special program/project investments as part of the 2020 budget.

- Fundraising Report
  - ED Knaack reported on the donation from Insurance Management Group received in September for the Kids Run the Nation Fund.
  - ED Knaack reported on using RunSignUp to track both online and off line donations. This will allow for better real time reporting for donations received from donors, especially Championship Events.
  - Discussion was held about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Q donor report related to Championship Events that noted they would give back to RRCA as part of their bid.

#### State Reps Program Review

- Board members discussed instituting term limits for state reps. Issue to be taken up again at the February Board meeting.

#### Executive Director's Report

- BBB Wise Giving Seal – Board discussed the results of the review findings for renewal of the seal. Director Rippe moved to memorialize the following procedures already utilized by RRCA to create a formal policy to meet the requirements of the BBB Wise Giving Seal and to make clear the policy for future board members. The motion pass unanimously.

*Annually, the RRCA Board of Directors will assess the performance of the organization to determine effectiveness and future actions needed to achieve the RRCA mission. This process will be completed at or around November of each year and will assess the previous fiscal year and the current fiscal year.*

- Coaching Certification
  - Renewed continuing education credits with ACE for the RRCA Level I Coaching Certification.
  - Renewed continuing education credits with ACSM for the RRCA Level I & Level II Coaching Certifications.
  - Investigating ACAP certification for both the coaching and race director courses.
- Race Director Certification program
  - Update to course is almost completed.
  - To date – 350 certified race directors
  - Feasibility of continuing the in-person Race Director Certification Course was discussed including potential to host privately scheduled courses for clubs in 2020.
- Convention
  - Plans for the 2020 convention are progressing
  - Board members should encourage clubs to attend the convention and/or submit an item for the auction
  - 2021 Convention. Hotel is booked for 2021 convention. April 15-18, 2021, Orlando, Florida in conjunction with Star Wars Half Marathon
  - 2022 Convention. Board will discuss location at February board meeting

#### Hall of Fame

- Board discussed updated procedures, as presented by RRCA staff, for electing members into the RRCA Distance Running Hall of Fame. Southern Region Director Boudreaux moved to approve the updated procedures based on the document presented to the Board. Approved unanimously.

***Internal Procedures - Automatic Nominations (via RRCA staff): Top 10 finish at Olympic Marathon, 10,000 meter, and/or 5,000meter within last three Olympic Games cycle (as of 2019 that would go back***

to 2008 games: Beijing, London, Rio). Medalist for the Paralympics for the Marathon, 5000 or 10,000meters within last two Olympic Games cycle. Automatic nominees will be near or at masters age-group (35-40+), as the nomination will be based on career performances including the Olympic Games, but not exclusive to an Olympic Games performance. (note: Additional performances will be outlined by staff on a nomination form for athletes that qualify for automatic nomination.)

**RRCA Board of Directors, Hall of Fame Members, and General Membership Nominations:** Both athletic performance individuals, as well as, key influencer nominations may be made by Hall of Fame Members, members of the RRCA Board of Directors and/or the general membership of the RRCA through the dedicated Hall of Fame nomination form that will be posted on the RRCA website.

**Voting for Hall of Fame Nominees:**

National Office staff recommends changing the voting process dramatically and move away from the older concept of committee selection. We propose the following procedures that will engage both the RRCA Board and as many Hall of Fame Members that want to engage with the voting process in support of RRCA. The RRCA Program Manager will manage the administrative process for nominations, the selection timeline, information sharing with the Board and HoF members, tallying the weighted criteria for the final candidates, creating the online ballot for voting, and managing the online voting process to determine final inductees for the HoF.

The Program Manager and the Executive Director will review and rank all final candidates with consideration given to both athletes and key influencers. The RRCA president will get an advanced preview of the candidates before a voting ballot is sent out. A final ballot of candidates (ideally no more than 12 candidates containing a mix of athletes and key influencers) will be put forth to the RRCA Board of Directors and as many Hall of Fame Members as we have contact information for (or can gather). We will do some early pro-active education emails about this new voting process to help get HoF members interested and engaged in voting for future HoF members.

The ballot will include key information about each nominee, along with a photograph and the nominee's ranking (as determined by RRCA staff outlined below). The RRCA Board and members of the Hall of Fame will be invited to vote online for their top 4 candidates on the ballot. Ideally voting will end by December 31. We will utilize FormSite to manage the voting tabulation and voter access integrity to the ballot. Votes will be subsequently weighted as follows: #1 pick = 10, #2 pick = 8, #3 pick = 6, #4 pick = 4. This will ensure that when votes are scored, it will be clear which nominee is the top vote getter. The top 2 candidates receiving the highest weighted vote count will be automatically inducted into the HoF. A third candidate may be approved by the ED and President based on their role as a key influencer or the ability for RRCA to afford 3-4 inductees to attend the induction dinner. HoF inductees will be contacted and announced in early January.

- The Board discussed removing Alberto Salazar from the RRCA Distance Running Hall of Fame. Discussion followed. Director Tyler moved that Alberto Salazar be removed from the RRCA Distance Running Hall of Fame. Approved Unanimously. The following public statement was issued by RRCA to the fact:

*The findings by two panels of the America Arbitration Association and the statements by former Nike Oregon Project (NOP) athletes evidence a toxic culture of a coach's personal and programmatic abuse of NOP athletes and of prohibited doping conduct affecting NOP athletes and others, including his sons. These actions are antithetical to one of the RRCA's core values, an enjoyable atmosphere for all, and are violative of the principles of integrity in sports and righteous treatment of fellow human beings. The evidence of these abusive and illicit actions warrant the rescission of Alberto Salazar's membership in the RRCA Distance Running Hall of Fame. As such, the RRCA Board of Directors took action at its November 9, 2019 meeting to remove Alberto Salazar from its Hall of Fame by a unanimous vote.*

### Board Survey Review and 2020 Planning

- Board discussed results of the survey to help determine 2020 budget priorities. Survey reveals that board members are generally in agreement in their perception of the functionality and effectiveness of the operations of the organization.
- Discussion was held about increasing travel budgets for Regional Directors and potentially providing for funds for At-large Directors to also travel to RRCA Championship Events.
- Adding dental coverage to accompany the health insurance program for staff was discussed as a 2020 budget items.
- Considering partnering with a fall 10-mile race to award additional prize money for competing Road Scholar Grantees, Run Pro Camp Alum, and RRCA-supported elite runners. Credit Union Cherry Blossom Ten Mile run will continue to be the spring race and RRCA will engaged in discussion with a fall 10 Mile race.
- Program Manager Andy Smith reported on the return on investment for hosting a happy hour at several events throughout the year, including at the Boston Marathon in 2019. RRCA concluded that this model as a branding/marketing tool was effective at the Boston Marathon but didn't translate well at other events in the U.S. where a happy hour was hosted prior to race day.
- Board will review the 10-year strategic plan after election of the new board in March 2020.

### Regional Reports

Board members reported on activities in their respective geographical areas.

### Miscellaneous

- RRCA State Reps, Board Members, and Staff hosted expo booths/tables as over 34 races 2019.

### Future Meetings

- Next in-person meeting – February 28, 2020 in conjunction with the Olympic Trials-Marathon in Atlanta, Georgia. Hotel rooms have been reserved.
- Board will not meet in session at the RRCA National Convention in March in Portland, Oregon.
- Tentative in-person meeting on December 13, 2020 in Dallas, Texas in conjunction with the BMW Dallas Marathon.

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.