

Technical Council Conference Call – May 10, 2011 – 8 PM EDT

In attendance: Gerhard Politz (Interim Council Chair and Instructor Trainer Committee Chair), Dolly Hannon (Freestyle Committee Chair), Lois Yukins (Judges Committee Chair), Trena Atkins (L Program Committee vice-Chair), Dianne Stanley (Technical Delegates Committee Chair)

Staff: Cindy Vimont (council liaison), Kim Sodt, Kathie Robertson, Krystina Firth

Absent: Regina Antonioli (Competition Management Committee Chair), Marilyn Heath (L Program Committee Chair)

Q & A of the At-Large Director Nomination process and discussion of developments to date

Cindy asked if anyone had any questions about the nomination process of the At-Large Director (ALD) positions. She explained that each Committee can have one nomination from each Committee, but does not necessarily have to put forward a candidate. She also explained that the Committee must have a majority vote for a candidate to go forward and the vote will be anonymous via email after the Committee meeting. A form must be completed by the liaison and sent to the Nominating Committee which includes who the candidate being put forward is and who was present at the Committee meeting. The nominees then go to the BOG for a vote.

Cindy explained the ALD position, what it involves, and what the responsibilities of the ALD position are. She explained that the ALD represents the Committees and activities within the Council to the EB and provides feedback from the EB back to the Committees. Since the ALD is a liaison from the Council to the EB, it was noted that this person should have a working knowledge of the work of the various Committees and the Committees should feel comfortable with their Council Chair.

Gerhard pointed out that there could be as many as six candidates going forward to the BOG for a vote. He would like to see cooperation between the Committees within this Council in order to benefit all of the Committees. There was further discussion on how candidates would come forward from the Committees for nomination and whether or not the Committees could work together to identify candidates. Nominations will go to the Nominating Committee who then will put them forward to the BOG once it has been confirmed that the candidates meet the requirements and are willing to serve. A candidate could withdraw their name at any time. It was asked whether a candidate can be nominated from the floor. Cindy responded that it is not specified in the Bylaws or Policies, but that she would look into it and get back to the Council. The Committee Chairs shared whether or not they have had any interest within their Committees. It was suggested that they share the names of those that are interested on each of the Committees and discuss these before the actual Committee calls. Dianne suggested that the Chairs make calls to their Committee members and let them know the job description and find out if anyone is interested. It was clarified that the person being nominated can be the Committee Chair or a member of the Committee.

Review of initiatives presented in the Technical Council reports to the Executive Board (EB) and report and outcomes from the EB meeting pertinent to the Council

The Freestyle Committee has put forward a proposal for a GMO Freestyle Charity Challenge, and requested \$10,000 to support this program. The board would like more time to review the proposal since it is quite detailed. Dolly pointed out the Committee is confident that they can procure sponsors, but without approval of the proposal, they cannot go forward. On the other hand, USDF must be able to stand behind the proposal financially in order for it to be approved. It is on the agenda for an upcoming meeting of the EB.

Instructor Trainer Committee policy was changed, deleting the EB appointment of one member to this Committee. Cindy explained that there are no EB appointments to any Committee. Regional Directors provide suggestions and feedback on a few Committees that require regional representation.

L Program Committee as a new Committee put forward their proposed mission and goals, which were approved by the EB.

Concerns and initiatives within the Council

Lois and Gerhard supported the need for the Committees to work together via the Council in order to accomplish the goals of USDF and the individual Committees within the Council, and suggested that the Committee continue to communicate between them. Gerhard requested that any discussion within the Council be directed to him via email and copied to Cindy.

Gerhard made a motion to adjourn and Dolly seconded. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:53.