

## **Meeting of NASSPDA Board on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

### **MINUTES:**

Conference call meeting started on Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at ~6:33 PM EDT.

In attendance: Lee Fox, Sonja Furiya (Membership Chair), Pat Hogan (GLISA Representative), Richard Lamberty (Vice-President), Benjamin Soencksen (Secretary) & Barbara Zoloth (President)

Absent: Kieren Jameson (Treasurer)

The agenda was posted on March 8<sup>th</sup>, revised and posted again on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010:

### **A. Standing Items**

1. Record polls since last meeting
2. Approve minutes from last meeting
3. Financial Report

### **B. Old Business**

1. Plans for Annual Meeting in Philadelphia
  - a. Venue, time
  - b. Agenda
  - c. Bring list of current members identify who can vote
  - d. If a vote is taken, is this binding on the Board or simply advisory?
  - e. Do we want to present committees that members can join? Possibilities could include Membership, Member Services, and Social Dancing
  - f. Can we get PLDC to publicize the meeting -- on their website, in their program, announced at the competition?
2. Rules and structure requirements for sanctioned competitions and authorized titles
3. Update on coordination with ESSDA/FGG
4. Create mechanism that allows Board to send e-mails to members and possibly also non-members -- update
5. Update on Membership renewal
6. Communication with competition organizers:
  - a. Update on communications with Philly competition
  - b. Update on communications with Oakland competition
  - c. Update on communication with GLISA (Outgames)

### **C. New Business**

1. Scholarship fund for new memberships
2. Soliciting / receiving Donations
3. Collecting, storing, and making available competition results
  - a. Results for which events
  - b. What level of detail
  - c. Exclusive listing (meaning the comp website has a link to [nasspda.org](http://nasspda.org) for the results)?
5. Meeting in Oakland, April 25, 2010
  - a. Venue, topics, logistics
6. Establishing criteria for adding links to NASSPDA's website

### **D. Schedule next Board meeting**

## **A. Standing Items**

### **to A.1.: Approved All**

- A. Section VII., Paragraph 2. of NASSPDA's Sanctioning Policy is to be interpreted as follows: "Only 'A' graded couples may garner the title."
- B. Male and female couples shall be graded separately during the grading rounds of the annual NASSPDA Championships.

### **to A.2.: Approved**

1st Draft of Minutes & Notes 100207

### **to A.3.: Unreported**

Though unreported at this meeting, the Treasurer reported after this meeting, on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010, "the NASSPDA account holds \$1,840.96."

## **B. Old Business**

### **to B.1.a. & b.:**

"Proposed Agenda for the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia" and "Guidelines for Facilitating the Meeting" had been posted. No changes were suggested on the presented agenda. It was however proposed that the most recent draft of NASSPDA's Competition Rules might be presented. Several arguments against this action included the cost of printing/copying, the short time frame available to implement further corrections and changes, and the lack of time available at the meeting for members getting familiarized with the document. It was therefore concluded to rather post these rules at a later point on NASSPDA's website soliciting comments and suggestions. For a smooth and successful annual membership meeting, tasks listed on the "guidelines" were assigned.

### **to B.1.c.:**

The Membership Chair reconfirmed, that an updated list of current active members will be provided for this annual meeting.

### **to B.1.d., e. & f.:**

Neither of these two agenda items was discussed.

### **to B.2.:**

The "NASSPDA Competition Rules Committee" posted prior to this meeting, on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010, a revised draft for all Board members to read and comment. Along with this version, 5 specific issues were identified, for which the committee felt it needed direct input from the Board:

- A. Procedure for sanctioning a competition and for authorizing titles.
- B. Eligibility for garnering a title related to nationality and/or residency.
- C. Minimum and maximum restriction for the length of a formation team routine.
- D. Definition of a lift.
- E. Separate grading of female and male couples.

The following resulted from the discussion of these issues:

- to A.:
  1. A request to be submitted no less than 3 month prior.
  2. Forms on NASSPDA's website to be submitted to [sanctioning@nasspda.org](mailto:sanctioning@nasspda.org).
  3. Approved request will create a provisional organizational membership with NASSPDA, which requires an immediate payment of dues attached to this membership.
- to B.:
  1. The Board confirmed that any couple, regardless of nationality, residency or membership, may garner a Regional or State title.

2. To garner a North American title, both partners of a couple or all members of a team shall be residents of a North American country.
  3. To garner a National title, (1) at least one partner is required to be a resident of that country/nation, and (2) within that calendar year this couple may not represent the country/nation of the other partner in order to garner a National title from that other country (teams were not addressed along with this definition).
  4. At least one partner in a couple and an entire team shall be a current member with NASSPDA in order to garner either the North American or a National title.
- to C.: A formation routine must be at least 3 minutes long, but no more than 5 minutes, including entering and exiting the dance floor.
- to D.: NASSPDA's Competition Rules Committee will present new language to the Board, which shall reflect that "assisted jumps" are allowed, but not other "true" lifts for any length of time (rephrasing ESSDA's definition).
- to E.: Though this issue was presented via e-mail to the Board, it was inadvertently left out during this discussion. Instead the usefulness and purpose self-assessment of couples was discussed, as well as the definition clarified.

Additionally, it was agreed to adopt ESSDA's rule setting requirements for judges' qualifications, but that it shall be adjusted for NASSPDA's particular needs as follows:

- a. An adjudicator for a sanctioned event shall have one of the two following qualifications (see exception under b.):
  - licence for judging from an official dance sport association
  - formerly competed in same-sex competitions at top level
- b. An adjudicator for a National and North American titled event shall have one of the two qualifications listed above and have previous experience in judging a sanctioned competition.

Furthermore, it was agreed to include the choice of running a "repechage" round for organizers, since it does present, especially at larger competition, the competitor yet with another chance to advance.

All the above listed points brought forward were thoroughly discussed and agreement was found, which the committee will incorporate in a new draft of these rules.

**to B.3., 4., 5. & 6.: Postponed**

Due to the length of discussion on the newly revised and presented draft of the "NASSPDA Competition Rules" and the resulting lack of time, all those agenda items had to be postponed.

**C. New Business**

**to C.1., 2., 3., & 4.: Postponed**

-- see above --

**to C.5.:**

The venue for the "communal meeting" on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010, following "April Follies 2010" has been confirmed as the "Allegro Ballroom." Time to be before noon.

**D. Schedule next Board meeting**

The next conference call meeting is scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 6:30 PM EST). This meeting adjourned at approx. 8:50 PM EDT.