



## USA Ultimate Board of Directors

Q2 2026 Virtual Meeting

June 10, 2026

### **(11) Board Members Present:**

DeAnna Ball (Appointed, Vice President)

Kevin Erlenbach (CEO, Ex-Officio)

Janna Hamaker (At-Large, Secretary)

Pawel Janas (Elite Athlete, Treasurer)

Terry Kalna (Independent)

Dave Klink (Appointed, President)

Alexia McCaskill (At-Large)

Tom Osenton (Independent)

Nicky Spiva (Elite Athlete)

Ben Van Heuvelen (Elite Athlete)

Marvin Vuong (At-Large)

### **(2) Board Members Not Present:**

Isaiah Bryant (At-Large)

Benecia Newhouse (Independent)

### **Others Present:**

Will Deaver – Managing Director of Competition & National Team Programs

Andy Lee – Managing Director of Marketing, Communications & Brand

Julia Lee – Director of Finance

Dan Raabe – Director of Youth Programs

Stacey Waldrup – Director of Member Services & Community Development; Chair of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

### **Guest (during their presentation):**

Kaila Lawson, Auditor, BiggsKofford LLP

Dave Klink **called the meeting to order** at 5:02 PM Mountain Time

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## Financial Audit Review and Financial Review (Julia Lee and Kaila Lawson)

- Audit results were reviewed, and we are financially healthy.
- The operating reserves and budget are healthy.

**Motion:** Approve the financials and audit as presented.

**Moved by:** Nicky Spiva | **Seconded by:** Alexia McCaskill

**Result:** Passed 9-0-3

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## Staff Program Updates

### Competition (Will Deaver)

- **Beach**
  - Participation: 86 teams, 1,323 players, 8 divisions in Virginia Beach, up from 80/1,215/7 in 2025. Highest participation to date.
  - The 2027 location will be decided in the next month or so.
- **College**
  - Participation: 621 teams, down 2% from 633 in 2025 (239 women's and 382 men's teams played Conferences).
  - D1 and D3 College Nationals were well organized, well attended, and positively reviewed.
  - Women's Startup Programs: 55 memberships applied over 8 teams; leads at nine 2027 programs.
  - HBCU: Morehouse transitioned to new leadership and played at Conferences. Leads at four other schools (UMES, Howard, Morgan State, Texas Southern).
- **Club**
  - TCT season started June 6. WUCC scheduling is pulling some US players onto international teams; 20 women's teams headed to SFI-E.
  - Women's Growth Project grants awarded to Charlottesville, Detroit, Illinois, Maine, Nickel City, Triangle, and Vermont (3 new teams in the system so far).
- **Masters**
  - 194 teams at regionals with 2 weekends to go, so numbers are not final.
  - Nationals run July 17 to 20 with 113 teams across 8 divisions, the biggest ever.
- **International**
  - 41 US teams to WMUCC (England, July)
  - 9 to WUCC (Ireland, August)
  - 3 to WJUC (Spain, July)
  - WU24 tryouts in November.

## Youth Programs (Dan Raabe)

- **Outreach**
  - 36 sanctioned clinics so far (26 last year) with 648 participants.
  - 3 PE takeovers and a Learn to Play Clinic in Virginia Beach reaching more than 300 kids.
  - 45 Boys and Girls Clubs requested 100+ kits, double last year, estimated to reach more than 5,500 kids.
  - Invited to present on a national YMCA call in July.
- **Competition**
  - YCC 2026 has 104 teams committed with one more deciding by June 15, across 7 divisions.
    - U20 Girls up (20 vs 17) and U17 Girls up slightly;
    - U20 Mixed down (14 vs 20);
    - DI/DII Tiers for U20 Boys (16 each tier) and U17 Boys (16 DI and 10 DII)
  - School-based state championships sit at 367 teams after a Massachusetts weather cancellation cost 11 teams, and are down one state vs 2025.
  - Fall Juniors Survey open until after YCC.
- **Coaching/Education**
  - SEL and STE(A)M curriculum work continues (SEL restarted, STE(A)M planning summer work).
  - Added closed captioning to coaching resources.
  - Building a parent and coach behavior video.

## Membership and Community (Stacey Waldrup)

- **Membership**
  - 39,433 total as of 6/1/2026, down 470 from 39,903 a year ago.
  - Adult player, affiliate, and lifetime are up;
  - youth, college, non-player, and rec event are down.
- **New affiliates**
  - Richmond Ultimate (Tier 1) and Triad Ultimate (Tier 2), bringing the total to 48.
  - Northwest Indiana (NWI) Ultimate was also added in 2026.
  - Several prospective affiliates
- **DISCover Ultimate Day**
  - September 19, aiming for 30 event sites.
- **2027 Organizer Convention**
  - January 29 to 31 in Colorado Springs, roughly 85 participants expected.
- **Event Sanctioning**
  - 542 events sanctioned as of June 4, 77% of the 2025 year-end total, with 198 added since March.
- **Technology**
  - Still focused primarily on league management development, working through event registration and checkout.

- Completed API updates and new field features to support championship event sites. Learning Claude functionality.
- **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**
  - LGBTQ+ Advisory Council is in a transition period with interviews for new members next month.
  - BIPOC Advisory Council held its second meeting of the year.
  - Partnered with Color of Ultimate on a successful showcase game at D1 College Championships
  - Hosting the annual BIPOC hat game at the U.S. Open with at least two fields expected

## Marketing and Communications (Andy Lee)

- **College Championships**
  - Streamed or broadcast 96 games (32 D3, 63 D1, 1 Color of Ultimate).
  - Executed a new two-year ESPN agreement covering College Championships and the U.S. Open for 2026-27, with both D1 title games airing back-to-back live on ESPNU and three highlights on SportsCenter's Top 10.
  - Issued 107 media credentials.
  - Official merchandise sales up 8%.
- **Marketing**
  - Executed a contract with Legends Global as part of USAU Strategic Investment.
  - In the process of acquiring youth and middle school video content, and will run the campaign from mid to late August through September 19.
  - In process of reaching out to USAU Affiliate Organizations to confirm event hosts for DISCover Ultimate Day and identify key strategic markets to support.
  - Team USA WJUC Training Camp/Media Day was June 5.

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## WFDF / US Flying Disc Federation (Kevin Erlenbach)

WFDF proposed to USAU that PDGA and USAU jointly form a nonprofit National Federation to WFDF, driven by the WFDF one-member-per-country rule whose transition phase ends December 2026. USAU would remain the national governing body for Ultimate and the USOPC-recognized RSO, with sport-specific governance staying separate. The board discussed this request from WFDF but does not have enough details to make a decision.

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## Committee and Working Group Updates

- **Judicial:** Hired a National Judicial Director, Paige Bowen. Handled an emergency appeal of D3 disqualification. USAU is recruiting for background check appeals.
- **Audit and Finance:** It was a very busy quarter, and we saw the results of that work at the beginning of the meeting.

- **Competition:** Had a meeting discussing the bid allocation process and WFDF.

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**Meeting adjourned** at 8:00 PM Mountain Time