

Report of the 2023 LSA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes (05/21/24)

At 8:02pm, May 9, 2023, Call to Order and Welcome by our LSA President Hilary Pohn officially started the 2023 LSA Annual Membership Meeting. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom, minutes recorded by LSA Secretary Mary Vaughn. Secretary Mary Vaughn read the report of the 2022 LSA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes; motion to approve the minutes was made by Hilary Pohn, seconded by Governance Chair Jennifer Battat, and unanimously approved.

Officers' Reports—

President Hilary Pohn introduced the new board and executive committee, current members, and members departing at the end of the 2022-2023 term. Annual review of employees (Skating Director, Aspire Director, Learn to Skate USA Director), club events back to “pre-covid style”, and recognition of volunteers with an additional call to future volunteers, later presented by BOD member Kathryn Mills, highlighted the president’s report.

Skating Director Jessica Mills Kincade presented Treasurer Jon Becker’s treasurer’s report in his absence. Treasurer’s report indicates that LSA has recovered to operating at pre-pandemic levels. Iceland ice prices increased along with USFS membership dues and test fees; to offset the rising fees contract ice will remain unchanged for now, dues and test fees will show slight increase.

Governance Chair Jennifer Battat reported on recent 2023-2024 BOD elections and results.

Directors' Reports—

LSA Learn to Skate USA Director Mary Vaughn reported on the 2022-2023 season’s LTS goals and achievements in the inaugural year in this role. Membership grew past the 500 threshold to 541 members! Program growth ended with profit above budget projections by 34.26%. The report described new LTS initiatives, curriculum, and events, including Field Day, Ice Explorers, and expanding National Skating Month to 4 events. Additional highlights included winning LSA’s first U.S. Figure Skating Community Grant for Frozen FEAT Summer Camp and publication in April 2023 issue of Skating magazine. New classes and events planned for the upcoming year were presented.

Skating Director Jessica Mills Kincade reported for Aspire Director Valory Thompson, who was absent. Valory reported a successful first year with the launch of the Aspire

Summer Camp, participation in Fire & Ice, Nutcracker, and competitions. Jr. Aspire was introduced in the winter.

LSA Skating Director Jessica Mills Kincade reported the good news of contracting net loss being less than projected in the budget; this was attributed to having over 90 skaters throughout the year, averaging 60 per session, and offering key programming. Synchronized Preliminary Aspire skating team (11 skaters) had a good season attending 2 competitions and earning a bronze medal finish at Tri-States competition. Two Ensemble teams (Mini-Ensemble Gold (10th place finish at National Showcase Competition) + Mini-Ensemble Silver) performed in Fire & Ice and competitions. 24 coaches are staffed. Successful events (ice shows, competitions) highlighted the season. Accomplishments included relaunched LSA website and increased parent education meetings.

Task Force Reports–

Membership Chair Heather Ludwig reported membership is up this year from 198 to 205. Renewals open up on June 1st.

SkateSafe Chair Gail Nall explained SkateSafe (division of SafeSport for USFS) resources and training can be found on the Members Only page of U.S. Figure Skating website. All BOD and member volunteers must be SkateSafe trained with a background check. Members with questions can reach out to Gail for additional help and information.

Governing Council (GC) was held in Las Vegas, Nevada; club delegates included Jessica Mills Kincade, Mary Vaughn, Gail Nall (proxy), and Valory Thompson (proxy). Delegates Mary Vaughn and Jessica Mills Kincade presented recaps. Delegate Mary Vaughn reported on the many Governing Council Workshops including Club Education, Learn to Skate USA, Aspire, coach integration into U.S. Figure Skating, DEI workshop, club management, and the GC annual meeting. Delegate Jessica Mills Kincade reported on the outcomes regarding coach integration, one of the biggest initiatives and changes voted on and approved at the Governing Council. A new task force has been formed and rules approved to be implemented to boost the diminishing number of our sport's officials. The Aspire program's newer requirements voted and approved included introduction of Aspire membership.

Volunteer Opportunities were presented by BOD member Kathryn Mills. She discussed the volunteer document in the works to be uploaded to the website as a resource for club members. Kathryn and Katie Shipley will notify members through emails, social media, SignUp Genius, etc., regarding upcoming volunteer opportunities as well.

Announcements–

President Hilary Pohn reminded members that the Spirit Store is still open for individuals wanting to purchase LSA club branded merchandise. LTS/Aspire Camps and LSA Clinics are coming up this summer.

Question & Answer segment to be moderated by Vice President Matt Byrdwell was waived due to no inquiries in Zoom chat nor raised hands.

Motion to adjourn by Jessica Mills Kincade was seconded by BOD member Kim Baker; meeting was adjourned by President Hilary Pohn at 8:59pm.