

**NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR SPORT HISTORY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

May 27, 2016

Call to Order: President Kevin Wamsley called to order the 44th annual meeting of the NASSH Executive Council at 8:15am, Friday May 27, 2016, in Senate Room at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

Attendance: Council members in attendance were Kevin Wamsley, Susan Rayl, Thomas Hunt, Nancy Bouchier, Daniel Nathan, Adam Berg, Jan Todd, Carly Adams, Richard Kimball, Sarah Fields, and Jaime Schultz. Also in attendance were Ron Smith, Maureen Smith, Bob Barney, Stephen Wenn, Dick Crepeau, Mark Dyreson, and Murray Phillips.

Agenda Items

1. Approval of 2015 Council Agenda. PASSED (unanimously).

2. Conference Manager Report — Mary McDonald
McDonald thanked Jan Todd, Thomas Hunt, Kevin Wamsley, Sarah Fields, and Maureen Smith for their assistance. UIP handled registration for \$700, which is significantly lower than RegOnline. UIP staff was very helpful with troubleshooting and gave NASSH very good service. McDonald asked NASSH to think about how we categorize registrants, e.g., do we want a category for retired participants? Another problem was that people didn't remember their member numbers. She also asked us to clarify our relationship with Human Kinetics, which wanted to schedule an editorial meeting for *Sport History Review*. McDonald had to schedule an extra meeting room for Human Kinetics and the request was very late. Wamsley, on behalf of Executive Council, thanked her for all her work.

3. Treasurer Report — Thomas Hunt
Hunt thanked Ron Smith for all his work over the years and reports that Hunt, R. Smith and Jerry Gems will continue to serve on the Budget and Fiscal Committee. The committee will meet this weekend in order to identify investment opportunities for some of the funds that are currently in our checking and savings accounts (slightly more than \$170,000). With an additional \$327,879.31 (as of December 31, 2015) in NASSH's existing funds with Fidelity. The Fidelity account down about \$10,000 but this was not unexpected and is not terribly significant.

NASSH remains in a very strong position financially. We have two additional priorities for the next several months. In terms of the first, R. Smith suggested some time ago that it might be a good idea to contract with a CPA for an audit of our accounts. Hunt will begin that process later this summer. Hunt and Schultz will also continue to work with the NASSH Publication Board and the University of Illinois Press to smooth out the membership and subscription process (which is now centralized with the University of Illinois).

NASSH received \$155,724.35 from the University of Illinois Press (UIP), which includes Project Muse, conference registration, and institutional and individual memberships. The relationship with UIP makes things easier from an accounting perspective.

Todd mentioned that there was no mechanism to donate to Park and Howell fund on UIP’s website.

*Action Item: Ensure there is a mechanism on the UIP website for members to donate to the Park Fund.

Wamsley thanked Hunt for his work and his report.

4. Secretary Report — Jaime Schultz

As of May 26, 2016, there were 270 individual members and 183 institutional members.

NASSH / Journal of Sport History Inst Online Only	5
NASSH / Journal of Sport History Inst Print + Online	1
NASSH / Journal of Sport History Inst Print Only	177
NASSH / Jnl of Sport History Ind Life Print Only	73
NASSH / Jnl of Sport History Ind Print Only	159
NASSH / Jnl of Sport History Ind Retired Print Only	50
NASSH / Jnl of Sport History Ind Sustaining Print Only	11
NASSH / Jnl of Sport History Student Print Only	77
TOTAL:	553

The membership numbers are only slightly lower than last year.

Wamsley thanked Schultz for her work and her report.

5. Program Committee Report — Jan Todd

Todd expanded the committee to include Kim Beckwith, Tolga Ozyurtcu, Adam Criblez, Bieke Gils, and Jason Shurley.

There is a big program this year with 49 sessions (55 sessions at Austin was biggest). Todd changed the format of the program so that attendees can see the breadth of presentations. This is an experiment, but it also allowed her to include material on the speakers. Further, it provides space should NASSH consider including advertisements in the future. Adams suggested an option to allow attendees to opt out of receiving a printed copy. There was some discussion about who pays for the cost of printing the program. According to R. Smith, NASSH has always paid for the printing of the program; Daniel Nathan was the first to have his institution pay for the costs.

*Action item: Future program chairs can consider a new program format.

Todd asked about the amount of money that graduate students receive from the Park Fund. There are more than 60 students on the program. She had quite a few graduate students

(around 8-10) withdraw from the program, which she thinks is because she told them to expect \$150-200 from the fund; this is lower than usual (typically around \$250-300).

Barney remarked that students are the lifeblood of the organization and we need to give at least what we've given in the past. R. Smith supported this. Wamsley stated that you should always spend your money the same way, no matter the fiscal situation. He would like NASSH to say that the organization will guarantee students a set amount. NASSH should figure out the accounting mechanism to keep this tradition up until our revenues fail to meet a certain bar. At that point we can revisit how much to give each student. There was some discussion about lowering the conference registration amount for students or making it free. M. Smith cautioned against eliminating the fee because it affects conference planning. There was additional discussion about what happens to the money a conference makes.

*Action item: Graduate students will get \$300 from Park Fund. This will go to NASSH members for a vote at the 2017 conference.

*Action item: Clarify with the Time & Site Committee that the profits from the conference go back to NASSH. Similarly, if a conference loses money, NASSH will help make up the costs.

Wamsley thanked Todd and her committee.

6. Distinguished Lectures/Awards Committee Report — Dan Nathan

This year's Distinguished Lectures/Awards Committee was comprised of Daniel Nathan (Chair), Lindsay Parks Pieper, Gary Osmond, Alison Wrynn, and Ying WuShanley. After much online correspondence and vetting a slate of nominees, the committee named two Distinguished Lecturers: Mike Cronin is the Reet and Maxwell Howell International Honor Address, and Larry Gerlach will give the John R. Betts Honor Address. Additionally, the committee will present a NASSH Recognition Award and a NASSH Service Award at the annual banquet.

After the Executive Council meeting, the Distinguished Lectures/Awards Committee members at the conference will meet to deliberate about the state of senior women scholars who might be candidates for future lectures.

Nathan thanked the committee and Dick Crepeau for taking care of the plaques. Wamsley offered his thanks to the committee.

7. Graduate Student Representative Report — Adam Berg

Berg shared that other graduate students found the requirements for the two new awards limiting. Students were also concerned that the process is dissimilar to grant proposals and that the application did not give the committee a good sense of their research.

Todd responded that there were a few applicants who did not address research and that they seemed to think that they were applying for funds to attend the conference. Wamsley said the justification for the brief application was to ask students to write concisely and to consider

the time commitment of the committee. Nathan thought the brevity gave a good indication of the focus of the proposal. Todd thought students could do a better job in articulating their budget. Wamsley stated that the quality was evident in 200 words. Todd said that committee members independently came up with similar short lists.

Stephen Wenn proposed tweaking the word limit so that students can include the information they feel is pertinent. Perhaps raise it to 500 words. Todd reminded that is the limit for NASSH abstracts. Dan Nathan suggested we keep it consistent with conference abstracts: 300-500 words. Carly Adams recommended adding additional instructions to facilitate students' applications.

*Action Item: Extend the word limit for proposals to 300 to 500 words and include instructions for the type of specific information students should include.

8. Time & Site Committee report — Susan Rayl
Rayl reported NASSH has secured conference sites for the next two years. The committee is currently looking for 2019 hosts.
9. Slate for Nominations Committee
The Executive Council came up with a list of candidates. NASSH members will vote at the Business Meeting.
10. Publications Board report — Sarah Fields
Murray Phillips, editor of *JSH*, reported that the acceptance rate for the past year is about 18%. He rejected a lot of articles and *JSH* published just 10 articles in the calendar year. He hopes to publish 15 per year. He believes that the few publishable articles he receives says something about the status of the journal and is trying to generate ways to get more quality submissions, such as the pre-conference event this year.

After 18 months, the UIP partnership has proved to be a fruitful relationship, but there are several weaknesses. Strengths: small outfit, approachable, response rates, service and digital platforms are efficient. Weaknesses: accessibility of staff for face-to-face meetings (UIP journal staff do not attend conference); once Phillips submits the journal it takes eight months for UIP to mail it to members; online articles come out after the hard copies, rather than ahead of the publication schedule; no metrics run through UIP; no social media with UIP.

Adjudicators have gone through approximately 20 years of the journal and selected the best article from each year. They will do the same thing next year (covering the next 20 years), which will bring us up to date. After that point, there will only be an annual award for the past calendar year.

The pre-conference workshop that NASSH co-hosted with Georgia Tech (co-hosts were Mary McDonald and Jennifer Sterling) was a successful venture. Thirty people applied to attend the workshop; NASSH/Georgia Tech selected 15 presenters. The workshop went on for two days where there were short presentations followed by long discussions. Phillips will publish many of those papers in one or two issues of *JSH*. Post-conference questionnaires

showed that participants had a very positive experience. Out of the fifteen participants, five had never been to NASSH before.

Fields reported that the publication of the journal is a little behind because of a technical/organizational error at UIP. The next issue (the summer issue) is on time.

Fields said that the contract with UIP goes through November 1, 2017. It is a three-year deal and we must give a six-month notice to terminate the contract. If we don't terminate, the contract renews on a year-to-year basis. The Publications Board plans to schedule a meeting with the managing editor about points of concern and changes with a new contract. Dyreson remarked that the eight-month publication process is standard for *IJHS* (published Routledge); Adams remarked that *SHR* (Human Kinetics) takes about 4 months.

Fields reported that the pre-conference event was successful. It met the goal of getting new people involved in NASSH. The hosts for next year's conference at CSU Fullerton are hoping to stage a similar event. Sarah requested \$5000 from NASSH to help fund this event. PASSED (unanimously)

Fields asked for the creation of a committee to create communication strategies. We have several platforms (e.g., Facebook and Twitter), some of which overlap but are not of in conversation with each other. Wamsley proposed an ad hoc committee on strategic communications to investigate the issue, report to council, and potentially create a standing committee. PASSED (unanimously)

The Publication Board requested \$3000 to help Murray Phillips, editor of *JSH*, to pay for his travel costs. PASSED (unanimously)

Jan Todd thanked Fields and Phillips for their work. Phillips thanked Mary McDonald for her work on the conference and pre-conference event.

11. Book Award Committee report — Janice Forsyth

The committee (Forsyth, Hunt, Parks Pieper, Kevin Witherspoon, Steve Geitschier) considered 45 monographs and 5 anthologies. Members have determined winners in each category. Three people need to leave the committee. Wamsley will have to make replacement appointments. Hunt thanked Forsyth for her leadership on the committee.

*Action Item: Wamsley will appoint three replacement members.

12. Membership Committee report — Vicky Paraschak

The committee is Paraschak, Chair; Rita Liberti, and Louis Moore.

NASSH Diversity Scholarship: There were three applicants. The committee selected one winner. The committee then approached the NASSH Executive Council and requested a change to the Diversity Scholarship Award so that up to two additional honorable mentions for this scholarship might be awarded a free NASSH membership in any year. This motion was passed by the Executive Council and will be implemented this year.

The committee granted one award (\$500, registration to the conference, and a one-year NASSH Membership) and two honorable mentions.

Winner: Emmanueal Macedo (California State University, Fullerton)

Honorable Mentions: Ornella Nzindukiyama (Western University); Arthur Banton (Purdue)

Todd moved we offer the honorable mention winners three years of NASSH membership. Adams offered a friendly amendment to pay for honorable mentions conference registration (1 year) instead of membership. PASSED (unanimously).

The NASSH Membership Committee recommends that future applicants for hosting the NASSH conference include as part of their application evidence that that our diverse members will not face legalized discrimination while at the conference by ensuring that there is no legislation in the community, state or province that would facilitate legalized discriminatory treatment.

Rationale:

- A. As an example of what we are working to achieve through this motion, if someone were to apply to hold NASSH in Charlotte, North Carolina at present, there exists state legislation that allows businesses to deny service (i.e., discriminate) based on perceived sexual orientation, and requires that individuals must use the washroom that aligns with the sex assigned on their birth certificate. Based on this information, which could treat some of our gay, lesbian and/or transgender members in a discriminatory manner, we would not accept this bid.
- B. This approach aligns with the bid process currently in place for major Games such as the Olympics, which require that the bid committee layout clear legacies that are to flow from this event, and environmental practices that will be implemented for the Games. These non-athletic activity-specific elements of the bid process thus address the values of the IOC rather than sport specific requirements for the Games. In a similar manner, we feel this addition to our application process for hosting NASSH would align our practices with our organizational commitment to growing and maintaining a diverse membership.

Adams moved that we write an aspirational statement leaves us some flexibility. It articulates our opposition to discriminatory legislation but allows us to consider issues on a case-by-case basis. Dyreson recommended we send this back to the committee and ask them to craft a statement. The Executive Council will decide whether to endorse the statement. If approved, the statement will be presented to the membership in 2017 for vote.

Wamsley thanked the committee for their work.

13. Student Essay Award – Kevin Wamsley

Wamsley thanked the committee, which included Rob Hess, Christine O'Bonsawin. There were ten applicants and Cat Arial (University of Miami) was the winner. Nathan commended the committee for following through on last year's action to announce the winner prior to the conference. Todd thanked the committee for sending their comments to the applicants.

14. IT Committee Report — Chad Carlson

The NASSH website continues to run quite well. The website is functional and intuitive, making navigation simple. Further, most of the pages on our site are updated regularly. With the web mantra that “stale feeds are worse than no feed at all,” the committee is happy with the regular updates to the NASSH homepage and many other regularly visited tabs and pages. Special thanks to Webmaster Michael Heine for regularly updated the website and to Kevin Wamsley for providing oversight and content (including the timely President’s Forum).

NASSH’s social media presence is dynamic. NASSH has an active Facebook group (currently 261 Facebook members). Users post frequently, with information on new sport history resources, conference announcements, celebrations of NASSH members’ achievements, promotions of sport history-related blog posts, and general articles that may be of interest to NASSH members. A second active Facebook group includes information specifically for NASSH graduate students, with posts about opportunities for graduate students and general NASSH business. The *Journal of Sport History* also tweets regularly, promoting both *JSH* articles and the NASSH conference. On May 10, NASSH posted once again social media guidelines on the website, including the new conference Twitter hashtag (#NASSH2016).

Getting a Directory of Scholars up and running has proven to be a bit more difficult than expected. The committee intends to hire out this project and will be obtaining quotes this summer. Once contracted with an IT firm, the committee believes that the project will not take much time to complete.

Wamsley mentioned that Michael Heine was unable to complete Directory of Scholars. NASSH is searching for someone else to put it together. Theresa Walton will be the editor once there is material for her to work with. Nathan asked if it was a closed service or open to the public. Fields said we would ultimately have both a public and a closed group.

Wamsley thanked the committee and Michael Heine.

15. Update on Operating Codes — Toby Rider

Toby Rider (not in attendance) reports that he changed and updated operating codes, the *JSH* reprint policy, the book award policy (language change for membership change; chair empowered to create separate committee for anthologies), and increased the Time and Site Committee period of service to four years.

16. Joe Arbena Latin American Sport History Grant committee report — Sam Regalado

Sam Regalado summarized Arbena’s legacy and his scholarship. The fund comes from his estate and grants \$1000 to the annual winner. This was the first year the committee granted this award. The committee was Regalado, Wanda Wakefield and Jorge Iber.

There were four applicants (a fifth applicant turned in materials after the deadline). The application relatively was brief. Submissions included papers on the history of Cuban boxing, Argentina and the 1936 Olympic Games, and Biographies of Pele. The winner (by

consensus) was Michael Wood (University of Alabama) for his project on Cuba and US, South American football, 1907-1933. Regalado said that the decision process ran smoothly and he is glad NASSH is encouraging this kind of research.

Todd proposed creating a tab on the website because it's difficult to find these awards online.

*Action item: Wamsley will make the awards easier to find on the website.

17. NASSH Dissertation Travel Grant report — Kevin Wamsley

The committee was Todd, Wamsley, and Nathan. There were ten applications and the committee split the award three ways: \$2000 to Joanna Mellis (University of Florida); \$500 to Adam Berg (Penn State); \$500 to Dain TePoel (University of Iowa).

Wamsley received a complaint from about the composition of the committee (which is composed of President, President Elect, Past President). The individual mentioned a lack of transparency, NASSH's insularity, criticized that the forms were too short, and proposed that NASSH should consider opening up the committee to the broader membership.

Resolution on the complaint: The committee and Council are satisfied with the current process.

*Action item: Todd will provide a signup sheet at the conference registration desk for those interested in serving on committees. Schultz will circulate the form on the listserv.

18. Graduate Program Data Collection – Tom Fabian

Fabian will collect undergraduate and graduate degrees in sport history and will publish this list on the NASSH website. Hunt moved that publication should be based on council's approval. PASSED (unanimously)

19. American Historical Association affiliation – Ryan Swanson

Swanson (not in attendance) requested that NASSH have an affiliate session in the 2016 AHA conference. He issued a call for papers on NASSH listserv and has put together a session. He is now asking for NASSH approval for an affiliated session.

*Action Item: Does NASSH need to pay the \$125 fee as we are already an AHA affiliate?

20. Other items

R. Smith asked who owns the copyright for journal articles published before UIP took over. Sarah Fields answered that anything published prior to 1978 is likely to fall under public domain. After 1978, individual authors, or authors' heirs, own individual articles unless they assign copyright to someone else. NASSH copyrighted each individual issue, but not individual articles. Anything published after 2015 belongs to UIP.

R. Smith brought up that the current program uses two different NASSH seals. He asked if there should be one seal or should people be given discretion as to which one to use. The constitution states that all publications must have the NASSH seal. Todd would like

something on the website that we could download and use. Barney wanted to know if we need to register a trademark for the seal; Hunt said we don't have to.

*Action Item: The NASSH secretary will maintain the NASSH seal. If individuals want to use the seal, they should contact the secretary. The traditional colors of the seal are black and white and should not be altered.

Adjournment: President Kevin Wamsley adjourned the 44th annual meeting of the NASSH Executive Council at 3:36pm.