

18th Annual General Assembly
North American Powerlifting Federation
Hyatt Regency Hotel: Orlando International Airport, Orlando, Florida, USA
Wednesday, August 18, 2021 / 10:00am to 12:00pm

MINUTES

1. Welcome Message

Meeting called to order at 1015 hrs., on August 18, 2021, in the Briefing Room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel – Orlando, Florida, USA, by Robert Keller, IPF Secretary General, and NAPF Championship Secretary. A moment of silence was performed for Mr. Curtis Wainwright (USA), who recently passed away due to COVID-19.

2. Roll Call

IPF Delegate

Dr. Robert Keller (IPF Secretary General) – United States of America

NAPF Delegates – EC Board Members (Right to vote)

Alex Alvarado (Secretary General) – Puerto Rico

Arian Khamesi (Treasurer) – United States of America

Bill Clayton (Technical Secretary) – United States of America

NAPF Commission Members (No Right to Vote)

Dr. Robert Keller (Championship Secretary) – United States of America

Mike Armstrong (Records Registrar) – Canada

Arian Khamesi (Scoring Manager) – United States of America

Steven Crane (Media Manager) – Puerto Rico

NAPF Member Federations (Right to Vote)

Jeff Butt – Canada

Armando Gutierrez - Mexico

Steven Crane – Puerto Rico

Robert Massey – US Virgin Islands

Kevin Yee – Aruba

Observers

Kimberly Walford

Gene Bell – US Virgin Islands

Omar Villarreal – Mexico

Kerma Singh – Guyana

Roger Rogers – Guyana

Edwin G. Spencer – Guyana

Total votes: 9

Simple Majority: 5

2/3 Majority: 6

Notes:

1. Mr. Blair, President of the National Powerlifting Association of Jamaica, sent his regrets for not being able to attend the Championship. His federation is newly established, and he will attend next year in Mexico.
2. At the conclusion of the General Assembly, the following member federations were briefed on the Meeting Minutes. All were in favor.
 - Costa Rica
 - Dominican Republic
 - El Salvador

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3. 2019 Meeting Minutes Approved – Costa Rica

The official minutes can be found here: www.powerlifting-napf.com

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, no NAPF General Assembly was held during 2020.

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

4. NAPF President / IPF EC Member Report

This past year has been a troublesome one in terms of competition due to the pandemic. With World and Regional competition cancelled due the coronavirus, national borders closed, and the risk of infection high, powerlifting has essentially been on hiatus. With the reopening, starting in early 2021, international competition is slated to resume, but within the region, and in terms of world competition. While some venues have proven to be inaccessible or to have local restrictions, others have been able to plan on hosting the world. The same is true within the North American Region. While we have been successful in most of our nations in hosting local, provincial, and national competition, our 2021 schedule includes only the regional powerlifting competition to be held in conjunction with the Pan American powerlifting championships. Our bench press competition, regionally, remains postponed due to travel and virus concerns. We hope to resume a full slate of competition in 2022. It is also of concern that our largest national affiliate faces suspension and/or resignation from the IPF over disagreement with the international body over drug testing. The short summary is that USA Powerlifting continues to stand on its founding principles of drug testing at all levels and rejects that authority of the IPF over local-level testing. USA Powerlifting faces disciplinary action as a result, and a separation of our national and international organizations seems inevitable. It will be unfortunate after 24 years in the IPF for one of the most successful, and most clean nations to be removed. However, minimal testing at great cost concentrated at the elite level is not acceptable to the majority of USA Powerlifting members. I hope to see all of you again at international competition in the future but I'm not optimistic that it will be so.

Dr. Larry Maile, NAPF President and IPF Executive Committee Member for North America

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

5. NAPF Vice-President

This past year there have been no Powerlifting championships or Bench Press by the NAPF due to the pandemic that hit the world, affecting not only the global economy and public health, but also the calendar of all sports federations. The only event that was held under strict sanitary measures was the Arnold Sports Festival in March 2020, with a good sports representation of elite athletes, although all events were without the expected audience as previous years. For my part, I have been reporting weekly during the first three months of the COVID-19 pandemic to all representatives of the IPF and NAPF over personal medical care, health measures in gyms and competitions, the evolution of the disease and different therapeutic options, including vaccination and health passport, long before it was recommended by WHO. For family reasons, I find it difficult to be present at the NAPF 2021 General Assembly, and I wish you every success. Kind Regards, **Dr. Hugo Velasquez Ormeño, NAPF Vice-president**

Este último año no se ha realizado campeonatos de Powerlifting ni Bench Press por parte de la NAPF debido a la pandemia que azotó al mundo, afectando no solamente a la economía mundial y la salud pública, sino también el cronograma de todas las federaciones deportivas.

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El único evento que se realizó bajo estrictas medidas sanitarias fue el Arnold Sports Festival en marzo de 2020, con una buena representación deportiva de atletas élite, aunque todos los eventos fueron sin el público esperado como años anteriores.

De mi parte, he estado informando semanalmente durante los primeros dos meses de la pandemia de COVID-19 a todos los representantes de la IPF y la NAPF sobre los cuidados médicos personales, medidas sanitarias en los gimnasios y competencias, la evolución de la enfermedad y diferentes opciones terapéuticas, entre ellas la vacunación y el pasaporte de salud, mucho antes que lo recomendara la OMS.

Por motivos familiares, se me hace difícil estar presente en la Asamblea General NAPF 2021, y les deseo el mejor de los éxitos.

Atentamente, **Dr. Hugo Velásquez Ormeño, NAPF vicepresidente**

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

6. Secretary General Report

This year we celebrate the 18th Annual IPF/NAPF North American Regional Powerlifting Championships and the 18th NAPF/FESUPO Pan-American Regional Powerlifting Championships, and 145 athletes from fifteen (15) IPF member federations will be lifting and competing, eight of those NAPF members as well. Been in the middle of a pandemic, travel restrictions, and other situations that kept athletes/nations to participate in this event, these numbers are excellent. We have a balanced number of nations from North America and South America in this contest (8 vs. 7 respectively) and a balanced number of lifters from each region (81 vs. 64 respectively). In terms of new IPF members been added to our region, three (3) new members (Haiti, Jamaica, Barbados) are added or about to become fully recognized members of the IPF and NAPF. Even though the pandemic has delayed the process to get other nations to become members, we have been communicating with countries such as Cuba, Honduras, and St. Kitts and Nevis to help them fulfill the requirements to become a member. We are very close to the goal of having all North American nations recognized and we will work hard to have every nation from our region become a member. **Alex Alvarado, NAPF Secretary General**

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

7. Treasurer and Auditors Report

Of course, COVID-19 caused us to not have any competitions last year. So, we spent very little money during 2020. However, during 2019, our volunteer travel, hotel, meals as well as participation and anti-doping fees were the bulk of our expenses. This was due to having two competitions outside of the USA, and we had to import a large number of volunteers to assist in the direction of the two regional championships – Costa Rica and Panama. The development monies were frozen by the IPF EC, during 2020 and 2021. Beginning in 2022, we will once again, have access to the 15,000 Euros / 17,500 USD given to each regional federation for development. APLYFT withdrew their partnership and fees from the IPF. Also, 5,000 Euros of from the development fund was given to the IPF to assist with their expenses during the COVID, when no championships were being held and not income being received. Overall, the IPF Development Fund monies are to be used to purchase Equipment for the Regional Championships. Please see the attached Financial Reports for 2019, and 2020, as well as our auditors report. Special thanks once more to Mr. Desai, our external, independent, auditor, for checking our finances. Thank you.

Arian Khamesi / NAPF Treasurer & Robert Keller / Finance Secretary

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

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8. Committee Reports

a. Technical Committee Report

I'd like to thank all member federations, athletes, referees, and championship directors that continue their involvement during these challenging times. It will be nice to see everyone at this year's championships. By now all should have renewed their IPF refereeing credentials. I'd like to mention an additional two items:

1. When the federations are submitting their nominations, they should be nominating their referees to participate in the event. All nominated referees are by IPF rule to be nominated for two days.

2. Individuals applying to take the IPF referees test before applying should have their national federation's approval. I'd also recommend, if possible, starting the application process approximately 90 days ahead of the IPF event you're hoping to test at.

Thank you, **Sincerely, Bill Clayton / NAPF Technical Chairman**

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

b. Championship Secretary Report

The 2019 NAPF North American Regional Powerlifting Championship that was held at the Holiday Inn, in San Jose, Costa Rica, was a huge success. This by far was one of our most successful events ever, with 200 lifters from 12-member federation countries. The highlight of the championship was Juanita Najera breaking the Open World Record in the Deadlift! Compliments to Manolo Campos and his team for an excellent championship. The NAPF North American Bench Press Championship was held in Panama City, Panama. 100 athletes from 10-member federation attended. Several world records were set. Our member federations continue to grow within the region and we're looking to strategically place championships in new member federation countries in our region. Jamaica and Barbados have now joined, and St. Kitts and Nevis will be joining later this year. Important to note, I want to send my sincere appreciation to both Gaston Parage, President of the IPF, and to Emanuel Scheiber, the General Manager of the IPF for the donation of Bull Equipment from Japan for the 2021 NAPF North American Regional Championships. This was very important to the success of our competition this year. Lastly, our new website is fully operational. And, in closing, my sincere compliments to Mike Armstrong, Arian Khamesi and Alex Alvarado for updating all of the NAPF Records – Well done!! **Robert Keller – NAPF Championship Secretary**

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

c. Records Registrar Report

Over the past two years we successfully transported the NAPF records from the old Go Heavy website to the new NAPF site. Now in Google sheets format, much more readable and easier to use. Unfortunately, the pressures of my gym supply business in the age of Covid made it very difficult to find the time needed for some projects, thanks to Arian Khamesi and Alex Alvarado for stepping up to assist. The worst of this appears to be over, so I should now be able to resume my duties as record keeper.

Mike Armstrong, NAPF Records Manager

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

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d. Women's Committee Report

Dear Esteemed NAPF Executive & Members, I hope this finds you all healthy, strong, and hopefully on the positive side of this pandemic that we have endured over the past year and a half. The Women's Committee continues to be open to receiving communications from all member nations as well as being committed to supporting, educating and watchful that female lifters have a resource for their concerns, to advocate on their behalf and to ensure fair and equal sportsmanship and opportunities exist across the NAPF countries. It is imperative, with recent negative powerlifting world news, that everyone is reminded of the grave responsibility that comes with leadership and that we must all be impeccable in our social interactions. As we continue to move back into training and competitions, I urge every member to hold themselves to the highest of standards and to expect no less from those we surround ourselves with. Wishing you the best of competition in Orlando!

Linda McFeeters, NAPF Women's Committee Chairwoman

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

e. Central American Sub-Regional Report

The Central American Region is flourishing! Leading the way is Costa Rica. ADELEPO has hosted numerous local, national, and international championships in San Jose. The direction of the 2019 NAPF North American Regional Championships was exceptional. The 2021 NAPF North American Regional Bench Press Championship will be held in San Jose during October. Special thanks to Manolo Campos for his excellent work. The Federation of Panamanian Powerlifting, under the presidency of Jacque Tibi is one of the fastest growing member federations in the Central American Region. His direction of the 2019 NAPF North American Regional Bench Press Championships was exceptional. Mr. Tibi shall direct the 2022 NAPF North American Regional Powerlifting Championships. The Nicaragua Federation under the leadership of the Mr. O. Matute is rapidly developing its programs, by holding several well directed National level events. They've invested in Eleiko Equipment for their athletes. They have requested to direct an NAPF Championship. We're looking at directing the NAPF Central American Cup in either 2022 or 2023. Belize held their first National Championships this year. A special thank you goes out to Ms. Kimberly Walford for traveling to Belize to assist them in the direction of this event. Also, special thanks go out to Alex Alvarado and Arian Khamesi for assisting in providing to the Belize Federation the scoring system and an on-line coach/referee course. Guatemala remains quiet. They normally participate in our NAPF Championships; however, COVID has locked them down in a long duration. They hope to return next year when the NAPF Regional Championships is held in Panama. Alex and I had a meeting with the President of the Honduras Federation during February of this year, and they're working with a Sports Lawyer to establish their federation. We hope to have the Honduras Federation on board by the end of this year. El Salvador will take part in this year's NAPF Championship in Orlando. They've returned after a long absence. Recently, we've contacted the El Salvador Olympic Committee and have requested for them to support the EL Salvador Association.

Robert Keller for Manolo Campos, the NAPF Central American Representative

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

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f. Caribbean Sub-Regional Report

This year, 2 new members from the Caribbean joined the IPF – Jamaica and Barbados. Interestingly, Jamaica was one of the original founding members of the IPF. They’re creating a juggernaut. It is a pleasure to have them back with us. Jamaica will join us next year in Panama. They’ve recently signed an MOU with the University of Jamaica establishing a Coach Certification Course. Barbados is now a member as well. They were going to join us in Orlando. However, recent lockdowns on the island prevented them from traveling to the USA. Anguilla, the Bahamas, and the British Virgin Islands remain dormant. Trinidad and Tobago remain embroiled with internal legal matters. Potential new member federation joining the NAPF from the Caribbean are Cuba, and St. Kitts/Nevis. I was very happy to see Aruba and the Cayman Islands at the 2019 Regional Championship. COVID cancelled last year’s Regional Championships in the Cayman Islands. However, they will direct it in 2023. I will be discussing with the NAPF EC to have an NAPF Caribbean Cup in 2023 in conjunction with the NAPF Regional Championships. Location to be determined. Stay tuned. **Robert Massey, Caribbean Representative**

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

9. Motions

- a. No motions received.

10. Old Business

- a. No old business to review.

11. Elections

- a. No Elections this year.

12. Championship Calendar

Championship	City	Dates	Status
18 th NAPF Powerlifting Championships	Orlando, Florida, USA	August 2021	Confirmed
18 th NAPF/FESUPO Pan-Am Championships	Orlando, Florida, USA	August 2021	Confirmed
16 th NAPF Bench Press Championships	San Jose, Costa Rica	October 2021	Confirmed
19 th NAPF Powerlifting Championships	Panama City, Panama	August 2022	Confirmed
17 th NAPF Bench Press Champions	Aguadilla, Puerto Rico	October 2022	Confirmed
20 th NAPF Powerlifting Championships	Georgetown, Cayman Islands	August 2023	Confirmed
18 th NAPF Bench Press Championships	Bid: Mexico City, Mexico	October 2023	TBD
2 nd NAPF University Cup	Bid: Managua, Nicaragua	July 2023	TBD
21 st NAPF Powerlifting Championships	Bid: Mexico City, Mexico	August 2024	TBD
19 th NAPF Bench Press Championships	Bid: San Jose, Costa Rica	October 2024	TBD
20 th NAPF / FESUPO Pan-Am Championships	Bid: Miami, USA	August 2025	TBD

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

13. NAPF Hall of Fame

Mike Armstrong (Canada)
Rhea Stinn (Canada)

Votes: Yes – 8, No – 0, Abstentions – 0

14. Motions from the floor

- a. No motions from the floor.

15. Adjournment

Adjourned at 11:07am