

**Eastern Athletic Association of the Deaf, INC**

**Delegates' Meeting**

At Currier Hall Gymnasium  
New York School for the Deaf  
555 Knollwood Road  
White Plains, NY 10603

Friday Evening, March 13, 2015

President Gerlis called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM

Roll Call:

Paul Gabel, Showstoppers  
Mike Kreiger, New Jersey Wild Ones  
Michael Drury, New Jersey Wild Ones Alternative  
Carl Colon, Fanwood Alumni Association  
Robert Jones JR, Greater Philadelphia  
Jan Struther, Maryland Blue Crabs  
Todd Reynolds, Maryland Blue Crabs Alternative  
Roxanna Aguilo, EAAD Tournament 2015 Chairperson  
Frances Sorrentino, New Jersey Sports Deaf Club  
Nicholas Pucciarelli, Lexington Alumni Association  
Chuck Wallace, Delegate at Large  
Stewart Gerlis, President  
John Perry, Vice President  
Daniel Gabel, Public Relations/Hall of Fame  
Alexandria Pucciarelli, Secretary/Treasurer  
Paul Mitchell, Tournament Director

*Late Arrivals:*

Yarleney Torres, Lexington Alumni Association  
James Ginis, Lexington Alumni Association  
Akilyas Yacob, Rochester Blazer City

Approval of the Parliamentarian, Sean Gerlis: (14-0)

Approval of the previous minutes of the meeting (March 2014):

Corrections were:

1. Remove the term of "Free" use of the gymnasium in the chairperson's report.

President Gerlis proposed that the timing of the comments in the meeting should be

limited up to three minutes. **PASSED**

**Treasurer's Report:** Alexandria stated that the balance dated of March 13, 2015 was \$12,221.09.

**President's Report: (Stewart Gerlis)**

1. Welcome to the EAAD Delegate's Meeting! Mother's Nature did not cooperate with us again! We cancelled our previous basketball invitational tournaments during the winter. Moreover, our basketball invitational tournament was cancelled. This issue really impacted our asset. Hopefully, we can make it up in the future dates.
2. Mr. Scott Bradley, President of Eastern Softball Association of the Deaf (ESAD), contacted me throughout videophone. ESAD is interested to affiliate with EAAD. I suggested him that EAAD Board of Directors will have a meeting with ESAD Board of Directors during the early summer. He agreed with my suggestion and we will work it out to set up the date for a meeting.
3. Ms. Christina Costello, Commissioner of United States Deaf Basketball Association (USADB), notified me that they are considered to abate all region and they will invite all teams to participate USADB championship tournament. I did not agree with them. I rather to keep all regions because of locations, history and other reasons.
4. I went to USADB Tournament in North Carolina. The big issue was about SEAAD, they asked us to affiliate with USADB without paying the fine of \$1800.00. We declined and they are still suspended from the USADB till they pay the fine. Other than this, I volunteered during the weekend as their official scorekeeper. I am so proud of the EAAD teams who had dominated the tournament at North Carolina! Showstoppers won the second place, Showstoppers Stars won the women's championship, and the Greater Philadelphia won the championship title for the Division 2!
5. Mr. John Perry and I revised on three EAAD Constitutions and Guidelines in the past months. Thank you, Mr. Perry. He will discuss EAAD Constitutions and By-Laws and Guidelines with all of you.
6. For the Delegates meeting, I decided to ask Mr. Sean Gerlis to be the Parliamentarian again. I realized that he was doing very well during Delegates meeting last year. To my knowledge, he happens to be my son. I am glad that all of you approve him as a Parliamentarian for the meeting.
7. For EAAD Website, Ms. Daniela Farkas really worked very hard to make this possible best of it. She put the information of our basketball history from 1946 to 1990. But, the job is not done yet; She will work on the history from 1991 to present in the near future date. In addition, she will put more information about EAAD program book, Hall of Fame, and softball history. Please feel free to ask or request changes on the website.
8. For your information, regarding to the liability insurance, I believe that our liability insurance under United States Fire Insurance Company has cheap premium than USSAA. The premium is \$400.00 per year.

9. Conclusion, I will try my best to limit the time not more than three hours during Delegates meeting.

**Vice-President's Report: (John Perry)**

1. Stewart and I worked on the constitutions, bylaws, and guidelines. I do feel that there is more to revise and we want to give the delegates a copy of the new ones to give them time to review we see them again to approve it at the picnic.
2. I will explain later about the two motions that were referred to the Law committee. First of all, I wanted to review the situation with Adam Pagan last year, Adam Pagan had signed up with two teams and that shows that we need to set up a communication system with the coaches of the teams. We need to be stricter with the players and they CANNOT transfer to other teams without the consents of the coaches. The second issue we had this year, Adam Pagan played at Gallaudet then he left the team, and played at the FAA's invitational tournament. I was not presented, but he was not allowed to play. FAA filed a complaint against the EAAD and we need to make a final decision on this.
3. I feel that I am more involved with the EAAD as a vice president than I did last year. I had resolved issues with the players, educated the teams about the forms, and revised the constitutions/bylaws with Stewart.

**Secretary's Report: (Alexandria Pucciarelli)**

1. We lack of communication with each other, it is becoming of HE SAID HE SAID without any concrete evidence, and I believe that we must use emails from now on to preserve any misconceptions between the officers. This applies to the teams that I will share during the delegates meetings that I WILL not accept any negotiations through Face-to-Face, but emails. They must contact me through emails first before we can go further in the discussion.
2. This year, we have received complains about the seeding, and we need to ensure that this does not happen again. Any tournament that is sponsored by the EAAD, one of us should be involved to give them a better guide on how to do it right.
3. Now... It is annoying when I have to chase down the teams for the forms and I feel that I need to set up a better system for next year. Perhaps, separate the deadlines for each form rather than to congest everything at same month.
4. I am currently on the USADB Law committee and I must say that I am pleased with the changes that we have made. They will release the new bylaws at the House of Delegates meeting.
5. Should we discuss about NDBO's issue with the team name, DMV? (*Case closed*)

### **Tournament Director's Report: (Paul Mitchell)**

1. This year I have been working on the bracket and I feel that it took a lot of my time. We need to set up a relationship with the teams so we would not lose any teams like Delaware.
2. I feel that Secretary and I should be included in the emails to communicate with the teams. The coaches should be the only one to contact us, not the players. I want the secretary to give me a list of email addresses of each coach so I can contact them directly. Coaches should contact me about the tournament and reach out to the secretary for the forms or money-related.
3. It is sad that we only have two women teams this year and next year we will be celebrating EAAD Women's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary therefore I expect to see more women teams playing.
4. Danny Gabel and John Perry had helped me with the bracket for the EAAD tournament. I will delete EAAD page on the Facebook and delegate it to the public relations to feed the information of the tournament.
5. I will try my best to ignore the comments that teams may make about me on the Facebook page.
6. We have 4 referees in total, one of them is deaf, and you may know or see him around. His name is Michael Torres.

### **Hall of Fame/Public Relations Report: (Danny Gabel)**

1. Want to set up a similar concept to the Frequently Asked Questions on the site to avoid repeated questions.
2. I have been yearning to set up VLOGs to represent the EAAD, but did not have access to the Facebook page.
3. I strongly believe that we should set up a relationship with the hosts of the invitational tournaments in order to post the results. This may help us to determine the seeding for the EAAD tournament.
4. I set up Twitter and Instagram accounts for the EAAD. I strongly believe in social media. We have more than 200 followers!
5. We do not have any funding for the Hall of Fame, Stewart Gerlis had the guidelines, and I want all of us to work together for next year's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I have the boxes from Michael Shiffer that I needed to complete my archive for the EAAD. I have been updating the information on the Google drive and will follow up with President Gerlis about the papers that I have found in the boxes.
6. If you do have uniforms or trophies from the EAAD tournament in the past, please do not throw it away, and give them to me for history purpose.
7. I want to thank y'all for the opportunity for the last two years as Public Relations for the EAAD and thank you!

### **Committee Report:**

*2014 EAAD Basketball Regional Tournament Chairperson-* Refer to financial record

*2015 EAAD Basketball Regional Tournament Chairperson:* (Roxanna Aguilo)

1. Thank you for inviting me to the meeting and for the Fanwood Alumni Association to appoint me as the chairperson for the tournament. It was a quick decision made by the organization to host the tournament due to short period of time to plan.
2. This year, the school administration added more security, locked the buildings on the campus, and we are not allowed to use the showers in the lockers room. We cannot go into the lockers room and I will let the teams know at the coaches meeting tonight. They have been stricter due to what had happened last year.
3. Our admission committee will politely ask the players/coaches to take out their driver's license to ensure that their names match the registration forms.
4. I will explain to the coaches tonight at the delegates meeting that they cannot violate the drug policy at the hotel. HYATT House had contacted the school and in the result of the situation with the drugs at the hotel, they have asked FAA to pay the fines. Fanwood is a drug-free campus and if one of the committee members feels that the person is under influence then he will be asked to leave.
5. Instead of trophies, we will be handing out the medals, and this is based on the requests from the teams.
6. Larry Rocque is FAA's Athletic Director and if you do encounter a problem during the tournament, please do see him!

#### **Law Committee Report: (John Perry)**

1. John explained about Robert Jones' proposal that the EAAD would sponsor Kid's Basketball Camp. Mike Krieger seconded the motion and Chuck Wallace referred to the Law Committee. All of the officers had agreed to decline the motion due to the cost and time. **FAILED**
2. James Ginis made a motion that the EAAD must improve the bracket structure for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place including time. Robert Jones seconded. President Gerlis referred this to Law Committee. John Perry and Stewart Gerlis made a change in the guidelines to improve the bracket structure. **PASSED**

#### **Unfinished Business:**

1. Mike Kreiger motioned that time clock stops during Basketball Invitational Tournament. Frank Wells seconded. Danny Gabel amended that if there are more than 8 teams; then the time clock runs continuously during Free Throw. If there are less than 8 teams; therefore the time clock stops during the Free Throws. Frank Wells seconded. This motion as referred to the Law Committee. **TABLE TO NEXT YEAR.**

2. James Ginis made a motion that the EAAD must improve the bracket structure for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place including time. Robert Jones seconded. President Gerlis referred this to Law Committee. John Perry and Stewart Gerlis made a change in the guidelines to improve the bracket structure. **PASSED**
3. Chuck Wallace made a motion that we should not pass the by-laws until we have enough time to review. **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE**

### **New Business:**

1. Danny Gabel made a motion that the EAAD should arrange a media team. John Perry seconded. **PASSED**
2. John Gabel made a motion that the EAAD should have ONE form for the registration forms in compliance with the USADB forms. Stewart Gerlis seconded. **TABLE TO THE NATIONALS (SUSPENDED)**
3. Alexandria Pucciarelli made a motion that the EAAD and ESAD boards find a time in the summer to work together. Stewart Gerlis seconded. **PASSED**
4. Danny Gabel made a motion that we take \$1,000.00 from the checking account to start-up a fund for the Hall of Fame. John Perry seconded. **PASSED.**
5. Stewart Gerlis made a motion that we should discuss about the appeal made by the FAA and refund them \$100.00. Danny Gabel seconded. **PASSED**
6. Stewart Gerlis made a motion that the EAAD will host a BBQ picnic for the EAAD delegates to discuss about the new Constitutions, Bylaws, and Guidelines in the late summer. Alexandria Pucciarelli seconded. **PASSED.**
7. Alexandria Pucciarelli made a motion that the EAAD donates \$125.00 to the USADB for their women's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Roxanna Aguilo seconded. **PASSED.**
8. John Perry moved to have all of the seeding to be determined by the drawing at the invitational tournaments, Mike Drury seconded. **PASSED.**
9. EAAD motioned to accept Perry's appeal and fine Danny Gabel \$50.00 for disorderly conduct at the Showstopper's Tournament on January 31<sup>st</sup> of 2015. **FAILED**
10. Roxanna Aguilo moves that the bidder must pay \$300.00 at the delegates meeting to reserve a spot for the tournament instead of waiting for more than thirty days. Seconded by Paul Mitchell. **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE.**
11. Roxanna Aguilo moves that the EAAD President should follow-up and informs the head coaches that he or she witnessed the drawing for the bracket at the invitational tournament. Mike Kreiger seconded. **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE.**
12. Robert Jones moves tat we change the date from December 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> for the membership fee dues. Roxanna Aguilo seconded. **PASSED**
13. Robert Jones moves that the EAAD should help the host by covering half of the fees for the referees. Roxanna Aguilo seconded. **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE.**

14. Robert Jones moves to remove the seeding procedure from the guidelines and to have a drawing before the general meeting to determine team's seeding for the tournament. Jan Struther seconded. **FAILED**.
15. Todd Reynolds moves that the men and women teams' bracketing is change from double elimination to Round Robin regardless of number of teams. Mike Kreiger seconded. **FAILED**
16. James Ginis moves that the EAAD should take care of the program book in the preparation for the future hosts. Carl Colon seconded. **PASSED**.
17. Robert Jones moves that the player registration fees shall go to the EAAD and the admission fees shall go to the host. Carl Colon seconded. **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE**.

### **Bidding Tournament:**

NJCCD placed a bid for EAAD Tournament 2016 with a deposit of \$300.00 made to the EAAD. Congratulations NJCCD!

### **Elections:**

Vote for President, Tournament Director, and Public Relations/Hall of Fame.

New Elected Officers:

President: Danny Gabel

Tournament Director: James Ginis

Public Relations/Hall of Fame: Paul Mitchell

### **Announcement:**

Please do see Alexandria if you want go to the USADB National tournament at California, she has everything that you need to prepare for the nationals, and good luck with the tournament!

### **Adjournment:**

Mike Kreiger moved to close the meeting. Chuck Wallace seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Alexandria Pucciarelli, EAAD Secretary