



United States Association of Indoor Wheelchair Soccer

July 18, 2011

Dear Friends of IWS:

Welcome back! As we embark on another exciting year at USA-IWS, let me start by offering congratulations to all who took part in our 2010 Nationals in Houston. Thanks to Dave and Chhay for organizing such a wonderful event, and congratulations to both of our champions and all of our award recipients for their accomplishments.

The Board of Directors (formerly called The Interim Committee) has continued to meet over the last few months in an effort to improve our sport. We have been listening to suggestions and concerns that our members have expressed during the past year. In an effort to be more inclusive, we are announcing that three seats on the Board of Directors are now open. These seats need to be filled in a timely fashion. We are accepting nominations beginning immediately. Anyone interested should know that this is a 1-year commitment. You are expected to participate in Board meetings (held on Skype services usually on an evening early each month,) and emergency meetings when necessary. You will also sit on other Committees on an as-needed basis. As with all positions in USA-IWS, this is a volunteer position. Please send any nominations to USA-IWS at indoorwheelchairsoccer@gmail.com. The nomination should include a cover letter of interest and a brief resume detailing information pertinent for application to such a position. The deadline for nominations is August 15, 2011.

In other news, USA-IWS is sanctioning two Invitational Tournaments this fall to encourage team participation all over the country. The tournaments will be held in Houston, Texas on November 4-6 (tentative dates), and New York (Long Island) the following weekend Nov. 11-13. (The IWS season is from approximately April through November.) More information on these tournaments will follow as it becomes available. In these troubling financial times it makes more sense to provide access for all of our member teams to participate in a tournament, while simultaneously giving multiple venues to support further growth of "new blood." If you want to start a team, a league or host a clinic, or know someone who may, please contact Dave Stephenson at ddstephenson@earthlink.net.

USA-IWS is accepting bids for the 2012 National Tournament. Times being what they are, we will consider bids for a split or combined Nationals. The goal is to make expenses easier for teams in this tough economy. Anyone interested in bidding should e-mail me at bladianddee@verizon.net or USA-IWS at indoorwheelchairsoccer@gmail.com.

The Board of Directors has also listened to the concerns of many of our members that the rules have changed, and continue to change, too quickly. We have voted to suspend the rules changes for the

1398 Penataquit Avenue, Bay Shore, New York 11706
Indoorwheelchairsoccer@gmail.com * (631) 780-4593
www.usaiws.org



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2011 season, and will continue to use the current rulebook this year. A new Spanish Language version (unofficial) will be available soon. All questions of rule interpretation will be addressed through the Official English Language version that can be found on the USA-IWS website.

The current Board would like to stress to all the USA-IWS membership that this is your organization. We need your feedback, and, currently, we need some dynamic, qualified individuals to serve on the Board. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Tony Nussbacher and Chhay Mak for their two years of service to USA-IWS and its membership. Thank you for your time and talents, and we hope that you will be available to help us again sometime in the future.

Bill Lardi, Commissioner USA-IWS

USA-IWS Board of Directors: Janie Avant

Rob Mealey

Dave Stephenson

Jim Thomson

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