EDUCATION and CURRICULUM

Aligned Dance Coach Credentialing program to parallel cheer:

- Prerequisite to cheer and dance credentialing is Baseline Certification consisting of:
  - Professional Membership
  - Background check with green light status
  - Cardiac Wise, Heat Wise and Concussion Wise testing
  - Positive Coaching Alliance: Double Goal Coach

- Dance Coach Credentialing confirms that a coach can safely teach skill progressions and technical development for the dancers in their care. In an effort to make Dance Coach Credentialing more accessible to members, it will be completed through an online solution. Credentialing Components:
  - Practical Field Experience verification
    - Confirms a minimum of 75 hours of teaching/coaching dance in at least one of the specialty genres (pom, jazz and/or hip hop)
  - Dance Rules Test
    - Establishes dance rules knowledge and understanding
  - Teaching Skills Assessment
    - Coaches submit a Progression Proficiency video(s) of themselves teaching students in pom, jazz and/or hip hop.
    - An Assessment Team member evaluates teaching proficiency with a focus on the healthy progression of dancers through technical development, whatever the style.
      - Assessment Team and Dance Directors have created aspects of each genre that need to be emphasized for effective and safe pedagogy.
      - Evaluation tool mirrors cheer in its rating system.
    - Assessor and Coach meet by Skype to discuss their video submissions. (to "virtually" mirror the cheer “in-person” credentialing session.
    - Assessor either passes or fails the coach based on review of all of the above criteria.
    - Credentials are valid for three years.

Regional Convention Curriculum

- Emphasis on dance safety and progressions.
- Combined cheer and dance classes for program growth, athlete retention and business smarts.
National All Star Connection

- The USASF rebranded and refocused the NACCC (National AllStar Cheerleading Coaches Congress) to transform to the National All Star Connection as the pathway for coach and owner involvement, contribution and a way to give back to other members of the USASF.
  - Five dance members were added to encourage growth and involvement.
  - Class sessions will be included at all Regional Convention locations.

ADJUDICATION

- Junior bid recipients for The Dance Worlds will be announced March 10th.
- Dance Worlds judges have been selected and in the process of training.
- Dance Worlds will have verbal critiques again. Process will be modified to be copyright compliant.

RULES & SAFETY

- Sarah Miller Bate named Associate Director of Rules & Safety for dance.
- To mirror cheer, an Event Violations Guideline was approved by the Dance Sanctioning Committee and Board of Directors in October, 2016. These are optional guidelines for Event Producers and Legality Officials to use when determining how and when to issue warnings vs. penalties at USASF Sanctioned Events.
- Dance “On Call” Number launched in November, 2016 for Legality questions that arise at Sanctioned Events.
- Developed FAQs that assist event producers with common combining and splitting procedures for Performance Orders and Worlds Bids.
- Hosted the first ever fully online live webinar to certify Dance Legality Officials on October 5th and October 8th 2016.
- Collaborating with Education & Curriculum team on Dance Coach Credentialing Process.
- Collaborating with Education & Curriculum team and Cheer Education team on course development for summer curriculum.
- Preparation and research for 2017-18 Rules Committee Meeting, to be held March 27-28, 2017.
- Collaborating with Karen Wilson (USASF Sr. Regional Director) on a two-part mental health awareness course to be offered at USASF Regional Conventions for coaches that work with 12-18 year olds. Class titles are “A Coach’s Role as the Monitor and Mentor; Helping You Walk the Walk” and “Where There’s Smoke, There’s Fire...Now What?”
- Created Regional Convention classes based on Dance Rules: “Developing and Maximizing the Age Grid/Category/Divisions” and “You Broke It, Let’s Fix It.”
OUTREACH

- Outreach gatherings with USASF member event producers to attract studios and non-USASF programs and introduce them to USASF opportunities, including Worlds.

  Outreach locations:
  - Dayton Beach, FL on January 14, 2017. Event producer host was Darryl Bagby with American Championships.
  - Erie, PA on April 1, 2017. Event producer host Heather Petz & Kim Soder with Champion Cheer Central.
  - Future date TBD for an outreach gathering with Michael Bolden and Amber Koster with EPIC/Champion Spirit Group for the 2017/2018 season. Working on space and best date for both parties.
  - Future date TBD in early planning stages for Dallas, TX outreach gathering. Working closely with Kinshasa Garrett (SW Regional Director for USASF), Keith Green, Summer Moon and Jenny Durbin-Smith. Keith, Summer and Jenny are all Dance Worlds judges and are Dallas locals excited to build the USASF awareness within the studio circuits. Timeline goal for this event will be the Fall of 2017.

- Facilitated the development of marketing materials, promo video clips and PowerPoint presentations for outreach gatherings and sessions. Additional marketing materials in process.

- Continuing to involve and welcome outreach committee members who volunteered at USASF Planning Week in Las Vegas in August, 2016 to assist in studio and non-member outreach in their regions.