

2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT

US Biathlon Association



A Message from our President & CEO

Dear US Biathlon Community,

It has been a real joy to see the national teams, junior and senior, gathering for training in preparation this exciting Olympic season. What a contrast it is to where we all were just a year ago. It's a nice pre-cursor for a season where US Biathlon and Soldier Hollow will host the IBU Youth and Junior World Championships just after our team finishes competing at the Olympic Winter Games in Beijing.

Staying Safe and Still Competing in Pandemic

The pandemic changed nearly everything operationally for all of us. What did not change was the dedication to finding solutions for our athletes to train safely. With the outstanding support of our team physician, Dr. Brett Toresdahl, and helpful guidance from the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee, the staff worked closely with athletes, coaches, and club leaders to navigate changing regulations and finding safe solutions for training. This was no easy task! We all owe a deep debt of gratitude to everyone involved, not the least of which were the athletes who were most affected by the constantly changing regulations and testing requirements.

Globally, the whole biathlon family must thank the International Biathlon Union for the extraordinary efforts put into designing a system which allowed all the World Cup and World Championship, the Youth / Junior World Championships and most of the IBU Cup events to happen under safe conditions. The rules were strict and confining. But our athletes remained healthy for their entire time competing internationally - a huge credit to each of them and to our own team protocols.

Season of Personal Bests

Through it all, many athletes achieved personal bests this season, including Jake Brown's 12th place at the World Championships, medals won on the World Cup by Susan Dunklee and Sean Doherty in the single mixed relay and on the IBU Cup by Maddie Phaneuf. By the end of the season, conditions allowed for the National Championships to be held in West Yellowstone, Mont. with 140 athletes competing from across the country.

Strong National Championships

The strong turnout at US Biathlon National Championships reflects the growth we are seeing across the country in youth memberships, club activity and venue development. All across the country our network of over 30 active clubs are providing training and competition opportunities for more youth athletes than ever before. THANK YOU to each of our club leaders and coaches for your extraordinary dedication and selfless work to make biathlon happen in your community.

Training Partnerships

Dedication to the sport can also be seen in the venue development across the country. Last summer Paul Smith's College opened the first biathlon venue on a college campus and offered scholarships to top junior biathletes who enrolled at the school. It marked a great start to our effort to establish centers where college and biathlon can be pursued together. Fort Kent, Me. has also connected with the local University of Maine campus to offer student athletes a great way to combine biathlon and college.

We were so grateful to the Craftsbury Outdoor Center for adding a paved rollerski track to their new biathlon range and hosted the training for many of our top national team athletes throughout the summer and fall. The extraordinary contribution of the Craftsbury Outdoor Center and its Green Racing Project Team cannot be overstated but what is equally exciting is seeing the further growth their pioneering efforts have sparked. In the last several weeks the CrossCut

Mountain Sports Center has broken ground on a new range at their venue in Bozeman, Montana. If all goes as planned the range and trails will be in use this winter and paving for a rollerski loop will come next spring. New biathlon venues with rollerski loops are also in the planning stages in Wisconsin, a great step forward for biathlon in the Midwest.

World Comes to America

Looking ahead to the events planned this winter we are happy to be hosting the IBU Youth/Junior World Championships at Soldier Hollow in Midway, Utah, exactly twenty years after the venue held wonderful 2002 Olympic Winter Games. This exciting event will draw athletes under age 21 from 40 nations for 10 days of training and competition February 20th to March 2nd. And the IBU has awarded a World Cup to the venue in March of 2024, a great sign of respect for this iconic Olympic venue.

This season the National Championships will be held at the all-new biathlon venue at Lake Placid's Mount Van Hoevenberg. In add addition to the two kilometers of rollerski trails the venue has the most advanced snowmaking system of any Nordic skiing venue in the world, with over 100 snow making guns around the 5 kilometers of trails. The national team has been training on the new venue since May. In June we joined New York's Olympic Regional Development Authority in celebrating this amazing new world class venue. An IBU license inspection is planned in the fall, opening the way for Lake Placid to bid for IBU events in the future. Already the venue is slated to host the 2023 Winter World University Games biathlon events.

Committed Supporters

I am proud of the tremendous commitment that everyone involved in biathlon in America is making to grow the sport. From the board of directors of US Biathlon to the US Biathlon Foundation trustees and hundreds of donors, to the athletes, club leaders, coaches, and officials, I am inspired every day by the unifying desire to see our sport thrive in America and see our athletes succeed on the world stage, healthy and with integrity. I also feel blessed to work shoulder to shoulder with an extraordinary staff led by experienced athletes who have chosen to give back to the sport they love so generations of athletes will enjoy biathlon.

Together we are dedicated to grow biathlon across the snowy regions of our great nation and bring our sport to more athletes and help our coaches to develop their knowledge, experience, and capabilities.

Onward together,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Max Cobb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Max Cobb
President and CEO

A Message from our Board Co-Chairs

Dear US Biathlon Community,

We are happy to bring you our first Annual Report. Enclosed, you'll find a detailed look at the 2020-21 season, an overview of membership, US Biathlon's financial position, and a look at some of the projects completed and ongoing. Looking back, it's been quite the year, and we are happy to have emerged with healthy athletes, an improving financial situation, and an Olympic season on the horizon!

We all moved to a more virtual environment this season, and while we missed getting together for Board meetings and events, we saw increased engagement through our media channels between athletes, fans and donors. Despite the pandemic, membership numbers have stayed relatively steady for US Biathlon. You'll notice in our membership section that Junior and U16 membership improved not only over last year, but over 2018 as well. We were happy to see so many more young people joining our wonderful sport!

Financially, USBA continues to improve our situation. Not only did we have a very successful June 2020 campaign, but we also continued to grow our Foundation - those top donors who contribute especially significantly to the fundraising effort. We now count 17 individuals and families as Foundation Trustees and Ambassadors and continue outreach efforts to grow and engage this group.


Looking ahead, the 2022 Beijing Olympic Winter Games will highlight the season. We know our athletes are training hard, supported by an excellent staff that is committed to the success of US Biathlon. The excitement won't all be overseas, though, as we look forward to hosting the best Junior and Youth athletes in the world at the Youth and Junior World Championships held at Soldier Hollow, Utah in late February. We hope to see you there to watch our youngest talents compete for a spot on the podium on home soil!

We feel strongly that US Biathlon is on the right track and will continue to improve and succeed. We want to thank all of you for being part of our family and continuing to support USBA through the uncertainties of the past year. Onward and upward!

USBA Board of Directors Co-Chairs



William "Bill" Alfond



Robert "Bob" Hall

US Biathlon Mission & Vision

During the 2020-21 season, US Biathlon underwent a strategic planning process that included reworking the Mission and Vision. Together with an athlete working group we created the final version. We proudly present the new Mission and Vision of USBA.





The Mission of US Biathlon is To foster the growth of the biathlon community in the US, develop athletes with integrity and achieve international and Olympic success.

The Vision of US Biathlon is To stand atop the international biathlon stage and be a leading organization for supporting athletes and clubs, prioritizing athlete well-being, and acting with integrity.



US Biathlon World Championships Team 2021



Susan Dunklee
Craftsbury, Vermont



Jake Brown
St. Paul, Minnesota



Clare Egan
Cape Elizabeth, Maine



Sean Doherty
Center Conway, New Hampshire



Deedra Irwin
Pulaski, Wisconsin



Max Durtschi
Ketchum, Idaho



Chloe Levins
Rutland, Vermont



Leif Nordgren
Hinesburg, Vermont



Joanne Reid
Grand Junction, Colorado



Paul Schommer
Appleton, Wisconsin

2020-21 Top Results

World Championships Pokljuka, SLO

12th; Jake Brown; Sprint

18th; Susan Dunklee; Sprint

22nd; Jake Brown; Individual

25th; Jake Brown; Pursuit

25th; Susan Dunklee; Mass Start

27th; Susan Dunklee; Pursuit

29th; Jake Brown; Mass Start

World Cup

3rd; Susan Dunklee & Sean Doherty; Single Mixed Relay; Nove Mesto, CZE

6th; Clare Egan, Joanne Reid, Jake Brown, Leif Nordgren; Mixed Relay; Nove Mesto, CZE

6th; Susan Dunklee, Joanne Reid, Clare Egan, Deedra Irwin; Women's Relay; Nove Mesto, CZE

8th; Susan Dunklee; Sprint Race; Nove Mesto, CZE

8th; Susan Dunklee; Pursuit Race; Nove Mesto, CZE

9th; Clare Egan; Sprint Race; Hochfilzen, AUT

10th; Clare Egan; Sprint Race; Hochfilzen, AUT

IBU Cup

3rd; Maddie Phaneuf; Short Individual Race; Brezno-Osrblie, SVK

4th; Maddie Phaneuf; Sprint Race; Arber, GER

2021-22 National Teams

A Team

Jake Brown, St. Paul, MN

Sean Doherty, Center Conway, NH

Susan Dunklee, Craftsbury, VT

Clare Egan, Cape Elizabeth, ME

Deedra Irwin, Pulaski, WI

Leif Nordgren, Hinesburg, VT

Joanne Reid, Grand Junction, CO

B Team

Max Durtschi, Ketchum, ID

Maddie Phaneuf, Old Forge, NY

Paul Schommer, Appleton, WI

X Team

Vasek Cervenka, Grand Rapids, MN

Chloe Levins, Rutland, VT





Junior Team

Vincent Bonacci; Salt Lake City, UT; Team Crosscut

Wes Campbell; Park City, UT; Team Soldier Hollow

Maxime Germain; Anchorage, AK; Anchorage Biathlon Club

Maja Lapkass; Anchorage, AK; Anchorage Biathlon Club

Lexie Madigan; Truckee, CA; Auburn Ski Club

Sam Stertz; Grand Rapids, MN; Mt. Itasca Biathlon

Bjorn Westervelt; Stowe, VT; Algis Biathlon/UVM

Helen Wilson; Eagle River, AK; Anchorage Biathlon Club/UAA

Cale Woods; Bozeman, MT; Team Crosscut



2020-21 Events

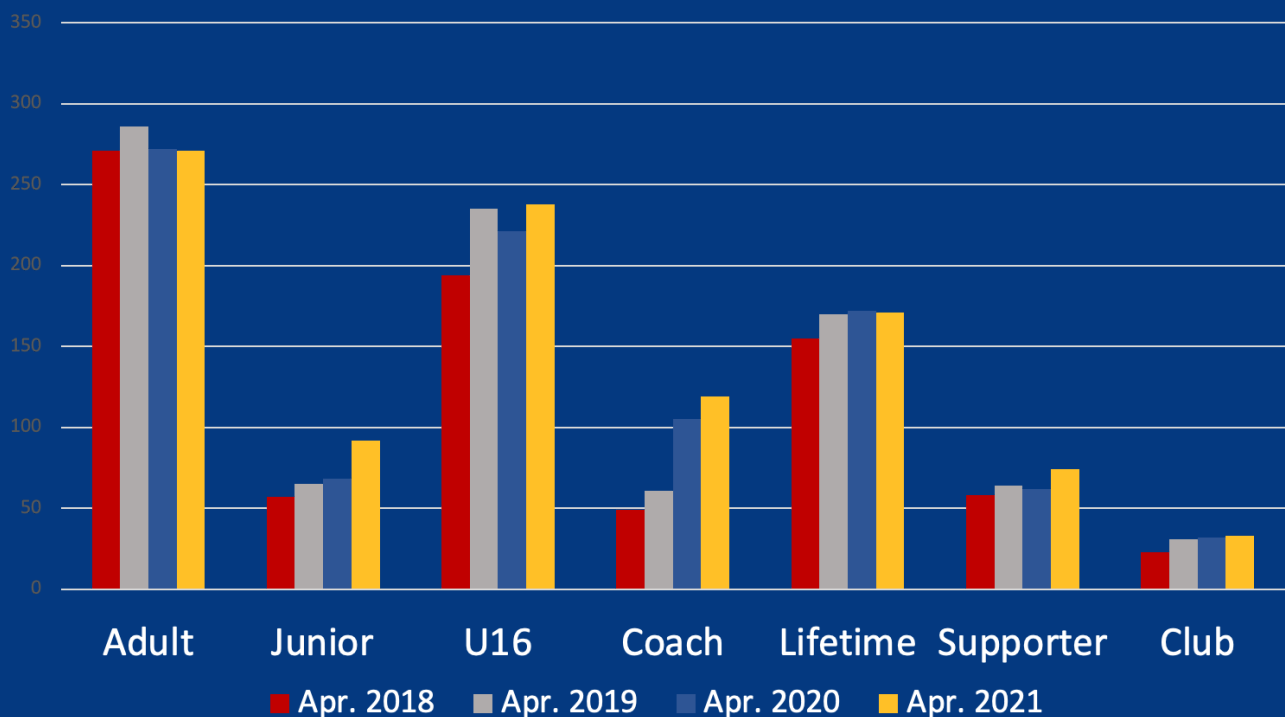
Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, most domestic events were cancelled this season. US Biathlon was proud to be able to hold US National Championships in West Yellowstone, MT at the end of March 2021 with host West Yellowstone Ski Education Foundation. Over 140 competitors joined for three days of racing from all over the US – clubs from Alaska to Maine were represented! Strict Covid protocols kept all competitors, coaches, and volunteers safe, and the event was a great success in the wake of a challenging season.



Membership

Despite the pandemic, US Biathlon membership has remained relatively steady. Importantly, Junior, U16 and Coach level members have increased in FY21, indicating increased participation from our youngest age groups.

Membership Numbers 2018-2021



Our member survey, undertaken in the Spring of 2021, indicated a high satisfaction rate of US Biathlon with members (4.09/5). Members indicated better communication from USBA recently, but also provided helpful suggestions for continued improvements.

USBA Clubs

41 Current Clubs



- Alaska Biathlon Association, Inc.
- Altius
- Anchorage Biathlon Club
- Auburn Ski Club
- Bay Nordic Ski Club
- Biathlon Alaska
- Blackhawk Ski Club
- Bogus Basin Nordic Team
- Casper Mountain Biathlon Club
- Central Maine Biathlon Club
- Colorado Biathlon Club
- Craftsbury Biathlon
- Crested Butte Nordic Team
- Crosscut Mountain Sports
- Duluth Biathlon
- Eastern Sierra Nordic Ski Association
- Ethan Allen Biathlon Club
- Fairbanks Biathlon Club
- Fort Kent Outdoor Center
- Harvard Sportsmen's Club
- McCall Nordic and Biathlon Ski Club
- Methow Valley Biathlon
- Minnesota Biathlon
- Nordic Skiing Assoc. Anchorage
- Northwest Vermont Endurance
- New York Ski Education Foundation
- Paul Smith's Biathlon Club
- Pemi Biathlon
- Pennsylvania Biathlon Club
- Polar Bear Biathlon Club
- Saratoga Biathlon Club
- SBSTA (Sugar Bowl Academy)
- Syracuse Biathlon Club
- Team Soldier Hollow
- Texas Hill Country Mtn. Bike Assoc.
- Unalakleet Nordic Ski Program
- Washington Biathlon Association
- West Yellowstone Ski Education Foundation
- Windsor Biathlon
- Wisconsin Biathlon Association
- Wood River Ability Program

US Biathlon Sponsors & Partners

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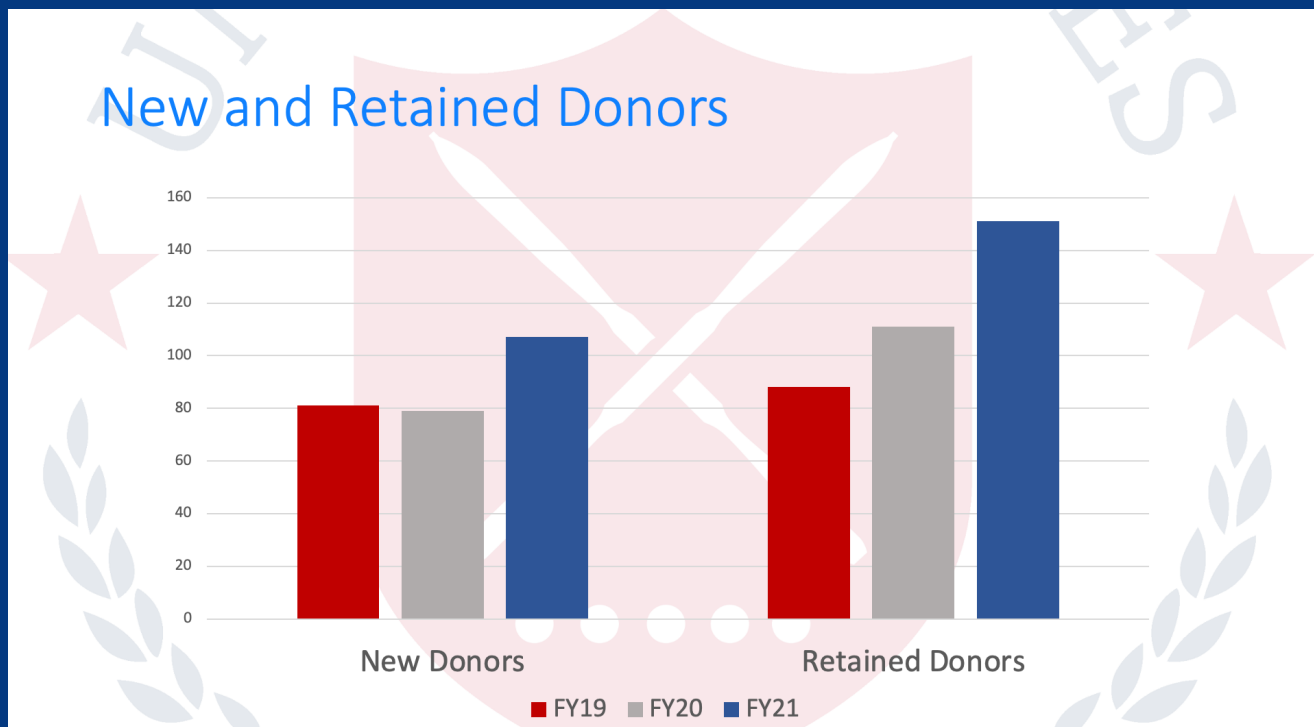

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KOLBERMOOR

Sunlight 



Fundraising

Fundraising remained relatively steady in the 2019-20 season, despite the pandemic. Incredibly, during FY21 we both retained more donors than in previous years AND recruited more first-time donors. Overall, total donors grew by over 30% from FY20 to FY21.



Our June 2021 Fund Drive brought in just over \$57,000 - surpassing our goal of \$42,022. Additionally, we implemented a "Giving Tuesday" campaign that brought in funds to help support our new Need-Based Athlete Support Scholarship. During the 2020-21 season we awarded nearly \$28,000 in aid to athletes.

US Biathlon Foundation

Foundation Members, 2020-21

Bill and Joni Alford

Hap and Sue Brakeley

Bill Burke

Sam Byrne

Peter Cowie & Myriam Loveday

Grady & Lori Durham

Justin & Nancee Gold

Anne & Michael Hall

Bob & Joan Hall

Phyllis Jalbert

Joelle Kayden

Matt LaCasse & Lizzi Ackerman

David Leuschen

Brian Noyes

Dexter & Susan Paine

Ed Plummer & Susan Schnabel

Thomas & Gina Russo

The US Biathlon Foundation raised over \$350,000 in support of US Biathlon, our athletes, and mission. The support of this group is integral to the success of US Biathlon and their ongoing commitment allows us to better plan and depend on resources from year to year.



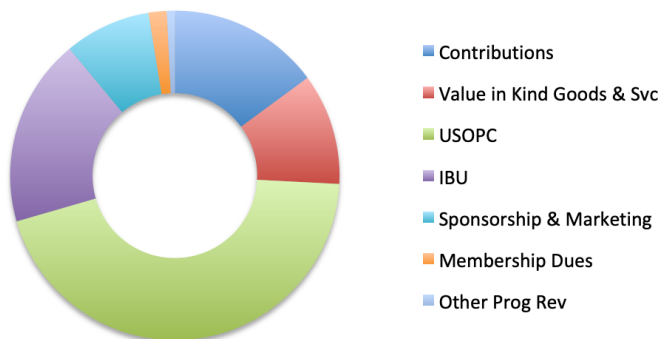
Financial Report

US Biathlon 2019-20 Audited Financials

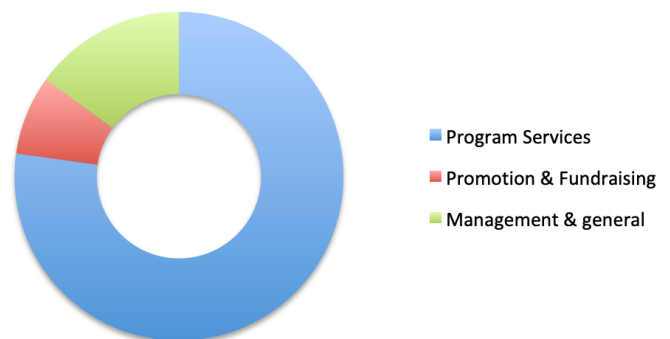
Revenue and Support	2019-20	%
Contributions	\$362,688	15%
Value in Kind	\$265,318	11%
USOPC	\$1,087,601	45%
IBU	\$448,052	18%
Sponsorship & Marketing	\$206,614	8%
Membership Dues	\$43,386	2%
Other Prog. Rev.	\$18,988	1%
TOTAL	\$2,432,647	

Expenses	2019-20	%
Program Services	\$1,906,198	77.2%
Promotion & Fundraising	\$192,694	7.8%
Management & Gen.	\$369,821	15%
TOTAL	\$2,468,713	

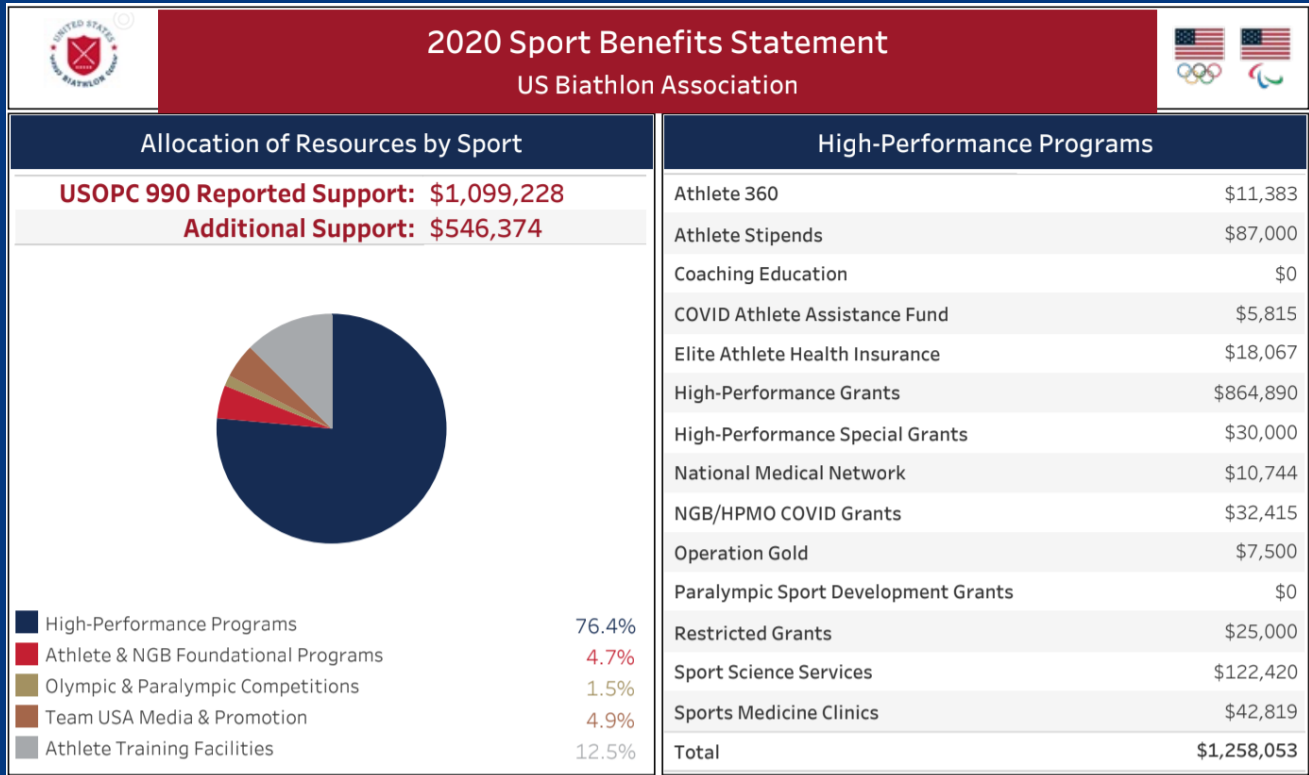
Revenue 2019-20



Expenses 2019-20



USOPC Support Benefit Statement



US Biathlon receives several forms of support from the USOPC. Many forms of support directly benefit our athletes - such as Sports Medicine, Elite Athlete Health Insurance, and Athlete Stipends. This is an overview of this support the USOPC provides to USBA.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

US Biathlon is committed to making our organization an inclusive and safe place for people of all backgrounds and identities. In 2020, we planned to launch an initiative to help increase and support women in coaching and officiating roles within USBA. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we put that initiative on hold and look forward to making progress on this in 2021.



US Biathlon stands with the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee in their commitment to support athletes by advancing athlete advocacy and supporting cultural change to eliminate racism and discrimination. Our US Biathlon staff participates in multiple USOPC led groups including the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion NGB Champions group and Team USA Community Ambassadors.

SafeSport

US Biathlon is committed to the safety of our athletes, in all realms both on and off the field of play. US Biathlon will undergo a SafeSport Event Audit in 2022 and we look forward to working with The US Center for SafeSport to continue making our sport as safe as possible for our young athletes. We thank our community and especially our coaches for remaining diligent and continuing to maintain SafeSport training certification.



MAAPP Update

The new USBA Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) go into effect November 1, 2021. You can find the updated MAAPP on our website. Please reach out to our Athlete Safety Coordinator, USBA Director of Operations Sara Studebaker-Hall, with any questions regarding MAAPP or SafeSport policies and training.

<https://www.teamusa.org/us-biathlon/resources/safesport>

US Biathlon Board of Directors



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Co-Chair



Bob Hall
Co-Chair



Art Stegen
Secretary



Phyllis Jalbert
Treasurer



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Group "B" Member



Hap Brakeley,
Independent



Jake Brown,
Athlete Rep (USOPC AAC)



Sean Doherty,
Athlete Rep



Kelly Kjorlien,
Athlete Rep (USOPC AAC)



Sarah Konrad



Susan Miller,
Independent



Brian Noyes



Dexter Paine
USOPC Board

US Biathlon Staff



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President & CEO



Lowell Bailey
Director of
High Performance



Sara Studebaker-Hall
Director of Operations



Tim Burke
Director of Athlete
Development



Danika Frisbie
Sport Program Manager



Preston Noon
IT & Membership
Manager



Vegard Bitnes
Men's Team Head Coach



Armin Auchentaller
Women's Team Head Coach



Matt Emmons
Shooting Head Coach



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