

**USATF Connecticut**  
**October 11, 2023**  
**Minutes**

Attendance: Bob Fontaine, Morgan Kennedy, Peter Hawley Greg Burnett, Yvonne Grimes, David Fوسفeld, Alan MacDougall, David Driscoll, Sasha Benjamin, Debra Carson, Yolanda McDonald-Wesley, James Barber, Gillian Plummer, Irving Fox, Kevin O'Connell, Deb Petruzzello, Allen Pangilinan

**I. Minutes from September 20, 2023**

Motion to accept                      Jim Barber  
2nded                                      Alan  
Voting was unanimous.

**II. Reports**

- President

Annual Meeting

- Scheduled for Thursday November 30
- Sunday the 3rd in Orlando
- Registration is open and is \$275.00 for on-time registration.
- In a delegation of 10, 3 (33.3%) must be active athletes, and 3 must be coaches. One ten Year athlete is invited
- Association pays for airfare (please book early and look for low fares), hotel, registration, transport to hotel.
- Delegation should plan to arrive Wednesday.
- The Association workshop will be held Wednesday so the President or designee, who is required to attend, must arrive on Tuesday.

You must pay up front and submit receipts for reimbursement.

Please submit registration, airfare, and ground transport as one submission.

Reimbursement for hotel is following the meeting.

Please arrange for flights in a timely fashion.

I cannot build the delegation until you have registered online.

- Yvonne will be the head of delegation
- Alan is likely to plan to attend the Association Meeting
- Yvonne will attend the Association Workshop
- Bob will build a delegation once everyone has registered

I am in the process of doing our annual business filing with the Secretary of State.

Legal update

Sandy Stanfield has pursued the past case alleging wrong doing by the past treasurer Robert Gemeske. A motion of judgement has been filed; this has been settled as recorded (terms in court case) and has been signed by all parties.

This is an election year for our officers. Current Positions open for election:  
Ron Daniel will run the election.

President	Bob Fontaine
1st Vice President	Yvonne Grimes
2nd Vice President	Ron Daniel

3rd Vice President	Brad Overturf
Secretary	Morgan Kennedy
Treasurer	Morgan Kennedy
Membership	Jim Barber

#### Accreditation Status

- Treasurer –
  - As of October 9, 2023
    - Checkbook Balance \$137,790.57
    - Uncashed Checks \$ 880.80 (1 new pending with Irving)
    - Current Reconciled Balance \$136,909.77
  
- Membership - 1985 as of 10/9, 1968 last month
  - Membership Growth Report
    - In the process of ordering materials with USATF logo to use as giveaways. Money from Membership Grant approximately \$1700
    - Report from Deb Carson
    - Need items for giveaway; Bob has purchased minimum order sizes in order to continue support
    - National renews their stipend in January for this (\$500 is projected)
  
- Standing Committees
  - Officials – Glen from CIAC is being sought to get the updated pay schedule. Dan Scavonne is trying to create a subset of officials for High School who are USATF certified. The Officials Annual Meeting is pending the release of the National federation exam (date TBD). Gail Williams has brought 6 new officials into the programs.
  - Sanctions – 92 approved sanctions, 2 for next year. There is a Thanksgiving race which is pending; sanction is submitted but unpaid.
  - Website – There was an issue with Security on the national platform. This has resulted in the requirement to update all user passwords. ~2 Week outage. Peter is trying to get it resolved by reaching out to USATF. The migration to the national platform is about 2 months away. Alan raised the point
  - Masters – (combined with LDR)
  - LDR – The Grand Prix has one more race (Norfolk 10 Miler). Alan will generate the discount codes for sanctions for the next year races based on this years attendance and send to the 2024 races in advance.
  - Cross Country – Racing series is coming up in the coming months; there are two courses in this event series.
  - Youth - Including Youth Summit in Indianapolis October 19-22. The Agenda for this has not been issued yet. Irving will reach out to Robin about this. The JO Meet will be in November. Many of the Youth Meets have been cancelled due to weather and as a result these forecast events should be well attended.
  - Safe Sport – Ron Daniel is in Utah and was not able to attend the meeting
  - Race Walk – Ron Daniel is in Utah and was not able to attend the meeting
  - Mountain, Ultra, Trail – there were 4 MUT races this year; multiple teams attended the races this year. Broadly speaking, trail racing is continuing to become more prominent. Brad and Gillian did a lot of groundwork to establish more inroads on trail organizers; HMF was very receptive.

### III. Old Business

- Potential for indoor youth meet – Floyd Little Athletic Center (New Haven) track won't be available until December 4<sup>th</sup>; after that they will be putting a schedule together. Sasha will hopefully have a schedule for this in NOVEMBER but it is unclear.
- Junior Olympic Cross Country at White Memorial Litchfield – November 12. Dave Driscoll will be helping to coordinate this. Bib numbers are in the mail and the first registrants have already signed up. Outreach to youth teams and clubs has just begun. Age Verification for athletes is needed.
- Progress on Combined Masters/Open Meet with NY and NJ. We are talking about a joint meet based on the numbers of participation. With approximately 150 attendees, it seems like the joint. Deb Petruzzello indicated that a Co-Throws event with another organization at the same point (or around) the nutmeg games time frame to host this. It is suggested the day be split into two halves – masters in the morning and the youth in the afternoon. Middletown High is still in the air for whether they host, as a Hammer Cage is being sought. The issue with finding a hammer cage is that they are very rare outside of college facilities.
- Open/Masters Meet – Outdoor. Manchester HS has a hammer cage. The facility makes the group which is hosting it handle all the mats/items/etc. CCSU may be a candidate. Deb P is going to reach out to Central about this.

### IV. New Business

- Potential Rental of indoor facility for training.
  - This is a new facility; a field house. The use of this would be a few times per week during the winter months. This is a artificial turf, not a track, and other events which are technique based.
  - Separate throw dates? The facility has given tacit approval of it.
  - Members only, meaning training would be sanctioned. We would need to charge non-members.
  - Recommendation to look into locations which have a track.
  - This would give access to North Central CT – Budget number of putting this on is \$500/session at the field house
    - Bethel would rent their indoor for \$150/hr and offers an indoor track
    - Training with Medicine Ball for throws (and sprint and jump work) can be done on fields without a track; the important thing is access to people. (This is FLAC)
    - Use of Shoulder hours in the day to accommodate athletes who can set their own schedules can be done to help control costs.
  - The idea of surveying membership to see if this would bring value to the membership or putting on a clinic would be a good gauge of how much interest is out there.
  - Deb Carson will check out the facility in Windsor (Day Hill Dome)
  - Bethel is presently booking up during the week, has limited weekend hours.
  - Deb will come up with a 'coming soon' or 'show your interest' message.
  - Practices/Clinics/
- Ratification of our Bylaws
  - Motion made to accept this by Alan, seconded by Sasha, vote was unanimous to
- Potential for Open/Master's Meet at the same time as JO meet. By providing a schedule of times for events, we can set expectations with older athletes to avoid it feeling like an unnecessarily long wait.
- Updates on

**V. Next meeting is our Annual meeting on November 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**

**Election of Officers** for 2-year term. Committee Chairs appointed by the president and ratified by membership at the November meeting.

Nominations:

2 <sup>nd</sup> VP:	Ron Daniel (is incumbent)	
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP:	Gillian Plummer (incumbent is not running) (WITHDRAWN, 2 <sup>ND</sup> VP)	
Membership Officer:	Deb Carson (incumbent is not running)	<i>Elected to Position</i>
President:	Yolanda	<i>Elected to Position</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> VP:	Greg (incumbent is not running)	<i>Elected to Position</i>
President:	Bob Fontaine (incumbent)	(WITHDRAWN)
Treasurer:	Irving Fox (incumbent is not running)	(WITHDRAWN)
Secretary:	Alan MacDougall	<i>Elected to Position</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP:	James Barber	<i>Elected to Position</i>
Treasurer:	Bob Fontaine	<i>Elected to Position</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP:	Sasha Benjamin	
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP:	Gillian Plummer	<i>Elected to Position</i>

**Future Business:**

**Bob Fontaine to remain as point of contact between the legal team sorting out the remaining details with the former treasurer Bob Gemeske**

**Bob Fontaine and Dave Driscoll will continue coordinating JO meet**

**New Officers, as Elected on 10/11/2023**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Yolanda McDonald-Wesley</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> VP:</b>	<b>Greg Burnett</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> VP:</b>	<b>Gillian Plummer</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> VP:</b>	<b>James Barber</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Alan MacDougall</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Bob Fontaine</b>
<b>Membership Officer:</b>	<b>Deb Carson</b>

**Motion to adjourn: Greg**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Morgan**

**Motion carried**