

USATF Board Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2016

In attendance: Bob Fontaine, Peter Hawley, Will Graustein, Deb Petruzzello, Brad Overturf, Jim Barber, Patrick Byrne, Bob Gemske, Nathan Kucera, Major Ruth, Alan MacDougall, Billy Barone

Quorum verified, minutes from 1/19/16 accepted

Lydia Tilsley has resigned as Women's Track and Field chair

- We are looking for a Masters, Women's, and Men's Track and Field chairs to work together, to bring support/promote track and field in CT (Deb Petruzzello is serving as Masters Track and Field chair)
- Responsibilities broadly include finding meet locations, advertising/promoting, sanctions, etc., Yvonne would provide officials

Reports:

President's Report: Expectations and Opportunities with National office; USATF-CT Association opportunities

- Looking for Association to develop goals, and develop strategic plan to meet them.
 - Survey membership might be help provide information – National office could assist
 - Alan MacDougall offered services as he regularly works with surveys
- Funds and National Office
 - New USATF CEO has brought a lot of \$ into Association - so additional funds available
 - Association grants – National office is offering associations a grant if association can come up with one time programmatic way to grow membership (duration of program cannot be ongoing).. Application is paperwork intensive, but offers up to \$2k in funds.
 - Marketing materials – Nationals providing up to \$500 marketing materials
 - May provide \$500 for club organizations to recruit for clubs
 - An individual can be part of a club team and not a USATF member
 - Question on the floor/take-away question – if a member of the club, but not a USATF member, what is the liability for the club?
- National will no longer provide plaques (next year cash)
- Opportunities for CT Association:
 - Through Clell Wade the National Office can, on our behalf, pass on list of all coaches
 - Athlete Biz
 - Run, Jump, Throw

Treasurer's Report: \$65,000 in account, with 2 more people to reimburse for convention and all Road Race deposits in except HMF (HMF only sent in \$250).

- Balance is down \$5k, some membership in to offset (lowest time of year)
- Multi-year enrollment makes budgeting hard

Membership Report: Current have 1,100 members (last year ended at 2,700 members – the highest number in years)

- Jim will follow-up with Club teams, clubs have been responsive (only 2 club teams waiting on Safesport certifications)

* National office put out list of everyone certified, not listing by association - inefficient

STANDING COMMITTEES

Officials:

- Cannot officiate CIAC Indoor Meets if team is competing
- Full slate of officials of Indoor HS Championships
- USATF purchased shirts for officials, with CIAC and private donor also chipping in

Sanctions:

- On pace with last year
- Increase in computerized
- Strong point for CT association

Website:

- Up and running, lots of favorable feedback
- Patrick could use stories (usatf ct - can send a link, anything)
- Bob suggested Patrick send out reminder about looking for content
- Social media increasing
- Athlete of the Month nomination (send out reminder)
 - Feb = top male and female in Marathon trials
- Idea - look into running stores giving discounts, and publicizing

LDR:

- **Motion was made and passed approving the changes in CUP scoring and prize money distribution** (\$500 first place coed team consisting of top 3 men and top 3 women; \$300 second place coed team consisting of top 3 men and top 3 women. Top men's team to receive cup; Top woman's team to receive cup). Will try new scoring and prize money distribution for the 2016 CUP race (Ocean Beach John Kelly 11.6 mile Run, 8/6/16) and review after.
- LDR working to implement 3 free races to give benefit to LDR USATF members – including a road race, a trail/mountain race, and a cross country race, in varying parts of State. Non-member cost to participate is USATF membership form/registration.

Racewalk: Nothing to Report

Youth Track and Field: Indoor meet had higher participation than expected, 127 LJ athletes – minimized to 2 jumps; Coach O registration system no longer has contract with USATF - USATF now goes with Athletics.net which involves learning curve (only youth), CT Youth will use Athletics.net for age verification

- If parent has question on age verification, goes to Jim

Masters/Open Track and Field: Indoor meet had more preregistered than attended; Not having weight throw negatively affected; Ran out of gold medals, Joyce Baiardi said she'd take care of medals moving forward.

- Discussion ensued on expectations/objects - around growing the sport
- Team aspect (relay) - 4x800 for clubs, possible for prize money
- June 4th Bethel outdoor track meet
 - Middletown as a possible venue, but they put equipment away and we'd have to take it back out.
 - Hammer gate where discus set up - Bob will speak to AD
- Ideas:
 - Throws stand-alone event
 - Combine youth and open track, to save funds

MUT: Brad Overturf has gotten MUD off to a good start, contacting the Chairman of Nationals for advice on getting started, such as the need to start working with quality races (Bluff Point near Mystic will be 50k championships); Jerry is working on 100 mile race from MA boarder to Long Island sound

Action Item:

* Patrick to put Cup scoring change on the website

* Bob Fontaine to follow up with Middletown AD on putting up Hammer gate where discus set up

Old Business

- Convention
 - Advertise
 - Possibly work to build bridge for joint meets with NE Association - challenge is both NE and CT associations would have to approve
- Outdoor Masters - not wed to Bethel location but price is appealing
- JO meet - contact Bill Dixon, possibly rotate the location (2 years in one state)

New Business

- Committee goals - Bob will reach out to Committees (how to encourage growth)
- National is pushing Associations to adopt Code of Ethics (including changing bylaws). CT Association is looking to adopt something similar to Article 21 from another state bylaws, requiring disclosure of possible conflict of interest. Executive Board can allow

conflict with 60% approval, noting most cases benefit to organization (such as Board member charging less than if external vendor might charge)

- To enact, Patrick to publish on website to communicate with membership, 30 day wait period, then voted upon by Executive Committee
- **Motion passed for the Codes of Ethics to be integrated by process presented.**

New Meeting: Wednesday, April 13th