

**USATF Connecticut  
Special Meeting July15, 2020  
Minutes**

Attendance: Bob Fontaine, Peter Hawley, Bill Mongovan, Deb Petruzzello, Jim Barber,  
Alan MacDougal, Ron Daniel, Maryanne Daniel, Dave Driscoll, Yvonne Grimes

**Meeting called to order at 7:10pm**

- I. Approval of Minutes from April 20, 2020 –
  - a. Jim moved to approve, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, vote passed.
  
- II. Reports
  - President
    - Clock for Race Walk was purchased and received. Being cared for by the Daniel's. Cost was \$ 1,233.00 a good deal as it included tax and shipping.
      - Ron reports this worked very well for the Race Walk event.
      - Bob reports we received a very good deal on this compared to list price.
    - COVID 19 update – National office has comprehensive information on their website for all aspects of our sport. There has been no decision made relating to the fall season including Cross Country.
      - The association is handling this very proactively and has excellent teams reviewing this.
      - We will likely see a cancellation of significant fall events. Alan reports that the state may open to races of <500 people, however that seems unlikely.
      - There is a group seeking to sanction a race, we are encouraging them to move forward with the sanction + a safety plan to see how national office responds.
      - Yvonne is on the CIAC COVID Committee
    - Vin Lananna's Listening Tour
      - Looking for a reason why someone would be a member of USATF.
      - Sanctioning makes sense for racing
      - Older officials are in "at risk" category, there is likely no benefit USATF provides that outweighs the risks.
      - Hartbeat track meets are using marshals to make sure people are maintaining social distance in the stands and bathrooms, in addition to smaller heat sizes.
    - Webinars on USATF Connect as well as tutorial videos.
    - USATF Connecticut has a Zoom License through National
    - Zoom Meetings and online elections. (Ours are in 2021)
      - We have a 1 year Zoom license. Bob purchased it for \$100.
    - Annual meeting in Reno – No decision has been made.
      - This may be a video series.

- We need our chairs to be Safe Sport'ed, background checked, and current members.
  - All Officers and Committee Chairs must be safe sport compliant and have a current background check. You Profile in USATF Connect lets you know if you are current and links to resolve issues.
    - Ron Daniel is our association Safe Sport coordinator
    - Ron needs access to the Safe Sport completion records in order to ensure we are complying properly.
      - Yvonne & Bob may be able to assist with this as well.
      - Ron has accessed the full list, but it is not isolated to our association and it does not identify the roles of individuals on it, so sorting or filtering the list is impossible.
    - Only 43 of our officials are currently complying with all requirements.
  - Youth Club Affiliations – not all youth club designations came over correctly when they transferred profiles into the new database.
    - This happened when National Office migrated their old database to the new one.
    - Age verifications we pulled over.
    - Citizenship records were incomplete in the database migration.
      - This is also prompting questions about where this information is stored and if it is safe.
  - Some club renewals are pending our approval. Many are missing safe sport for one or more coaches listed on club profile.
  - Our Association Accreditation will be based on last year's data. Adjustments will be made to reflect the impact of the pandemic for the next round of accreditation.
- Treasurer
  - Checkbook Balance as of 7/14/20   \$87,524.70
  - Uncashed checks                         \$ -80.00
  - Reconciled balance as of 7/14/20   \$ 87,444.87
  - *Should we keep everything in a standard checking account?*
    - We will revisit the idea of keeping some funds in an interest bearing account and other funds in our operating account.
- Membership 1557 as July 14 (681 adults and 876 youth)
  - Last Year in May we had 1844 and September 2377
  - We had 9 new athletes in April, 8 transferred to another Association in May, and 0 new athletes in June.
  - Membership fees did increase to \$25.00 for Youth and \$40.00 for Adult
    - Jim Barber needs access to this data and to modify it to continue to do his duty as membership chair.
    - Bob Fontaine will help with membership administration while Jim is undergoing fixes to his position.
    - They did raise membership fees recently.
- Standing Committees

## Officials

43 Officials are up to speed.

Wesleyan and NESAC have cancelled all fall sports

## Sanctions

No new sanctions have been issued since March.

- We can only sanction races the meet guidelines. We are awaiting a response from the team at Hartbeat to see their race plans for a recent sanction question.

## Website

- We are currently doing some process improvements to get more information to people checking the association for

## Masters

- Question about virtual meet possibility: Deb is going to explore this for Master's athletes. Bob Fontaine has suggest Athletic.net as a resource for putting together results.
- Deb is hoping to put a suite of events together, hammer currently presents a challenge.

## Open/Masters LDR

- Looking into a virtual event for the road championship. The course influences the time, so access to faster courses would compromise equality in competition.
- Alan has brought up some common guidelines that may make this possible; they include no net negative elevation, athlete decision of course and time they run, and a public posting place for results.
- Discussion of where is safe to run: Should we recommend one of the many the Rail Trail as a safe recommendation? Or does recommending anything invite liability if there an issue occurs. Perhaps leaving it to race directors to figure out structuring the virtual events?
- We would distribute prize money a la Grand Prix race.
- There was a vote to spend \$1,250 to fund a virtual championship for the virtual New Haven 20k.

## Safe Sport

### Race Walk

- There was a socially distant race walk held. Maryanne reports that they did an age graded result to see where participants ranked nationally as well.
- Age graded results add depth to data sets of the necessarily small numbers of participants

### Cross Country – Status of a Chairperson?

- We have not had a conversation on this yet, and have tabled this for future discussion.
- Dave reports that Stratton Brook HS Race is still on for September

## Mountain, Ultra, Trail

### Youth

- Bill reports that the national youth chair has been replaced, as well as the representative on the board of directors.
- There was a virtual meet July 1<sup>st</sup>, it took a lot of coordination to get off the ground.

- Bill does not see any teams being willing to quarantine for two weeks to participate in interstate competition, so it is likely that any championships would be cancelled.
- AAU has a meet in Nevada.

### III. Old Business

#### USATF Connect 80.

Please ensure that you have retrieved your information using your membership number and password. Once you complete that step, you can log in using your email and password at the following link: <https://usatf.sport80.com/login>

I have found the new platform to have great potential with a rather large learning curve.

### IV. New Business

- Yvonne has made it into the federation hall of fame.
- Bill received a rule book from the weights and measures is confusing
- Ron is looking into which background check is the proper background check for completing Safe Sport.

The Next Meeting is the Second Wednesday in September. The date will be:  
SEPTEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020