

Houston USATF Reports from Representatives of  
Sports Committees, Administration Committees and  
Delegates

Compiled by Irene Herman, Delegation Chair

December 2-6, 2015

All Delegates have reported.

Thank you .

# 2015 USATF Annual Meeting Report

**Dave Shrock - National Associations Vice Chair, Pacific Association President & Coaches Chair**

**Pacific Association earned Bronze designation once again**

## **Masters T&F:**

**Tom Bernhard**- Men's Road Runner of the year for age 60-64

**Ed Burke** - Men's Field event athlete of the year in his age group

**Irene Obera** – Women's Track athlete of the year (*second year in a row!*)

## **Cross Country Council:**

Pacific was awarded for meritorious contributions through-out the years

## **Associations:**

**Irene Herman** was awarded the Horace Crow Award for contributions

Irene was also invited by President Hightower to take over the chairperson role of the Committee for Diversity and Leadership Development effective January, 2016

**Bob Thompson** was awarded the Volunteer of Service Award for the Pacific Association for researching and creating a collegiate-high school facility database

**Association Accreditation:** At the 2015 Annual Meeting of the 57 associations, two remain suspended (*Alaska and Wyoming*), while nine are on probation pending completion of plans for improvement to meet shortfalls of the nine accreditation standards.

**Accreditation Sub-Committee moved to Association Committee:** General membership approved the move of the Associations Accreditation Sub-Committee from the Organizational Services Committee.

**Coaches Education Accreditation Standard Requirement Dropped:** By consensual agreement of both Associations and Coaches Education Committees, associations no longer need to host a Level 1 School each quadrennium to remain accredited. The rationale was that the Level 1 product has matured enough that it no longer needs a mandatory requirement.

**Association Workshop:** By a majority vote of the Associations Committee, the one day Workshop previously held each August around the nation has been moved to the day before opening session for a two year trial. This was the first year at the Houston Annual Meeting, and attendance increased by eighteen association officers, pushing attendance to over 160. The concern was that the move could impinge on the Youth workshop and Coaching Education Podium Education Project also held on the day before the opening session.

After next year's Orlando Annual Meeting, the committee will vote to either continue the day before format, or return to a separate meeting.

The Association's Committee was the beneficiary of increased funding like many other committees, and has developed the following strategies of allocation funds with the following programs. Contact the Association office, Dave, Irene, or Charlotte to take advantage of these programs:

**Association Marketing Grant:** Each association is eligible for \$500.00 for marketing items such as tents, banners, feathers, photo backdrops, etc. National will contact each association in 2016 with a catalog of items each can choose from.

**Association Development Grants:** For many years up to \$25,000 has been awarded to multiple associations in \$1500-2000 increments to grow membership or improve members services. Grants include emerging elite athlete support, youth hammer camps, and Cross or T&F Grand Prix Series development. Applications are due by July for consideration for the coming year.

For 2016 Jere' Summers and the Athletes' Committee was awarded \$1500 to grow emerging elite membership.

**Association Excellence Awards:** Beginning in 2016 associations who meet all nine accreditation standards and excel further will be given monetary awards instead of gold-silver-bronze designations. A workgroup has been formed to determine how to distribute the \$25,000 to top associations which will be used by the associations to further develop programs.

**Planning ahead:** 2016 Annual Meeting will be Wed, 30 November-Sunday, 4 December and held at Orlando's Hilton at Disney World.

## **Athletes Chair Annual Meeting Report**

From what I saw, the two greatest topics of the meeting were the Revenue Distribution Plan and the Elite Athlete Mentoring Program I hope we all can take advantage of these opportunities in the near future.

### **USATF Revenue Distribution Plan**

Will deliver an additional \$9 million in cash to athletes over the next five years.

Get more information here: <http://www.usatf.org/News/USATF,-Athletes-agree-on-Revenue-Distribution-Mode.aspx>

### **Elite Athlete Mentoring Program**

Elite Optimization Services, New York, NY

Presented by Bill Shelton, Member, USATF, Board of Directors

- Athletes focused mentorship
- Diagnostic tools
- Career coaches
- Sports Psychologists
- Available to elite athletes as defined by the USATF
- Will increase involvement in increments (Piloting, ETA 2016)
- Will have junior and a senior mentor
- Career development based on athletes needs and interests
- Partner with large and small companies to provide jobs or paid internships
- “off-cycle externships”
- Contact Kimberley Simms with interest

### **USOC Athlete Career and Education Program**

Presented by Leslie Klein and Terris Tiller

- Jobs/ Careers
  - Resume assistance
  - Skill development
- Education (DeVry)
  - In-state Tuition Certification (currently in Colorado and California)
- Mentorship
  - ACE Mentor Network, video sessions with mentors
- Job placement services
  - Dicks Sporting Goods \$20/hr
  - 24 Hour Fitness

- Four Career Coaches
  - USOC
    - Terris Tiller
    - Jan Wilson
  - Adecco
    - Angel Bovee
    - Veronica Day
- Register at [www.teamusa.org/ACE](http://www.teamusa.org/ACE)

### **United State of America Doping Agency (USADA)**

Presented by Molly Tomlonovic Director of Anti-Doping Operations and Education and Tammy Hanson, Education Manager

- Russia has been suspended from Olympic competition
- USA athletes want to see more blood testing
  - USADA explained that it costs a lot more money.

### **Athlete Biz**

Presented by Jack Wickens

#### **Athletebiz.com**

A site where athletes can create their own web pages using templates provided for free. Athletebiz.com will also manage them for free.

### **Athletes for Hope**

Presented by Chris Wyttenbach

<http://www.athletesforhope.org/>

Connects athletes to volunteer opportunities where ever you may be, at home and on the road.

While attending the USATF annual meetings I attended the Opening and Closing Meetings, two of the AAC meetings, the standards meeting, and many LDR meetings. I learned a lot about how the USATF runs and more importantly a lot about all the moving pieces underneath the USATF umbrella.

At the opening meeting I was impressed to find out a lot about the in and outs of the organizations plans for gaining membership, revenue, and overall attention for the sport of Track and Field. Getting an inside look at all the entities USATF must serve gave me a different perspective than I previously had. Understanding priorities and overall direction of the organization helped me understand how/why the attention and resources to the athletes are distributed along with the meets that are prioritized and funded.

As a young athlete attending the AAC meetings was valuable to see the leadership that exists for us. There are great resources available but I feel as if we are not told or enlightened about what they truly can bring to the table. Overall the athletes are served well but there is a big break in communication to spread the word about these resources. I was fascinated to learn about the opportunities to grow a career outside of athletics while still competing.

I was always very interested in learning how the standards were decided upon leading up to championships so sitting through the planning meeting was very valuable for me. I finally understand the goals of the standards committee and why marks are set the way they are. Seeing that the goal is to get about 70% in with the A standard then finish the field with descending order makes me understand why times have been the set the way they were over the past few years competing. This part of the process was always frustrating as standards were changing and it was hard to guess what would stick from year to year.

Finally the LDR meetings were eye opening as well. LDR encompasses a vast array of runners and what they are running for. As a large group however many goals are seeking to be met with one overall budget. This is a big part I don't fully understand (overall financing and prioritizing funds) but was intrigued to learn about. I learned a lot about the one of the more niche areas of LDR, MUTT and how they work. Continuing to learn about the sport is fun and exciting and seeing the areas that need work gives me an idea of what running a "company" must be like.

Overall during my time I was just trying to attend meetings and find out as much as I could about the behind the scenes of how complex our sport is. Seeing where the money comes from, learning about the ideas to grow and popularize the sport, and talking to different "shareholders" given the complexity of the organization was an enlightening experience. I took away a lot more about the logistics than I had previously known. Knowing that a lot of this sport comes true because of volunteers I was amazed to see the turn out of people who want this to continue to grow and just genuinely want to see athletes grow and preform at any level.

Thank you,  
Dylan Ferris  
B.S. Product Design Stanford 2013

## 2015 USATF ANNUAL MEETING

Hyatt Regency Houston

Houston, Texas

December 1-6, 2015

- The Youth Conference is a great opportunity to ask questions about USATF youth programs to administrators involved in those programs around the states. The youth conference is still under construction and is being developed to be a powerful tool for those involved with youth.

2016 Indoor Youth National Championships: Staten Island, NY

2016 Outdoor Youth National Championships: Clovis, CA

2016 T&F National Junior Olympics: Sacramento, CA

2016 Cross Country National Junior Olympics: Hoover, AL

2017 T&F National Junior Olympics: Lawrence, KS

2017 Cross Country National Junior Olympics: OPEN (The Florida Association bid for this meet was not accepted)

- In 2015 the clerking process was changed for national youth competitions. All athlete's are checked-in using barcode scanners. The scanning process provides time-stamp information on when each athlete reports. This process will continue to be used in 2016. Athletes MUST report to check-in on-time and ready to race. Late arrivals at check-in will not be allowed to compete.
- In 2016 USATF will begin to use MeetPro as meet management software for youth championships and qualifiers. This change will save money for associations as Meet Pro costs \$200/year for installation on up to 5-computers. There are no charges for updates or fixes during the license period. The license allows the MeetPro software to be used for all levels of competition: youth, high-school, collegiate, open.
- Partnership with Hershey's for the Youth Nationals (Indoor and Outdoor) has been successful. The 2015 Hershey Youth Indoor Championships was the largest ever with over 3500 athletes participating. 20 national records were broken at the Hershey Youth Outdoor Championships. The 2015 Youth World qualifier was held in conjunction with this meet. 49 US athletes were sent to the World Youth Championships in Cali, Colombia, earning 19 medals on the trip.
- The FutureStars program will continue at all national youth meets. The program provides interactive fun for young attendees with face-painting, scavenger hunts, DJ, dancing and pull-up competitions.
- The Jesse Owens Banquet was a great disappointment and a short program. It was nice to see people dressed for a formal event. Some were dressed for the occasion yet others were not.
- Closing ceremony was confusing. The association's plans during caucus did not transpire.

*Charlotte Sneed*

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Youth Chair

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**Subject:** 2015 Annual Convention Review

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**From:** Sample, Deborah (DSample@wccusd.net)

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**To:** HEIKEMANSOOR@aol.com; iherman49@yahoo.com;

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**Date:** Monday, December 7, 2015 4:54 PM

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This year there wasn't a High School Coaches Meeting. The meeting for the High School was combined with the Coaches Association Meeting.

In 2016 the Mark Springer Grant will be posted on-line and will be reviewed by the National office. 18 associations received the Mark Springer grant in 2015.

The National Championship will be open for bid until the deadline which is February 29, 2017. Associations must have given a championship meet before that are allowed to bid.

Code of Conduct for Parents and Athletes. The code of conduct will be e-mailed out to the associations so that there is a discussion and to be voted upon.

If a high school athlete makes the qualifying standards in an event, they will be allowed to compete at the Olympic Trials.

For an athlete competing for the Junior Worlds ages 16 to 19, the 19 years old cannot turn 20 in the same year.

The person/s who volunteers at a youth track meet on the day of the meet, do not have to have had safe sports and background checks. On the same day that they are going to volunteer.

It was tabled in reference to the Aero Javelin to be re-visited in 2016 annual meeting. It was asked if the 11-12 years old to be able to throw the Aero Javelin. The Flynn Javelin will be addressed in 2017.

Lionel Leach feels that no one committee shall and cannot do any changes without them coming to the other committees first.

As for the Coaches Meeting.

There are over 600 members of the coaches registry. There will be a grant to help coaches shadow a National coach at the Olympic Trials. Grants for top performance, transportation, room and board @ the IAAF championships.

An Athlete Store has been created for those who would like to help an athlete. This store will be under an athlete's name and when you go on this site and purchase an item, the athlete will get a part of the proceeds.

Coaches education: Every coach will get a book called "Coaches Essential", January 1<sup>st</sup> will be the launch of the new book. Recertification for level one everyone who has a level one must re-certify if they have had their level one prior to 2012. In order to stay on the coaches list recertification must be

done by 2016

Overall view of this year's convention, was kind of disappointing, reason is that they held the Inductee ceremony in New York and not at the Jesse Owens Banquet. There were empty tables and a waste of food.

No dance afterward, everyone just got up and left after it was over.

That is my report,

Deborah Sample

Youth Track and Field Chair



## USATF CONVENTION REPORT - December 2015 - HOUSTON

### WEDNESDAY: ASSOCIATIONS

Communications/Media - Know your audience; Who, What, Why; concise; important stuff at top; pictures; stories from across levels of Association; example - Run, Jump, Throw [Southern California].

Recruitment - Event volunteer [where from]; training["They are the ambassadors for the event"]; Association position; Hand written Thank you; How get background check?; Use of social media; Interns. \*A hanging sheet with logo on it, for winners to stand in front of at youth meets[kids send out on social media]

Surveys - Monkey Design vs Google Forms; 1 page, logo, 10-15 questions, 6-8 better, multiple choice. Good response rate 55%.

Club Involvement - Talk to coaches[schedules, creative scoring, different events]; Discount for members; \*Support post-collegiate/unattached athlete[clubs listed on website]; USATF VS AAU; \*\*SAFESPORT lasts through next Olympiad; membership - 1,2,3,4 years; MeetPro - NO more[How affect finish line, Direct [athletics.com](http://athletics.com).]; Clubs must have all screening approved by Association by 12/15; Grants; change from plaques to \$\$ for awards;

Sanctions -

### THURSDAY

Youth - Specification for AeroJav; Rule Review/amendments; new representative to L & L; statement on Board of Directors situation; Conflicts with AAU;

Facilities - Problem implements - old javs; more in indoor meets and combine; Rule changes; Goals for 2016; 2 newsletters; New Business[new measurement devices for high school level].

Opening Ceremonies

### FRIDAY

Officials - Board of Directors' Rep. characteristics; IAFF compliance; minutes M/S/P; Chair Awards; Certification report M/S/P; Treasurer Report M/S/P; Training Committee Report - clinics; President Report - # of protests Indoor/Outdoor, Selection, SuperSport[CD], Newsletter, BestPractices, Awards, LOTUS GRANT, L & L, Shelby Sharp, Mike Armstrong proposal, IAFF - David Katz, World Indoor, \*What is a torso?[new definition], logo; 2016 Elections-Chair, Vice Chair, Sec., Treasurer.

Conflict Resolution - National Board of Review; Each Association should have bylaws for Conflict Resolutions; Have a Grievance Committee setup; presentation of grievance procedure and requirements; Ethics Committee-description.

Officials' Clinic - Meet Coordinators Planning; Presentation of duties for Meet Coordinators of Big and smaller meets by three officials different parts of the country; Duties- PreSeason, PreMeet, Meet Day, Post Meet/Season [stipend, personal thank you, % of no shows, SAFETY, Media, weather].

West Associations - Volunteer Recognition; check local colleges for interns; SWOT; \$ available for Convention; Marketing kits; Club Counsel funds \$; New USATF Platform; new email system.

### SATURDAY

Awards Breakfast

Officials' Clinic -Referee Situations - group discussion and solving of actual situations/protests

Officials' Clinic - Combined Events - Duties of Coordinator at all level of events; PreMeet, Meet, End of Meet Duties.

Officials' Meeting - Vote on 3 Board of Directors nominees; 2 points to insurance policy; Tax Liability; Background checks; Rules; Shirt; Foundation, Appeals; 55/57 Associations approved. L & L ; Meet announcements.

### SUNDAY

Closing Meeting - final reports. Closed in record time. No vote.

2015 USATF Annual Meeting Report  
Dena Evans - Women's Track & Field

I was glad to be in attendance representing the PA this year after an absence from this event for several years. One encouraging development during that time appears to be the increasingly active and vocal participation of current elite athletes, both in the AAC meetings as well as in other contexts. Throughout the meetings I attended, I noted a great deal of effort toward cooperation and consensus, which has not always been easy to come by.

- Those in attendance at the Women's Track & Field meetings voted unanimously to support the changes proposed and adopted in the legislative package presented on the final day.
- 2016 Indoor Championships and Olympic Trials standards were proposed and adopted.
- Breakout presentations with Q/A were made by Rose Monday and LaTanya Sheffield on development opportunities, particularly health care, as well as Anne Timmons on her work and new position at the IAAF, while opening for discussion the topics of women's decathlon and a change from 3K/5K to 5K/10K for women at the World Junior Championships.
- Both in Women's T&F, as well as at the High Performance and Development meetings, the tiering system and development tier below were discussed in great detail. Anyone with an athlete who has met an Olympic/ World standard, but is not tiered, is encouraged to reach out to their event area's development chair to seek inclusion in development funding for the upcoming outdoor season.
- Data mined by staff at USATF strongly supports the idea that Tier I and II athletes represent the best investment return for dollars spent (with major medals as the criteria through which success is judged). USATF recognizes that there is a value in supporting the lower tier and development athletes, but is acknowledging that relatively few athletes who enter the system at the lower tiers actually end up progressing to the top level.
- The successful rookie camp for top graduating athletes (to learn about professionalism, financial planning, etc), has spawned a pre-rookie camp for rising seniors, a development which has been favorably received across the board.
- (LDR related) The ADP funding was brought up as a part of road race championship travel funding - info for this is available on the PAUSATF website and athletes in this category should not hesitate to seek this funding assistance for travel to championships such as the CVS 5K, the USATF road mile championships, the Twin Cities 10 Miler, and the Tufts 10K.
- (Cross Country related) The cross country council voted to support gender parity in distances for upcoming USA championships, reflective on the IAAF decision to make both men's and women's world championship distances 10,000m. Subsequently at the council's meeting at the club national championships, a discussion was held about the merits of this distance when the qualifying is for a competition with a different distance in non-world championship years. TBD on that issue, but the trend is for gender parity, based on the responses of many of the athletes surveyed and the members in the room.

- (HP/ LDR related) Robert Chapman gave a very detailed presentation on the effects/ realized benefits / pitfalls / shortcomings of actual altitude training habits of many top athletes (primarily in the distances). Rather than presenting these facts based on ideal plans, he studied what actually occurred and compared results. I would encourage anyone traveling to altitude this spring to connect with him for his data and input.
- (Diversity related) Irene Herman led an initial meeting for a committee planning to consider a variety of issues surrounding membership and leadership diversity within the organization. I look forward to continuing to take part in her efforts moving forward.
- (AAC related) Rule 40 has been amended to allow very slightly more flexibility to companies and athletes wishing to endorse non-Olympic sponsors during the Olympic year. These changes are minimal, but still leave things prohibitively restrictive at best. However, anyone who is concerned about this issue due to their supporter roster and potential Olympic participation should find out the details ASAP.
- (AAC related) Sandy Snow and Aretha Thurmond went over the specifics on the pre-Olympic training camp at Prairie View A&M in great detail, it remains optional, but with a new track, new weight room facilities, extensive medical coverage, and self-catering apartments with laundry, provides an attractive option.
- (AAC / HP related) Reminder that the 2016 USA Indoor Championships will happen **after** the final date to hit a qualifying mark for the 2016 IAAF World Indoor Championships. No marks from the meet would count for World Indoor qualifying and those qualifying will need to stay in Portland for the week.
- (Club Council related) The 2016 Club Track & Field Championships have been bid on by University of Pennsylvania as well as by Icahn Stadium. Penn was the overwhelming choice of those in attendance, but a few logistical challenges remain to be worked out. The meet will be contested on the last weekend to qualify for Olympic Trials, June 25/26 (or just one of those days).

If you have an interest in knowing who to contact at a national level for an issue related to one of the topics above, please check out the USATF Directory for Committees:  
<http://www.usatf.org/About/Committees.aspx>

## **2015 USATF ANNUAL MEETING HOUSTON - reports from Fred Baer**

### **Men's Track & Field Executive Committee, Dec. 3**

*Chair, Ed Gorman*

Committee reports:

Pod passed out rules comm. report; 83 items including 9 tabled from previous years)

Update on World indoor Championships, Portland, March 17-20, 2016

The championships are a \$112 Million project.

The Fresno track has been rented by Portland to use in advance for meets and as warm-up track for Worlds.

(Therefore there will be no Run for the Dream in Fresno this year – irony of NO indoor meets in California in a year when the World Indoors are being held nearby...)

USATF indoor champs will attempt to do all events held at World Indoors.

Sponsors for World Indoors include Adidas and Mondo – although track being used is not Mondo.

World Indoors track has already be sold to Iowa.

**USATF Junior Nationals** will be in Clovis (Central California Association), June 24-26.

**Olympic Trials**, Eugene, will open on Thursday, June 30, with M&W 20K walk in Salem (state capitol);

Other events in Eugene, beginning Friday, July 1. Competition will be Friday through Monday, break on Tuesday, hammer throw festival/competition on Wednesday, remaining competition Thursday through Sunday.

The first day in Eugene, Friday, July 1 will feature the shot put, starting with qualifying at 11 a.m.

Gorman noted that not enough people are putting in applications for USATF coaching positions.

Regarding the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) and its separate December convention for coaches, Gorman reported that CEO "Sam Seemes will have nothing to do with USATF."

Linda Lanker (Spokane CC) gave the community college report

### **Men's T&F Committee, General Meeting, Dec. 4: (also added some notes for Jr. Focus Group, Dec. 5)**

(info on items not covered in exec.):

Records, Bob Hersh: 31 items, 27 were approved.

Development:

Committee has increased from 3 to 4 the number of competitions to be funded for each athlete

Duffy regarding competition calendar; working to create a NACAC calendar from mid-April to July for athletes who do not want to go to Europe, etc. (and Diamond League)

Paul Doyle will have 3 ATL meets, each 2 ½ t 3 hours, made for TV meets, including May 14 in Atlanta and June 4 in Jacksonville.

**BIDS:** USATF plans to bid out the next 5 years (through 2021) for major championships (indoor & outdoor nationals, Olympic Trials...)

The 2019 Nationals will probably be in August since Doha World Championships at planned for October. Therefore Junior Nationals will probably be staged separately in both 2019 and 2010.

USATF outdoor nationals will have prize money of \$32K per event (on 10-8-6-4-2-1+ basis). The top 12 placers get \$1K travel expenses.

National Scholastic (HS) meets: New Balance Indoors, Armory, New, March 11-13 (In 2019 will move to new Boston/New Balance facility); outdoors June 17-19 at North Carolina A&T; will also take a team of 28 high school kids to Cuba again, last week of May.

**Men's & Women's Development Committee (Exec):** *(additional info not covered above)*

Report from Duffy Mahoney, explaining the four development tiers for financial assistance.

Tier I athletes receive \$9K in USOC funds, plus \$2K additional for medical.

Development receives a budget of \$300K, evenly split for men and women.

Some of the USA's weak events are the men's hammer throw, the women's triple jump, the high jump.

There was a discussion regarding the tiers and achievements of funded athletes.

Duffy asked if we are doing the best with providing for development opportunities for athletes during the spring?

Championship bids:

USATF plans to bid out the next 5 years for major championships (indoor & outdoor nationals, Olympic Trials...)

USATF outdoor nationals will have prize money of \$32K per event (on 10-8-6-4-2-1+ basis). The top 12 placers get \$1K travel expenses.

Vin Lananna reported on the World Indoor Championships (see info above).

#

Joseph Olds Houston Dec 3-6, 2015 representing MTF of PA USATF, including the sessions below.

#### Thursday Dec 3, 2015

12:00 PM 2:50 PM Masters Track & Field Executive Committee  
4:00 PM 5:00 PM Masters Track & Field Anti-Doping Committee Meeting  
5:00 PM 7:00 PM Opening General Session

#### Friday Dec 4, 2015

7:00 AM 8:00 AM Pacific Assoc Session  
8:00 AM 10:50 AM Masters Track & Field General Session  
12:00 PM 1:50 PM Associations Workshop: Conflict Resolution  
2:00 PM 3:50 PM Masters Track & Field General Session  
5:00 PM 6:50 PM Masters Track & Field West Region Meeting

#### Saturday Dec 5, 2015

11:30 AM 1:15 PM Masters Track & Field General Session  
2:00 PM 3:50 PM Masters Track & Field/LDR Joint  
4:00 PM 5:50 PM Masters Track & Field Executive Committee  
6:30 PM 7:30 PM Jesse Owens Cocktail Reception  
7:00 PM 10:00 PM Jesse Owens Banquet

#### Sunday Dec 6, 2015

8:30 AM 10:00 AM USATF Closing Session

As *Secretary* of the Executive Committee of MTF USATF, as well as *Chairman* of MTF PA, I took an appropriately active role including taking the official Minutes at all General Sessions, Executive Sessions, and Joint Sessions (with LDR).

Takeaways for MTF Pacific Assoc athletes include:

- The 2018 MTF Indoor T&F Championships will be held in Landover, Maryland. There were no bidders for the 2018 MTF Outdoor Championships, so Outdoor 2018 & both 2019 are expected to be decided at 2016 USATF Conf.
- If you might break an American/World Record:
  - This will not count if not at a USATF Sanctioned meet.
  - Insure you have the Forms / Officials / Verification (including a FAT [fully automatic timing] system *Zero Control Test* for running events). <https://www.pausatf.org/officials/formsinformation/>
- Drug Testing:
  - In addition to existing USADA (US Anti Doping Agency [www.usada.org](http://www.usada.org)) drug testing at some/all MTF National Championships (T&F, Throws, Combined Events, RW) and test-case Regional MTF Championships, USATF MTF now plans to implement USADA drug testing at some/all MTF Regional Championships going forwards.
  - MTF athletes should check if any ingredients of nutritional supplements or of medicines (incl prescription medicines) they are taking are on the USADA Banned Substances list for USATF meets, or on the WADA (World Anti Doping Agency [www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org)) list for WMA meets (World Championships, NCCWMA, etc.).

- USATF and WMA both are more lenient for MTF athletes than other athletes in 2 ways:
  - If an athlete is taking prescription medication as prescribed by a licensed physician (a drug prescribed to take, and taking no more than has been prescribed) AND successfully files a TUE (Therapeutic Usage Exemption) BEFORE that drug test, then any Positive will not result in disciplinary action.
  - If an athlete is taking prescription medication as prescribed by a licensed physician but has NOT filed a TUE before a positive drug test, then the first *and only the first* Positive for that athlete will not result in disciplinary action if the athlete can prove *post facto* that the drug was taken as prescribed *pre facto*.
- Yes, “they can do that”: All USATF Sanctioned meets agree to allow drug testing and, as a USATF MTF Athletes have given the right to be drug tested (or accept the penalty for a Positive result, if they refuse).
- In short: 1.) Check to see if you are taking an illegal drug. 2.) Stop taking it unless this risks your health in the opinion of your physician. 3.) File a TUE for such drugs your physician prescribes.

Joseph Ols  
Chairman – MTF PA USATF  
Secretary – MTF USATF

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LDR. Overview Of Meetings Attended: Verity Breen

Friday Dec 4th.

Women's LDR Session 1.

- \* Distance for World XC Championships for women now officially adjusted to the distance of 10k.
- \* Discussions concerning the use of chip timing at both National and Local XC Races in the future.
- \* Anne Phillips from the Women's LDR Committee presented with the suggestion of removing the women's 5,000m steeplechase and increasing the distance to 10,000m in order to have parity with men's distance and keeping the 3,000m. This was reasonably debate with no conclusions. Anne intends to pursue this.

- \* USA Half Marathon Championships to be held on April 30th Columbus OH, 2016.

- \* USATF 25k Championship to be held on May 14th, 2016. Grand Rapids Michigan, 2016

Andy Carr presented the records for 2015, all are available on USATF website with special mention to a big mark set by Camille Herron in 2015 in the 50 mile distance posting a record time of 5:38.41.

Masters LDR General Session.

Rapid Ratification Of Marks: Lively discussion was held over improving the speed of approving records. Aim is to move approval of new records to a quarterly basis not annual.

ATHLETE BIZ: This is a new era in promoting the individual athlete on USATF by allowing USATF member to shop with their feet and support their favorite USATF Athlete at the USATF Store by simply clicking on the Athletes image and go shopping with a % off all sales via this athletes shop going directly to the athlete. Everyone wins.

N.O.C "Officials" Discussion over a criteria to be set in order to qualify to be an official for 10 years. For eg: Of good character. Follow USATF procedure and be a current member of USATF and complete background check.

Women's LDR Session 2. CANCELLED DUE TO BUSINESS COVERED ALREADY.

Sat Dec 5th.

Masters LDR General Session 2. Announced that Men's & Women's 5k USATF Championships to be held at Rhode Island, Sept 2016

Masters LDR Men/ Women Joint.

2016 USATF Club XC Champs to be held on *December 10, 2016*

[\*Apalachee Regional Park\*](#) - Tallahassee, FL. Discussions were had over the potential inclusion at this years event of "split mats" for timing.

*USATF XC Champs to be held on Feb 6th, 2016 at Bend, OR*

*The 2017 USATF 5K Masters Championships to be held Oct-Nov is now open for bids, bid forms are found online.* International Competition news is that the Pan American Games is set to have a Masters Exhibition Race in 2016. TBA

World Masters Games Discussions: Whether or not to conduct a stand alone marathon? Revitalize the USA V Canada XC Duel. Code of Conduct. Want revision of "Attire" provision.

2017 Indoor Masters Champs will be held in South Korea. 2018 in Malaga, Spain.

49 New Masters Records were set in 2015.

Harriers Of The Year: Kathy Martin (10th Consecutive win) & Pete Magill

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Verity Breen



USATF Annual Meeting  
Houston, TX  
December 1-6, 2015

Masters LDR Committee

Tom Bernhard reported the results of the pre-meeting online voting for the age group Masters LDR athletes of the year. He suggested the award be named "Masters Divisional Road Runner of the Year". The committee concurred. The 2015 Masters Divisional Road Runners are:

40-44	Meb Keflezighi	Deena Kastor
45-49	Jerome Vermeulen	Lisa Lucas
50-54	Mbarak Hussein	Marisa Sutera Strange
55-59	Brian Pilcher	Joan Samuelson
60-64	Tom Bernhard	Kathryn Martin
65-69	William Dixon	Sabra Harvey
70-74	Jan Frisby	Jan Holmquist
75-79	John Ouweleen	Libby James
80-84	Witold Bialokur	Anne Garrett
85-89	Jerry Johncock	Ella Jane Custer
90-94		Harriette Thompson

Harriette Thompson and Jerry Johncock are the Paul Spangler winners.  
The committee nominated Bernard Lagat and Kathy Martin as Masters Runners of the Year.

The Masters LDR Hall of Fame for 2015 are:

Active: Jan Holmquist, Dennis Simonaitis, and Doug Goodhue

Legend: Joe Fernandez and Jane Welzel

Tom made the following suggestions for selection of Hall of Fame candidates:

1. Consider Legend candidates with 88% or better average age grade since the age grade standards had been revised in 2015.
2. Change the voter pool for Legends to include the representatives to the Masters LDR Committee. In past years the voter pool was limited to the MLDR executive committee and past inductees in the Hall of Fame. The voting criteria is now based on quantitative analysis.
3. Administrators and non athletes should be added to the Legends ballot rather than the Active candidates.

These suggestions were approved by the Executive Committee

Mary Rosado, Team Manager and Masters LDR representative to WMA announced the locations for upcoming WMA Championships;

2016 World Outdoor Championships, Perth, Australia

2017 Regional Championships, Juarez, Mexico

2017 World Indoor Championships, Daegu, South Korea

2018 World Outdoor Championships, Malaga, Spain

Mary also reported WMA has begun to contract with sanctioned consultants to manage the championships and the local volunteers' responsibilities are in tourism and hospitality for the athletes.

She informed the committee that WMA is considering the possibility of having a Marathon Championship as a separate event, not combined with the stadia competition.

Andy Carr presented the Records report. The committee accepted his report. The group discussed the feasibility of single age records, in addition to the current age group records for Masters. Topics included publishing this list and public awareness, and if this would encourage very young children from attempting records. Single age records are not recognized by USATF

Tom Bernhard

## REPORT from the 2015 USATF Annual Meeting

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6 December 2015

As the PA-USATF Race Walking Committee Chair and Delegate, I attended all the national Race Walking Committee meetings during the annual meeting December 3-6 in Houston, Texas, as well as the following meetings: Officials Rules Subcommittee (Thursday morning), Opening General Session (Thursday evening), Pacific Association Caucus (Friday morning), Officials General Session (Friday morning until the Race Walking session started), Officials Hall of Fame Banquet (Friday evening), Awards Breakfast (Saturday morning), Jesse Owens Banquet (Saturday evening), and Closing Session (Sunday morning). The following are what I consider to be significant items that are of interest to PA-USATF members, particularly race walkers and judges.

Changes for the 2016 USATF rule book are largely following changes made by IAAF. Below are ones that are specific to race walking. Additions are highlighted.

Rule 230.3(c). **Except as provided in Rule 230.3(j),** when red cards from three different Judges have been sent to the Recorder or Chief Judge on the same competitor, that competitor is disqualified and shall be notified of this disqualification by the Chief Judge or the Chief Judge's Assistant by being shown a red paddle. **Any disqualified athlete who fails to leave the course or track or comply with directions given under Rule 230.3(j) to enter and remain for the required period in the Pit Lane may be liable to further disciplinary action in accordance with Rule 145.2.**

**Rule 230.3(j). A Pit Lane may be used as determined by the Sports Committee. In such case, an athlete will be required to enter the Pit Lane and remain there for the applicable period (as set out in the entry material) once they have received three Red Cards and are so advised by the Chief Judge or someone delegated by him. If, at any time, the athlete receives an additional Red Card from a Judge other than one of the three who had previously sent a Red Card, he shall be disqualified. An athlete who fails to enter the Pit Lane when required to do so, or remain there for the applicable period, shall be disqualified by the Referee.**

The IAAF website has a document titled *Race Walking – A Guide to Judging and Organising*, updated November 2014, which included two pages on the IAAF Pit Lane Rule. Apparently the recommended layout for the Pit Lane was modified during an

IAAF race in 2015; the entry point should be directly into the Pit Lane such that the athlete doesn't have to make a sharp right-hand turn. IAAF intends to use the Pit Lane Rule for Youth and Junior 5K and 10K races, with 60 seconds in the Pit Lane for 5K races and 120 seconds in the Pit Lane for 10K races. There are no plans within IAAF to use the Pit Lane for Open or Masters races, or for the Junior Olympics, for which the distances are 1,500 and 3,000 meters. The USATF National Race Walking Committee feels that it would be a disservice to US athletes if we did not allow them to practice the use of the Pit Lane before competing in World Youth or Junior meets.

The following race walks were selected by the Site Selection Subcommittee of the Race Walking Committee for championships in 2016 (ones highlighted are in the West):

5,000-m Indoor (Open and Junior), December 27, 2015, Rochester, NY

1-mile, February 20, 2016, at Millrose Games, New York, NY

**50-km (Olympic Trials and Open), February 21, Santee, CA**

USATF Masters Indoor Championships (1,500 m on one day and 3,000 m the next day), March 4-6, Albuquerque, NM

3,000-m, USATF Indoor Championships (Open), March 11-12, Portland, OR

World Race Walk Cup (Team) 10-km and 20-km Trials, April 3, St. Louis, MO (Note: the World Race Walk Team Championship will not be in Russia in 2016.)

20-km (Masters), date in April to be determined, Whiting, NJ

Penn Relays Olympic Development (5,000 m Junior Women; 10,000 m Junior Men – counted as a National Race Walk Grand Prix event for Junior athletes, April 25 or 28-30, PA

**15-km (Open and Junior), May 15, Riverside, CA**

5-km (Open and Junior), June 5, Albany, NY

**USATF Junior Outdoor Championships, June 24-26, Clovis, CA**

**Olympic Trials (20-km), June 30, Salem, OR** (the day before the other Olympic Trials track and field events in Eugene, OR)

USATF Masters Outdoor Championships (5,000 m on track; 10 km on road), July 14-17, Grand Rapids, MI

**USATF Junior Olympics, June 25-26 race walking events (Monday-Tuesday), Sacramento, CA**

One Hour (Open and Junior), October 1 (date uncertain – there is some confusion whether this race is scheduled for August 9), Lutheran College, Milwaukee, WI

40-km (Open & Masters), October 9, Ocean Township, NJ

50-km (Masters), date and location to be determined.

The Race Walking Committee will wait until perhaps as late as 12 February 2016 before deciding on possible bids for 10-km (Open and Junior), 20-km (Junior), and 30-km (Open) national race walking championships.

For more information on race walking opportunities, please see Dave McGovern's website, <http://www.racewalking.org/american.htm>. Also check the USATF website.

For the National Race Walking Grand Prix, the 2016 year runs from October 16, 2015 through October 15, 2016. Therefore there will be two 50-km races for which Grand Prix points can be earned for the 2016 year (the November 22, 2015 and February 21, 2016).

2016 Race Walking Qualifying Standards of particular note include the following:

	50K men	20K men	20K women		
IAAF World Team	4:35	1:32	1:43:30		
US Olympic Trials	4:45	1:36	1:48		
Olympic Games	4:03	1:24	1:35		
	10K men	10K women	5K men	5K women	
US Junior Outdoor	55:15	59:45	26:00	28:30	

The 2021 IAAF World Championships will be in Eugene, Oregon.

There will now be a world record opportunity for women in the 50-km race walk. It is uncertain whether records set before 2016 (for example, at the 22 November 2015 race walk in Santee) will be accepted.

Gary Westerfield and Diane Graham-Henry are working on an update to the 2008 Race Walking Officials Handbook. New Red Cards, Tally Sheets, and Judging Summary Sheets will be recommended and posted on the USATF-Pacific Association website.

Ron Daniel has produced a new video for training of coaches, athletes, parents, and new judges in the fundamentals and rules of race walking. This will be an excellent addition to our training clinics in the Pacific Association.

Diane Graham-Henry and others are running the National Youth Race Walk Challenge Grant Program. The program committee is dedicated to furthering the development of youth race walking. Clinicians are available throughout the country to work with athletes, parents, coaches, and officials. Clinics will be organized in the regions where there is interest. Clinics provide experienced clinicians—athletes, registered coaches; and Master and IAAF Judges, who will be available to assist in developing race walking in any region. Young athletes, their parents, coaches, and officials will learn this sport in a fashion that will create an understanding of the form, biomechanics, and rules of race walking. Materials are provided to make this a fun and enjoyable experience for all. The clinicians will provide materials and literature well developed for this sport. Widely used is the *Racewalking Fun! Alex and Maria Discover Racewalking* booklet by Dr. Tom Easter, which includes a wonderful, illustrative story, a breakdown of the form, drills, and a training program that was developed by two-time Olympian Tim Seaman. I recommend that the Pacific Association Youth Committee contact Diane Graham-Henry ([dghphoto@gmail.com](mailto:dghphoto@gmail.com)) with the Pacific Association's desire to hold a clinic in the winter or early spring in 2016, or, if that is not possible, in 2017. The Pacific Association's strong interest and dedication to the youth athletes will bring a growth in the sport of race walking.

The following USATF Western Region Championships for 2016 have been finalized. The Pacific Association will host one of these races. The following were approved:

3-km, probably on August 6 in Albuquerque, hosted by the New Mexico Association

5-km, date and location to be determined, in association with the Pacific Association Track and Field Championships

10-km, date and location to be determined, hosted by the San Diego-Imperial Association

15-km on May 15 (Sunday) in Riverside, CA, hosted by the Southern California Association

20-km, probably on October 23 or 30 (Sunday) in Sacramento, CA, hosted by the Pacific Association

10-km (tentative) on date on June 13 (Saturday, tentative) in San Diego, hosted by the San Diego-Imperial Association

1-hour, date and location to be determined, probably in November or December, hosted by the Southern California Association.

## OTHER NOTES

Thaddeus Sligh, who will be the Chief Umpire at the Junior Olympics in Sacramento, requested that there be at least 24 umpires for that week-long meet. In 2015 in Jacksonville, Florida there were fewer than 12 umpires on most days during the Junior Olympics, not enough to adequately cover the track, and too few to allow for breaks.

All USATF Officials (including Race Walk Judges) must complete the Safe Sport training and background checks. Check the USATF website for details, and sign up for a Safe Sport class during the January-February officials clinics offered by the Pacific Association.

REPORT  
USA TRACK AND FIELD  
2015 ANNUAL MEETING, HOUSTON, TEXAS

MENS TRACK AND FIELD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 3

A proposal to take away the power of Referees to make decisions that would disqualify athletes was rejected by the Executive Committee. The proposed change would give this power to Meet management.

The I.I.F. is working on a new rule that would eliminate Referees out on the field. They believe the I.T.O. could do both jobs, thus lowering the number of officials in the field.

There is a new rule in effect in 2016 regarding false starts by athletes. The Starter will now decide if the athletes can compete under protest.

HIGH PERFORMANCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 4

The Committee feels that there seems to be no communication between the High Performance Committee and the National Office Management. Questions raised included: In the case of National Teams, what are the procedures and responsibilities when something goes wrong? Who does the follow-up? The Committee feels that Athlete Development is not meant to be warm and fuzzy. They want to get the best bang for their investment. How can we find the top athletes particularly when it comes to underdeveloped events.

Relay Coaches are paid by USA Track and Field. There is a rule that if a coach is working for/being paid by USA Track and Field, they cannot coach their own athletes during the time they are serving as paid as a Relay Coach for a USA Track and Field team, whether it be a foreign or domestic athlete.

NTO COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 4

The Caribbean ITOs are responsible to do everything when officiating at large meetings. ITOs traveling to the Caribbean should be made of this fact before accepting an assignment in the Caribbean.

Tiffany Banks was recently nominated to be the U.S. Western Region ATO Starter. She is the only woman to hold this position in the United States.

USAT&F MEN'S COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 4

There were a number of minor issues discussed at the meeting. One change reported for 2016 was the "softening" of some standards for women athletes in order to get to the right numbers needed to have a full field.

COACHES ADVISORY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 4

Terry Crawford stated as of January 1, 2016, all coaches must take and pass the Safe Sport Program. She also talked about the coaching grants and awards for coaches. Coaches will be able to access all of the information concerning these programs on-line at USAT&F website.

The Committee did not have enough delegates present and therefore Terry asked coaches attending the meeting to serve as delegates if there available to stay the extra day.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TECHNICAL CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE – DECEMBER 5

There will be three hotel properties used by the U.S.A. at the IIF World Indoor Championships to be held in Portland, Oregon in March 2016. The Hilton Hotel will be the main hotel, and credentials pick-up will take place there. The competition area will be at the Oregon Convention Center.

USAT&F Olympic Trials will be held in Eugene, Oregon in July 2016. The shotput event will be in downtown Eugene. The hammer event will be in the center of the field at the Track and Field venue.

COACHES ADVISORY COMMITTEE GENERAL SESSION – DECEMBER 5

USAT&F has a new learn-by-doing coaching program for athletes and coaches of all ages. It is called "Campus." It is being written by Dr. Joe Vigil. USAT&F members will pay \$19.99 for the program; all others will pay \$39.99. It will be available from USAT&F.

Terry Crawford made a proposal to the Coaches Advisory Committee to create a Coaches Matrix. She believes this will professionalize the Coaches Registry by implementing a minimal competency for Registry members.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Hernandez  
PAUSATF Delegate  
Coaches Committee



## **COACHING EDUCATION COMMITTEE 2015 NATIONAL MEETING USATF**

There were several very informative meetings of the Coaching Education Executive Committee during the national meeting 2015. Here are some of the highlights and motions that resulted:

According to the Board there were 3000 level one text books sold by Human Kinetics in 2015 and 1900 sold on the USATF web site. They feel that the book is being accepted by the public. Human Kinetics is considering translating the book into Spanish and Chinese. The Board is encouraging ALL school directors to pass along the need for all Coaches to buy a level one book.

The Board wants to promote the on-line Coaches campus by developing online courses and supporting the ability of students to develop/build your own profile. They want to add sports science and psychology to the Campus and open it up to anyone who is interested in training or improving fitness. The Board wants to encourage Coaches feedback and seeks to include topics Coaches would like to see added. They discussed creating possible discounts to members and coaches and the possibility of including modules in the Campus to allow coaches to re-certify online.

### **LEVEL 1:**

Currently there are two different presentation formats being used...1) LONG day Saturday and Sunday...2) Friday afternoon and not-so-long days on Saturday & Sunday. Both offer same number of contact hours and all modules being covered. Dave Mills was appointed to head a task force to upgrade the level one slide show to include more pictures and improve fonts. There was discussion about adding a thumb drive of the powerpoint slides to be provided to the students.

Bylaws mandate a minimum of 3 instructors for level one courses. All teaching coaches MUST be on registry and have completed the safe sport course and all instructors must have a USATF logo on shirt when teaching. On Dec 31, 2016 coaches names will be removed from the coaching registry if they have not taken the safe sport course.

### **LEVEL 2**

Dr. Christine Brooks has developed and put online a level 2 program in sports science. The Board proposed starting level 2 on Monday instead of Sunday and eliminating the review session. This format would streamline the course and save a night's stay for Students. There would be extensive review and quizzes available on line. Students will take two tests Monday afternoon based on the on-line presentations and would finish sports science on Tuesday morning. The event speciality portions would start on Tuesday and everyone would finish before lunch on Saturday.

**MOTION** 70% "basic" passing grade for sports science... 80% passing grade for "with distinction" added..revise level 2 schedule as above. approved unanimously.

## **COACHING EDUCATION COMMITTEE 2015 NATIONAL MEETING USATF**

**MOTION:** adjust level 2 schedule to include a 2 hour learn by doing /practicum. Judge- "need to get students active and be able to demonstrate competency". Discussion about increased drill demonstrations and creating a rubric to evaluate coaches ability to teach/coach the details of their event. The board expressed a desire to challenge everyone's competency and not allow some individuals to hide in the back of the group. The inclusion of peer evaluation in process was discussed. **Friendly amendment** to Include skill instruction module and pilot adding 2-3 hours practicum module to Level 2 schedule. Approved unanimously.

### **Pole Vault:**

Judge expressed safety concerns and Dave Mills expressed worries that making this an individual group will open "Pandoras box to doing the same with other event groups" (race walk etc).

Judge recommended making pole vault a stand alone offering, (level 2A), with a pre-requisite of jumps level 2.

A subcommittee was created to explore the possibilities.

### **Awards-**

Board discussed the creation of a coaches education awards this year. Mike Judge- "traditionally we have given out only three awards"...that will be increased and broadened in 2016. The board wants to honor those people who have been instrumental in the programs- Hall of Fame members.

**MOTION:** to discuss criteria to create an alumni coaches award in 2016. Look at those coaches who have done a good job in producing athletes. Create the following awards for 2016:

- 1) Youth/high school...one award for track and one award for field
- 2) college/open.. one award for track and one award for field Must have completed at least one level 2 school in event area. approved unanimously

### **LEVEL 3:**

**MOTION-** a committee to explore an academy to match changes in the works by IAAF..review and revise USATF level3 school ..look at and revising application form/process as needed...approved unanimously.

## **COACHING EDUCATION COMMITTEE 2015 NATIONAL MEETING USATF**

### **INSTRUCTORS TRAINING:**

(Tamara) Expresses a need to improve the quality of Instructors. She stressed training Instructors in how to use the new powerpoint and the creation of a mandatory mentorship program before Instructors receive their certificates. The board discussed the increase in quality control that mentorship would bring into the program. The board proposed offering the ITC course every other year beginning in 2016.

**.MOTION-** not host ITC for 2016 and offer it every other year after that. Assure a better selection process and screening of applications in an effort to weed out those who are only taking the training to get it on their resume, accept only those who are truly interested in becoming an Instructor. approved unanimously.

Recertification process for Instructors (Terry): proposed revising the entire program and editing the list of Instructors. The board discussed generating a new/qualified list of Instructors who are current, active, involved, and who are willing to stay active and up on the new text. Additionally the board discussed on-line courses and continue education units.

**MOTION:** create a task force to examine re-certification of Instructors..require Instructors to have taught at least one class per year to stay current. approved unanimously.

## **Annual Meeting Report (Dec 2016)**

Thursday (12/3)

- 1) Youth Meeting
- 2) Ethics
- 3) General Session

Friday (12/4)

- 1) PA Caucus
- 2) Associations
- 3) Para Athletics
- 4) Officials' Hall of Fame Banquet

Saturday (12/5)

- 1) Men's/Women's T &F
- 2) Officials (Gen Session #2)

Sunday (12/6)

- 1) Closing Session

Mike Bower

**Report by George Kleeman**  
**Wednesday Evening**  
**Attended Officials Training Committee**

- Plan on having more Sunday Webinars.
- Several new Best Practice document

**Thursday**  
**Attended Officials Rules Committee**

Chair Mark Kostek will be taking Bob Podkaminer's place as NCAA Rules Committee chair next year. Mark will not run for reelection next year so that spot will be open.

**Attended Officials Executive Committee**  
**Lead Rules Committee**

- We had 83 proposals, passed 54 as presented, Amended 15, rejected 11, 2 were withdrawn and one was tabled.
- A but 4 were acted upon during the first session.
- A summary of all items passed is on the PA Officials webpage as of Dec. 8 and a draft of the updated book is being reviewed as of Dec. 10. It should be on line by the end of the month on d the USATF website.

**Attended the Opening Session**

- Shorter this year
- Almost started on time
- Good video of Athletes Accomplishments
- Big increase in prize money for Olympic medalists and team members
- More funds for top athletes
- Income increase for 2016 of some \$35Million.

**Friday**  
**Attended PA Caucus**

- Chair of BOD , President, CCO and Max Segal attended part of meeting

**Attended Officials Meeting**

- As part of Nike support, all official should be getting one new national shirt which will be red. The shirts will also be available in white and blue.
- Elections held to met By Law requirement for Officials to name their three candidates for Board of Directors. Len Krsak, Laurie Boemker and Dee Jensen were the top three of about 10 candidates. Since By Law changes passed, the procedure will be done again next year since we will now direct elect our representative. The ten nominated will be automatically on the list for next year. Pacific's John Shirey is on the list. If your interested contact Jim Hume or Michael Bower.

**Attend National Technical Officials Meeting**  
**Lead Rules Committee Meeting**  
**Attended Officials Dinner**

- List of Award Winners and Hall of Fame inductees is in December Newsletter. PA had several nominations in Shirley Connors and John Murray.

Saturday

Attended Awards Breakfast

- Pacific had several winners, Masters LDR Athlete of the year in Tom Bernard, Masters T&F Athlete in Irene Obera, Association Contributor Irene Herman, Association Bronze Medalist,

**Lead Last Rules Meeting**

**Lead and attended Officials Referee Clinic**

**Attended Second Officials Committee Meeting**

**Attended Jesse Owens Banquet**

- Much shorter and some new awards, Hall of Fame was held earlier At Armory in NYC in November

**Sunday**

**Attended Final Meeting**

\* Uneventful and completed in about 15 Minutes.

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## John Murray - Report on 2016 USATF Annual Meeting

December 3-6, 2016 Houston, Texas

Thursday, December 3:

After arriving at the hotel at 2:00 AM due to plane delays, I had anticipated attending the Law and Legislation Committee Hearing in the morning, but found the room closed to spectators.

I attended the Officials Executive Committee Meeting where brief subcommittee reports were given, with referrals to the website for more complete reports.

I spent the afternoon meeting with other officials and actively recruiting for the Junior Olympics to be hosted in Sacramento in July, 2016.

I attended the Opening General Session of the Association and was especially interested in the State of the Sport presentation by CEO Max Siegel.

The evening closed with the reception at the Hotel Lobby Bar hosted by the Sacramento Sports Commission – evidently a popular event.

Friday, December 4:

Attended the Pacific Association Caucus where we were addressed by Max Siegel, Stephanie Hightower and Steve Miller.

Attended the First General Session of the Officials Committee. The most important announcement there concerned the imminent nomination of the Officials Delegate to the Board of Directors, with the indication that the nomination and election would take place the following day.

I next attended the National Technical Officials meeting concerning the nomination and current roster of International, Area, and National Technical Officials. Laurie Boemker led the discussion.

Next was a very informative Officials Clinic concerning the duties of an Officials Coordinator at competitions from local to National.

I next attended the General Session of Mens Track and Field, as the Officials Committee delegate to that committee.

The day ended with the Officials Hall of Fame Banquet where five new inductees were placed in the Hall of Fame and the other service awards were made. The full list of recipients is available on the website.

Saturday, December 5:

After attending the Awards Breakfast. I participated in one of the Referee Scenario Discussions. This has been a highly praised clinic and I can add my adulation as well. The discussions were informative and confirmed that we in the Pacific Association are well informed and trained.

The Second General Session of the Officials Committee centered upon the nomination procedure for the Board of Directors Delegate. I addressed the full committee with my thoughts that it was unfair to the prospective candidates, the nominating committee members and the committee itself to require the election upon such short notice. The nominating committee contended that notice of the proceedings had been emailed to all Certification Chairs in October, but a number of the Chairpersons stood to advise that they had never received any such communication. Notwithstanding, the nominations were received and ballots were completed by the voting Committee members. Len Krsak of the Ohio Association, Laurie Boemker, New England, and Dee Jensen, Dakotas, were the three nominated. With the passage of the By-Law Amendments on Sunday morning, the status now of these nominations is unclear. I intend to request of the Executive Committee that a clarifying statement be made forthwith.

The session ended with the posting of the selections of Officials for the 2016 National Championship events, including the World Indoor Championship in Portland, Oregon. A quick review of the selections indicates that 30 Officials from the Pacific Association were named as competition officials or alternates for the 2016 events. Of that number, seven Pacific Association officials were chosen as officials for the World Championships.

Sunday, December 6:

Attended the brief Closing General Session where the changes to the By-Laws agreed upon by the Law and Legislation Committee were adopted.



From: Jim Hume's report from the 2015 USATF Convention, Houston, TX

The Certification Chairs met on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the day before the convention officially opened. USATF did not advertise the times or meeting places of either The Training Committee (6:00 p.m. – finish) or the Certification Committee (8:30-10:00). As a result I missed most of the Training Committee meeting and a number of CertChairs missed the certification meeting.

There were three main pieces of information from the Certification Meeting:

1. SafeSport Training is required to remain an active certified official for 2016.
2. At some point, a background check may be required of officials. The details have not been worked out. At the moment, only those selected to work one of the national meets are required to have the background check.
3. Both of the above will eventually show up on each official's page in the national certification database. While officials can now see what is in the database, access for them to be able to update their contact information is still in the future. They will have no access to changing certifications.
4. As far as the Pacific Association is concerned, ReCertification, which will happen after the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil, will continue as it has in the past with ReCert clinics, rule reviews completed, ReCertification papers filled out and new ID badge photos taken.

USATF reserved far too few hotel rooms at the convention hotel and this led to many folks, myself included, being assigned to a different hotel. Mine, the Marriot Spring Hill, was in a recently renovated Marriot complex. While the walk did my need for exercise some good, it was inconvenient not being at the convention hotel.

While I was a Pacific Association delegate to the convention, nothing of importance happened which required a meaningful vote.

The following information is about the selection process for officials:

*Officials were selected for the following five 2016 USATF meets.*

1. USATF Indoor Combined Event Championships (16 officials + 4 alternates) selected; TBA, probably February 26-27
2. USATF Indoor T&F Championships (63 officials + 13 alternates selected); Portland, OR, March 11-12
3. IAAF World T&F Championships (56 officials + 21 alternates selected); Portland, OR, March 17-20
4. USATF Outdoor National T&F Championships {a.k.a. Olympic Trials} (132 officials + 32 alternates selected); Eugene, OR, July 1-10
5. USATF Junior Outdoor T&F Championships (99 officials + 18 alternates selected); Clovis, CA, June 24-26,

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*About the national officials who applied to work a "selected" national meet.*

- 411 officials applied
- 26 officials did not complete their applications
- 64% of those who applied received an appointment

*About the Pacific Association officials who applied to work a "selected" national meet.*

- 38 officials applied
- 31 officials were selected (two as alternates)

- 21 officials selected for the Junior meet
- 5 of 7 not selected have worked previous USATF meets

## USATF annual meeting 2015

Because I didn't have a specific assignment, I attended some sessions for Officials, Rules, Youth, and Diversity.

### Rules:

This year was dedicated to compliance with the IAAF rules, so there were no big changes in rules. Most changes were editorial and will not generally affect officiating.

### Officials:

There was proposal to have officials fund grants to bring new officials to big meets.

### Youth:

The Youth committee addressed changes to rules that were tabled last year. The most difficult editing is with the definition of youth indoor events and teams.

The youth committee was active in supporting the effort for representatives to the USAATF board to be elected directly, for the elected USAATF president to serve as the chairman of the board, and for the representative to the IAAF to be directly elected by the members. The final package approved at the closing session included these changes to governance.

The Youth committee also unanimously proposed that any measures that affect a given discipline must be discussed in that discipline.

Proposals to host the 2017 National JO cross country meet by Tallahassee FL and to host the Hershey Youth Outdoor National Championships by Miami FL were both rejected. Bids for these events will need to be solicited across the US. Lawrence KS was selected as the site for the 2017 USATF JO.

A conflict between the dates for the National JO Cross Country meets and the Annual meetings was discovered when the preliminary calendar was presented. That will be checked and resolved.

### Diversity:

This new committee will be reviewing survey formats to be used to gather information about the composition of the USATF, and the various USATF groups (officials and athletes).

## USATF CONVENTION REPORT - December 2015 - HOUSTON

### WEDNESDAY: ASSOCIATIONS

Communications/Media - Know your audience; Who, What, Why; concise; important stuff at top; pictures; stories from across levels of Association; example - Run, Jump, Throw [Southern California].

Recruitment - Event volunteer [where from]; training["They are the ambassadors for the event"]; Association position; Hand written Thank you; How get background check?; Use of social media; Interns. \*A hanging sheet with logo on it, for winners to stand in front of at youth meets[kids send out on social media]

Surveys - Monkey Design vs Google Forms; 1 page, logo, 10-15 questions, 6-8 better, multiple choice. Good response rate 55%.

Club Involvement - Talk to coaches[schedules, creative scoring, different events]; Discount for members; \*Support post-collegiate/unattached athlete[clubs listed on website]; USATF VS AAU; \*\*SAFESPORT lasts through next Olympiad; membership - 1,2,3,4 years; MeetPro - NO more[How affect finish line, Direct [athletics.com](http://athletics.com).]; Clubs must have all screening approved by Association by 12/15; Grants; change from plaques to \$\$ for awards;

Sanctions -

### THURSDAY

Youth - Specification for AeroJav; Rule Review/amendments; new representative to L & L; statement on Board of Directors situation; Conflicts with AAU;

Facilities - Problem implements - old javs; more in indoor meets and combine; Rule changes; Goals for 2016; 2 newsletters; New Business[new measurement devices for high school level].

Opening Ceremonies

### FRIDAY

Officials - Board of Directors' Rep. characteristics; IAFF compliance; minutes M/S/P; Chair Awards; Certification report M/S/P; Treasurer Report M/S/P; Training Committee Report - clinics; President Report - # of protests Indoor/Outdoor, Selection, SuperSport[CD], Newsletter, BestPractices, Awards, LOTUS GRANT, L & L, Shelby Sharp, Mike Armstrong proposal, IAFF - David Katz, World Indoor, \*What is a torso?[new definition], logo; 2016 Elections-Chair, Vice Chair, Sec., Treasurer.

Conflict Resolution - National Board of Review; Each Association should have bylaws for Conflict Resolutions; Have a Grievance Committee setup; presentation of grievance procedure and requirements; Ethics Committee-description.

Officials' Clinic - Meet Coordinators Planning; Presentation of duties for Meet Coordinators of Big and smaller meets by three officials different parts of the country; Duties- PreSeason, PreMeet, Meet Day, Post Meet/Season [stipend, personal thank you, % of no shows, SAFETY, Media, weather].

West Associations - Volunteer Recognition; check local colleges for interns; SWOT; \$ available for Convention; Marketing kits; Club Counsel funds \$; New USATF Platform; new email system.

### SATURDAY

Awards Breakfast

Officials' Clinic -Referee Situations - group discussion and solving of actual situations/protests

Officials' Clinic - Combined Events - Duties of Coordinator at all level of events; PreMeet, Meet, End of Meet Duties.

Officials' Meeting - Vote on 3 Board of Directors nominees; 2 points to insurance policy; Tax Liability; Background checks; Rules; Shirt; Foundation, Appeals; 55/57 Associations approved. L & L ; Meet announcements.

### SUNDAY

Closing Meeting - final reports. Closed in record time. No vote.

## USATF annual meeting 2015

Dec 3 attended the opening general session

Dec 4 attended the association caucus

Attended the 1<sup>st</sup> general session of the para athletics committee.

Most time was spent on why there was no para athletes at last year's JO.

Mixed up on communication was the main reason.

Attended the youth athletics general session. There were bids for jo cross country and the Hershey meets. Florida was the only bidder and the bids were rejected. These meets will now be opened to anyone wishing to bid on them.

Dec 5 Attended the youth athletics general session. The bid for the JO went to Lawrence Kansas.

Attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> session for para athletics. Discussion was continued on the JO for para athletics. The youth division chair Lionel Leach came in and explained that the para athletes will be welcome to come to the JO for 2016 in Sacramento. One hurdle is USATF has cut 65% of the para committees budget. The para chair will pursue this to get it restored so we can help get the athletes to Sacramento.

Attended the final youth session.

Dec 6 Attended the closing session

Charles Sheppard