



## 2020 Officials Executive Committee Meeting

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

**November 15, 2020**

**12:00-2:30 PM**

**Minutes**

Attendees: Phil Leake, John Shirey, John Murray, Ajay Padgaonkar, Bill Bartel, Jim Manha, John Lilygren, Leon Glover, JR Heberle, Mike Bower

I. Meeting called to Order @ 12:03 PM

II. PA Officials Committee Reports

A. Chair's Report – Phil

1. Stanford has scheduled meets; ARC has postponed; still to meet with Sac State
2. USATF Annual Meeting in 2 weeks. Price increases tomorrow, Nov. 16.
3. Phil, Ajay & John Lilygren will represent the Officials Committee

B. Cert Chair Report – Ajay Padgaonkar

1. Many thanks to Bill for driving the recent Zoom clinics, chasing after the officials for attendance and both him and Jim Manha for the help at the clinics.
2. About 40% done with rules reviews after 4 clinics one more clinic planned for next week. Clinic attendance has been about 30 per clinic.
3. Out of 229 valid officials, 95 have completed online rules reviews. Masters have the most coverage about 75%, National about 60%, Association 40% and dismal at 10% for the Apprentices. This does not even include those who were not 3-way compliant to begin with. Will need more chasing.
4. Two specialty certification clinics in December are being planned. They will cover implement inspection and race walk
5. Bill and Jim will talk about the Starter and Referee clinics in January.
6. Other clinics in 2021 still under discussion; not sure what makes sense if only Zoom clinics can be done. – Potentials are PPT type training on advanced topics in field events, umpiring, EDR (FieldLynx/Leica). Have not started discussions on RW, LDR.
7. Ajay is working with Heike Mansoor. She has found a way to cover the cost for individuals renewing membership. Ajay will provide her with a list.



8. Ajay was asked to provide a list of new officials certified in 2020. They will be exempt from certain costs (\$20 fee & Rules Review). Total will be \$700 less.

C. Training Chair Report—Bill Bartel

1. Many who are not recertifying have told Bill they don't want to continue to officiate for various reasons. Moved; COVID; etc. Shirey concerned about Apprentice officials who aren't returning; Masters who aren't responding. Bower said some may be LDR Officials who tend not to advance. They do it as an obligation to their running club.
2. Leon pointed out that the process is so complicated/difficult that people conclude it is not worth it (SafeSport; USATF Connect; NCIS background check, etc.) Ajay hears that from other Cert Chairs.
  - A. JR found that USATF Connect makes SafeSport easier. Leon suggested sending blast to membership touting improvements that USATF Connect offers.
3. Bill has a video to help with USATF Connect. JR suggests the confusion may not be limited to Officials. We can send out our own, and not rely on Cynci Calvin. Irene Herman is membership chair. Will bring this up in Tuesday Board of Athletics meeting.
4. Ajay - Badge issues on USATF Connect. Certifications on USATF Connect don't match actual certifications.
5. Current Recertification Zoom Meetings and Training
  - A. Referee Recertification Zoom Meeting and training
  - B. Starter Training

D. Mentoring Chair Report

1. Joe Van Zant has resigned this position.
2. They plan to approach people to take this position. Several names were suggested.
3. John Shirey raised the idea of having regional chairs.
4. Mike Bower suggested a group approach with Dennis Boyle as head and others as mentees.
5. Jim Manha to speak with Dennis Boyle and report back.



- II. PA Board of Athletics Reports — Jim Manha, Charles Murphy, Bob Thompson
  - A. Jim thanked JR for suggestions. We have bought a second Zoom license.
  - B. Ajay is trying to complete recertification by the end of the year.
  - C. Future meets in Sacramento need officials (NCAA Cross Country and ???)
  
- III. USATF Pacific Foundation Update — John Shirey
  - A. New officers after election: John Shirey is President. Michele La Sala is Chief Financial Officer. Stephanie Brown-Trafton is Secretary. Jay Abbott, Kim Conley, Kendall Spencer, Rick Berman and Scott Bauhs are Directors. John believes this is the best Board the Foundation has had.
  - B. Nov. 5 kicked off fundraiser. Goal is to raise \$15,000 by end of year. Have raised \$2900 from 21 contributors.
  - C. The goal is to not just rely on officials to support the foundation.
  
- IV. Awards — Leon Glover
  - A. National certificates come from the National office.
  - B. Jim Hume designed an Association award certificate. Ajay was able to get into Hume's database and the certificates are in.
  - C. Discussed Dick Barbour, a WWII vet who officiated the long jump at Stanford for many years. He wore braces on his legs due to war wounds. One of our association's major officials' awards was named for him.
  
- V. Old Business
  - A. Status of (Cross Country) meets
    - Manha – Stanford schedule of track meets. Last year had 102 officials for the Invitational; hopes to get 50-60 for 2021.
  - B. Status of CIF, NCAA, USATF meets for next year
    - Phil has a meeting next week with Kenny McDaniel (Sac State)
    - CIF: Dec. 26 XC meets can start; March 1 for T & F meets.
    - 2021 NCAA National Championship meet is scheduled for Eugene in June. The application deadline passed in October.
  
- VI. New Business
  - A. Association Junior Officials Program Chair- Ajay
    - This is a program for people under 18 (14-17). Opportunity to learn about officiating.
    - It sounds like our Mentor program but for juniors.



- The National office asked the Certification Chairs to designate a person to head up the program.
- JR said this is not to be confused with the Young Officials (18-39) program.
- JR saw no reason to start a new program at this level given our lack of success in recruiting new officials from College/JC ranks. College people who are interested are generally competing. He also said that Mike Trego & Ashley Newton requested that each association appoint a person for this program.
- Murray recommended tabling this item and see what becomes of the program at the USATF Annual Meeting. He pointed out that 14-17 year olds may be interested but then go to college so would be unable to continue officiating.
- Shirey agreed. John is more concerned about getting someone to head the Mentoring program than starting a new program.
- Tabled by vote.

B. January Training Clinics (Ajay)

- Bill & Ajay are in discussion. Talking about feasibility. No decision as to how they will be done.
- Open to suggestions.
- Ajay: At least 2 clinics planned: Starter clinic; Referee clinic. Also, any PowerPoint clinic is under consideration.
- **Starters** (Jim Manha). Has talked with Bob Podkaminer. They agreed to do a Zoom clinic on January 17 in the afternoon.
- **Referees:** Jim & JR have spent 20+ hours reviewing recertification questions. Recertification for all referees will be via Zoom on January 31, 2021 in the afternoon. That morning, Jim & JR will hold an introduction to Referees class. Dennis Boyle will be the Combined Events presenter and has created a PowerPoint presentation. Jim & JR will also present.
- Shirey recommends that we use the Zoom platform for our clinics. He suggested picking 1 Saturday and hold the Rules Update. Use the Breakout feature in Zoom for breakout sessions for clinics we would normally do in person. Bill agreed with this idea.

C. NBN Masks- (Phil)

- Phil was approached by NBN about 1 month ago. They mocked up some masks (see NBN website)

D. USATF Annual Meeting (Phil)



- Murray says a motion to postpone elections until 2021 will be submitted to membership at the opening session. The motion needs 50% approval to pass. If the motion passes, existing officers will continue in office. The terms of office for officers elected in 2021 would then be 3 years.
- 2020 is not a Laws & Legislation (L&L) year. However, USOPC has mandated changes in our governance. L&L will have term limits to limit participation on committee.
- Shirey: Any discussion about going ahead with elections for uncontested positions? Murray said yes, that was discussed, but the proposal will be to hold over all positions. All current officers have agreed to remain in office for 1 year. Elections in 2021 will be for 3 year terms. JR asked if appointed positions will also be extended. Unknown.

E. Stanford Billing \$1500 (Jim)

- Manha asked to suspend request for funding until further notice for various reasons.
- JR: Current Association budget line item is \$0. They don't expect to get paid. Stanford provides more than \$1500 in services to officials. This is a holdover from the time when "officials should not get paid." Also, new Coaching regime doesn't know this line item exists.
- **Motion to suspend passed**

F. Revisit the USATF aspect of USATF training as opposed to training HS officials. (Bill)

- History: We want our (Pacific Association) training to focus on USATF. This Board agreed several months back.
- Bill is revisiting this idea because John Price in Nevada has suggested we implement the NFHS training program. Bill says we essentially do because we cover HS rules during our training clinics.

G. Shirley Connors Emeritus Status (Phil)

- Any special recognition? Put her name on the wall at Stanford?
- Shirey: Phil should compose something on our letterhead. We should have recognition at our next banquet. Also, recognize her at the Board of Athletics Association banquet.
- Emeritus status: Leon has a list of 8 or 9 names but it has become political and we do not have the power to declare our own Emeritus officials. Leon & Ajay will continue with Leon's list. Ajay's understanding is that the National requirements are guidelines. If a local Certification chair and National Certification chair agree, then it should go forward.



VII. Anything Else?

A. Evaluations to aid recommendations for Major Meet Selection (Jim Manha)

- Jim hopes the PA Officials Committee can create a local form for evaluating our officials. Such evaluation would provide ready data for Ajay to use for supporting an official who is applying for National meet.
- Phil suggests tabling for now and review after the Annual Meeting.
- Shirey: Not planned that National would want each association to do this, but we can do it as a help to Ajay.

B. **Next meeting sometime in February 2021.** Phil will send out possible dates.

VIII. Meeting adjourned @ 2:20 PM.



**Appendix 1.** Justification to suspend the \$1500 fee charged to Stanford

**Value of Stanford to the Pacific Association Officials** (from Jim Manha)

- Some of the most important annual series of meets in our Association – provides a valuable proving/training ground for all officials at all certification levels. This opportunity contributes to what makes our officials so well trained and helps maintain our reputation across the nation. Rare experience of with working elite athletes and coaches.
- Across the country, all officials are welcome to come and officiate. For 2020 I had 102 just for the Invite. Stanford did not flinch at this number and is willing to allow that number going forward as a basis for accommodations, meals, etc.
- In 2020 asked for food upgrades – granted
- Asked that all housed officials stay nearer Stanford without having to cross the bridge – granted
- Asked that all Event Coordinators receive their own room – granted
- Always provide a Polo shirt to all officials