



Executive Board Meeting via Zoom Minutes

Tuesday, June 2, 2026 7:30 P.M.

I. Call to Order (Phil)

II. Roll Call (Phil)

III. Approval of Minutes from Last Exec Board Meeting -See webpage for Last meeting's minutes. (Phil/Tori)

IV. Reports and Updates

- 1) Chairman (Phil)
 - In Memoriam –
 - Chuck Buettner
 - Dickie Uemeya
- 2) Awards (Ryan/Dennis)
- 3) Training (Bill)
 - Update on training classes held and upcoming
- 4) Certification (Ajay)
 - Update on current Number of officials and status
 - Succession Planning
- 5) Regional Resource Coordinators (Dennis)
 - Mentoring Survey
 - National Mentoring Project
- 6) USATF PA Foundation (Rick/Phil)
- 7) Youth (Mike B./Dante)
 - Update on CIF Registry
 - Region 14 Meet/JO
- 8) LDR (Rick)
- 9) Race Walk (Robert H.)
- 10) Calendar (Rob)
 - Current Schedule and Scheduling



Old Business

- Upcoming Training Opportunities (Bill)
- PAOC Election Policy and Procedures Changes
- Officials Grievance Procedures
- **New Business**
- Donation to the PAUSATF Officials (John L.)
- Transition of Cert Chair
- Officials Annual Meeting

Anything Else?

Project Sync / Status Update Summary

Attendees and Administrative Notes

- Present: Bill Bartel, Robert Hooper, Rob Benoy, Mike Brown, John Lilygren, Scott Kostka, Dennis Boyle, Brendan O’Leary, Mike Bower, Dave Sundin, plus others.
 - Recording to be sent to Tori/Corey for minutes.
- New participant identification:
 - “TK2023” identified as Dante McCarthy; rename requested.

Season Highlights and Memorials

- Season performance:
 - Strong season with notable officiating, especially by apprentices.
- Memorials and recognitions:
 - Charles “Chuck” Buettner:
 - Posthumous emeritus certificate to be presented to his daughters and girlfriend.
 - Movement to nominate for Pacific Association Hall of Fame; USATF HOF nomination uncertain (no Olympic Trials service).
 - Dickie Uemiya:
 - Emeritus certificate on Phil’s desk; Dan Davidson to present to his daughter at Lodi memorial service on the 20th (Saturday).
 - Praised for raising weights & measures standards; anecdotal impacts shared.

Awards and Recognition

- Awards season underway:
 - Collecting nominations for five major awards.
 - National official certificates:
 - Led by Ryan with Regional Coordinators; target submission by July 1 (earlier preferred to handle engraving/framing before late August cross-country).
 - All national award nominations should route through Ajay (coordination with Coach Bo in Kentucky).
 - Association and apprentice awards will also be issued.

Training and Development

- Near-term clinics:
 - Intro clinics scheduled for June 4 and June 11 (Bill).
 - Summer training plan:
 - Starters and referee training at Grant High School all-comers; explore adding field event training.
- Strategic training direction:
 - Shift emphasis to fall in-person clinics (e.g., October) ahead of indoor season.
 - Reinstate hands-on modules (e.g., performance sheets) frequently missed in virtual-only formats.
 - Consider mandatory training milestones for advancement:
 - Example: Advanced Throws clinic required for national/master levels; “Intro to Throws/Horizontal/Verticals” for progression.
 - Record-keeping:
 - Expand tracking (e.g., add clinic-completion columns) across the officials’ master spreadsheet.
 - Consider regional training leads (e.g., Reno, Chico/Red Bluff, Sacramento, Bay Area) under a central coordinator.
- Performance documentation standards:
 - Consistent completion of performance sheets needs reinforcement; to be prioritized in intro and role-specific clinics.
- Facilities support:
 - American River College and Santa Rosa programs open to hosting clinics.

- Coordination during Golden West weekend for facility commitments.

Certification and Succession Planning

- Current size: Approximately 250–270 certified officials (largest in the country).
- Ajay stepping down as Certification Chair at end of the Olympiad:
 - Successor appointment in progress; nomination period ends on the 30th of this month.
 - Goal: at least one year of mentorship/overlap for a smooth transition.
 - Continue regional co-certification model (six regions) for pre-screening and standards maintenance.
- Standards:
 - Ajay commended for upholding strong, tactful standards; need continuity of rigor.

Mentoring Program

- Surveys:
 - Top-down: 16 national/master officials reported mentoring activities (multiple mentees per mentor in some cases).
 - Bottom-up: 24 apprentices/association officials responded; strong desire for mentoring, with gaps in specific disciplines.
- Placement/pigeonholing challenge:
 - New officials often repeatedly assigned to long jump/field events despite interest in other areas (e.g., clerking).
 - Guidance:
 - New officials encouraged to assert preferences and decline assignments beyond their competency.
 - Meet management should verify competency before assignments, especially for complex events (e.g., triple jump).
- National Mentoring Project:
 - Concept supported but stalled due to lack of a dedicated coordinator; minimal communication since March.

Youth and Junior Olympics (JOs)

- Region 14 JOs:
 - Venue: Monterey Peninsula College.
 - Invoicing processed; hotels in progress (Ed, Heike).
 - Officials staffing ongoing; always need more (Dante and Meia coordinating; Reno official secured for pole vault).
- Golden West vs. NorCal:
 - NorCal youth meet (Santa Clara HS) conflicts with Golden West, reducing youth participation at GW.
 - Plan to consider new dates closer to JOs (two-week gap) to improve turnout; improve calendar visibility by listing youth meets on PA calendar for better staffing.

CIF High School Certification (2026–27 School Year)

- Requirements:
 - Officials must be CIF-certified to officiate high school meets.
 - Coaches may run events as coaches but are not considered certified officials without CIF certification.
- Components under discussion:
 - SafeSport:
 - Seek acceptance of USATF SafeSport by CIF where feasible.
 - Background check:
 - Arbiter Sports; \$29; confirm and negotiate frequency (annual vs. multi-year).
 - Rules testing:
 - High school rules test required (USATF rules testing does not cover NFHS).
- Next steps:
 - Meet with Sac-Joaquin Section officials coordinator; possibly with state CIF coordinator Brian Seymour for statewide alignment and reciprocity.
 - Provide detailed guidance to members by the annual meeting; monitor July 1 opening.



- July Contact Rule reform:
 - Propose change to Sac-Joaquin policy restricting coach-athlete contact first two weeks of July (adverse impact on JO prep for multiple sports).

LDR and Cross-Country Schedule Update

- Road season:
 - 4th of July race in Golden Gate Park.
 - New Alameda “Cooper Teir Classic” 8K on August 8.
 - Adjustments:
 - Second 10-miler lost course access; pivoted to a one-mile event (two one-mile races this year).
 - Three half marathons scheduled.
 - Staffing sufficient so far.
- Cross-country:
 - Starts late August (typically Santa Cruz).

Calendar and Meet Staffing

- Meet volume:
 - 74 events this year vs. 82 last year.
- Submission quality:
 - Forms generally filled; many requests seek too few officials (e.g., one official for horizontals), undermining efficiency and accuracy.
 - Some late or missing submissions (e.g., Senior Games; certain community/college meets).
- Education and expectations:
 - Need to communicate minimum staffing standards for event quality (especially horizontals).
 - Budget constraints and multiple concurrent events acknowledged; meet directors urged to plan appropriately (stipends, travel, numbers).
 - Travel reimbursement policies vary; encourage clarity and fairness.

Race Walk Program

- Current officials: Approx. 29.
- Recent clinic:
 - Jon and Beth Price held a clinic (May 17); four attendees (one certified, others pending USATF certification).
 - Plan shadowing at upcoming events.
- Upcoming events:
 - Golden West (June 7): 1500m and 5K race walk; one athlete may target a national record.
 - October 25 (Carmichael, William Pond Park): 10K race walk; concurrent 1K and 3K power walks.
 - Emphasize power walking for broader participation and health benefits.

Policy and Governance Updates

- Election policy alignment:
 - Terms align with Association's June 1 start (instead of starting at annual meeting).
 - Proposed timeline:
 - By Feb 1: Chair appoints Nominating Committee.
 - Apr 24–May 24: Election window.
 - By Jun 1: New term begins.
 - Document to be scrubbed and posted for general review (Dave/John/Phil).
- Disciplinary/grievance procedures:
 - Don Mosbacher and John Busto drafting updates to modernize and reduce liability exposure.
 - Aim to present at the annual meeting.
 - Rationale: Clear procedures for addressing code-of-ethics breaches and fair recourse.

Funding and Equipment

- Stanford Track & Field Foundation donation:

- \$13,621.67 to Officials Fund (Timothy R. Warner, Nancy Ditz, Ray Purper).
- Purpose: Recruit and educate new officials; complements existing budget.
 - Consider starter kits (rulebooks, flags) for new officials.
 - Explore covering certain fees (e.g., CIF background check via Arbiter) to reduce barriers.
- Equipment priorities (to support training and modernization):
 - Additional total station for Sacramento region training.
 - Horizontal jump rails; distos (lasers); reduce reliance on tapes.
 - Leverage vendor relationships/discounts (e.g., Gill, VISA, FinishLynx, laser suppliers).
- Inventory management:
 - Current inventory spreadsheet exists (primarily implements); need updated officials' equipment inventory and locations.
 - Recent consolidation of materials (e.g., items from Leroy Mylan's estate) in progress; non-usable items to be discarded.
- PA Foundation endowment:
 - \$250,000 donated by Pacific Association to Foundation to endow Youth JOs travel support (use earnings, not principal).
 - George Kleeman Grants:
 - Awards in next month; this year's JO travel fund currently ~\$3,500, seeking more donations.
 - Timeline: Region 14 (June 26–28); applications due June 30; awards by July 3; JOs July 24–Aug 2 (Cerritos).
 - Last year's impact: 14 national medals among nine funded athletes (criteria included top-10 ranking).
- Additional private donations:
 - John L. considering personal contribution to offset added costs for new officials (e.g., background checks, materials) while keeping some "skin in the game."

Incidents and Compliance Learnings (Training Implications)

- Technology use without approval:
 - High School/State meet: Official installed a 35mm camera on a tripod at the long jump board to adjudicate fouls without meet approval; corrected on-site and counseled. Future tech must be pre-approved and used per rules.
- Inappropriate photography:
 - Mountain West (Fresno): Sector official paused men's shot for women's steeple passage (acceptable caution), then used a camera to photograph athletes over the water jump; referee intervened. Reinforce ethics and appropriate conduct.
- Pole vault management errors:
 - Delta College NorCal meet:
 - Run by a coach with multiple procedural errors (wrong starting peg, mixed metric/imperial, incorrect increments, extra attempts granted).
 - Outcome: Potential meet record could not be ratified due to poor documentation.
- Flag usage and documentation:
 - Throws events observed without flags; deferred correction until finals to avoid disruption, then enforced—example of calibrated judgment.
- Actions:
 - Incorporate case studies into mandatory training:
 - Approved use of technology and video.
 - Ethical boundaries on photography.
 - Event setup standards (PV standards, increments, documentation).
 - Proper flag protocols and performance sheet completion.
 - Empower officials to decline assignments beyond competence; guide meet management on appropriate staffing.

Annual Meeting Planning

- **Date: Sunday, August 30 (last Sunday in August).**
- Venue coordination:
 - Contact: Erica Contreras; facility reserved (UC Davis).

- Registration and logistics:
 - Online registration to be set up.
 - Raffle proceeds to benefit the Foundation (and potentially JO travel).
 - Soliciting donations (e.g., Olympic pins, golf package via Kevin Dempsey, useful officiating equipment).
- Recording and minutes:
 - Meeting recordings to be shared with Tori/Corey for official minutes and archiving.

Action Items

@Bill: Send the meeting recording link to @John for distribution to Tori/Corey.

@All: Submit nominations for the five major awards; route national official certificate nominations through @Ajay by 2026-07-01 (earlier if possible).

@Phil: Present posthumous emeritus certificate for Charles “Chuck” Buettner to his daughters and girlfriend when received.

@Dan Davidson: Present Dickie Uemiya’s emeritus certificate to his daughter at the Lodi memorial service on the 20th.

@Bill: Conduct intro clinics on June 4 and June 11; send schedule/details to @John for website posting.

@Bill and @Team: Draft a fall in-person training plan (October/November) with mandatory modules and performance sheet standards; propose regional training leads.

@John Busto: Coordinate summer starter/referee training at Grant HS all-comers; assess feasibility for field event training.

@Phil: Finalize appointment of successor Certification Chair by 2026-06-30 and arrange mentorship overlap with @Ajay.

@Regional Coordinators: Contact mentees from the bottom-up survey (e.g., place @Lena Watts into clerking opportunities) and report gaps.

@Dante and @Meia: Finalize Region 14 JO logistics (hotels, invoices) and continue recruiting officials; share staffing sheet with @Heike.

@Youth Committee: Coordinate with NorCal clubs to avoid future conflicts with Golden West and add youth meets to the PA calendar.



@Foundation Team: Award George Kleeman grants by 2026-07-03; continue fundraising for JO travel support.

@Phil and @Mike Brown: Meet with Sac-Joaquin officials coordinator; if needed, schedule with @Brian Seymour to clarify CIF rules testing, SafeSport acceptance, and background check frequency; publish guidance by the annual meeting.

@Rod and @Phil: Follow up with meet directors (e.g., Senior Games, Golden West staff) to ensure proper calendar submissions and adequate staffing requests.

@Race Walk Leads (Jon/Beth): Complete certification steps for clinic attendees; staff Golden West race walk (June 7); promote Oct 25 event.

@Dave and @John L.: Finalize election policy document (timeline aligning to June 1 start); post for review.

@Don Mosbacher and @John Busto: Resume work on disciplinary/grievance procedure updates; prepare draft for annual meeting.

@Phil and @Dave: Compile and circulate current equipment inventory and locations; identify priority purchases (e.g., Total Station, rails, distos).

@Phil: Engage vendors (Gill, VS Athletics, FinishLynx, laser providers) for discounts on officials' equipment.

@John and @Rick: Set up annual meeting online registration and raffle; solicit and track raffle donations.

@Phil and @Scott (OR): Publish newsletter article on practical officiating standards (technology approvals, documentation, and shortcuts vs. standards).

@Ajay/@Phil: Estimate number of consistently active officials (vs. total certified) via survey or records and report back.