

Minutes of the Alabama Association of USATF Spring Meeting
Wynfrey Hotel - Hoover, AL
February 24, 2013

President Joseph Henderson called the meeting to order.

Officers present: Joe Henderson, Angela Vail, Mary Birdwell.

Secretary Angela Vail confirmed there was quorum after determining that the following clubs were in attendance:

- Alabama Heat
- Alabama Track Masters
- Birmingham Track Club
- Club Elite
- Hoover Parks and Recreation Track Club
- Huntsville Metro Track Club
- Magic City Runners
- Montgomery YMCA Dream Team
- North Alabama Trackers
- Speed One Performance
- Track Alabama
- Tuscaloosa Falcons
- US Elite Jr.

Bill Murray proposed that the agenda be accepted as presented. This was seconded by Debbie McMoore. The motion was passed.

Secretary Angela Vail proposed that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as presented on the website. This was seconded by Bill Murray. The motion was passed.

Unfinished Business

The topic of recognition for members, coaches, and/or officers was re-introduced for discussion. If someone has offered outstanding service or performance, would we want to set up a committee in the organization to plan a form of recognition? Jeff Jackson suggested perhaps having an organization dinner, and President Joe Henderson suggested that those being recognized be presented a plaque or something of that nature. Jeff Jackson proposed that we form a committee to investigate options for recognition. Edwin Hampton seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

President Joe Henderson then noted the importance of the History of our USAFT Alabama club, of getting information together and presenting it via our website for people to review. Mary Birdwell noted that Rose Murphy could write a great deal of the history, since she was involved for many years, and Richmond Brown could add quite a bit too. Since there were no volunteers for this project at this time, Joe Henderson noted that he would take this back to the Executive Committee for further review.

Reports

Vice President

Richmond Brown - Absent

- No Report Received

Secretary/Treasurer

Angela Vail Submitted the following report:

- Treasurer's report: As of 2/23/2013, Compass Checking - \$12,518.22; Money Market - \$45,696.89; CD - \$5,185.00. The CD has now been moved to Compass bank, so all three accounts are there now. Also, the association's 990EZ tax form will be available each year on the website under Financials.

- Secretary's report: At the National meeting in Daytona Beach, there were not many things covered this time under the Organizational umbrella.
- At our last USATF Alabama meeting (Sept/2012) the position of Secretary/Treasurer was voted to be made into two separate positions, so that will go into effect with the elections at the September 2013 meeting.
- The minutes of the last meeting are available for review on the website.

Membership

Mary Birdwell Submitted the following report:

- We currently have 319 members, which is good for this time of year. We have 9 clubs renewed right now, with 3 new clubs. Membership for clubs is due by May 1st. If all clubs were to renew this year, with the 3 new clubs we would have 42 clubs.
- We have around 9 sanctions right now, and hopefully by the end of the year we'll have around 30. We do get some money from Sanctions – we get some, and National office gets some.

Youth Committee

Jeff Jackson Submitted the following report:

- In November, for the Association cross country meet, we had 77 registered and 67 of these participated; 5 or 6 went on to the National meet. Thanks go to Darryl Woods for pulling this together, and thanks to all the officials.
- We had a good conference call in January, concerning Youth activities/events. We cannot bid on the JO CC meet until next year. 2014 looks to be in California but there is a possibility that we could bid on it.
- Oak Mountain has the ability to hold a Youth National meet – the Youth committee would like to suggest we bid in 2013 for the 2014 meet. Coach Tilley discussed with me that they'll need a Hammer cage and the steeplechase. Holding a Youth National meet will be good for our association and will bring an influx of cash to us.
- Jeff listed the meets he was aware of for this summer; these will be posted on the website.
- Our Association CC meet will be 11/16/2013 in Huntsville.

Men and Women Track and Field

Marcia Westry - Absent

- No Report Received
- President Joe Henderson noted that Marcia been unable to fulfill her role as committee chair and that Drew Bell will take this over (until the next president appoints the chair), once he has renewed his USATF membership.

Masters Track and Field

Bill Murray Submitted the following report:

- Next Saturday is the SW Indoor Regional meet in Baton Rouge; 3/3 is the first ever SE Region meet in Winston-Salem; next weekend is also the USATF National Indoor Combined Events meet in Wisconsin; and 3/22-3/24 is the National Indoor Championship meet in Landover, MD; the SE Regional Outdoor is May 17-18 in NC; the Alabama Masters and Open Championship is June 1; Combined Events Championship is June 22-23; USATF National Outdoor Championship is in Olathe, KS on July 11-14. I will post the events on the website.

LDR

Edwin Hampton Submitted the following report:

- We're working on a couple of things up in our area. There are national logo changes for LDR, but these got lost in the mail, so we'll get them again for use in the future.

LDR Masters

Betram Golden - Absent

- No Report Received

Officials:

Ben Vail Submitted the following report:

- This year was an election year at the National meeting, and Len Krsak was re-elected as President. A new Training chair was elected, and they are looking at setting up a Regional training program. The Crossplex has offered to let us use their facility at no charge if we hold a Clinic; unfortunately this available weekend is usually the same one as our Association CC meet. If we do a Regional training clinic, they anticipate that around 200-300 officials may come in to attend that.
- This year the Paralympics has tied in with USATF – they have an online test for certification for this, and currently there is one person certified in Alabama for this (Joe down in south Alabama). Mandy at Lakeshore Foundation is really looking forward to working with as many officials who want to do this as possible. They currently only have about 1-2 wheelchair events each year – if we can get a number of certified officials for Paralympics they want to bring participation to our Association meets.
- NCAA is setting up testing for certification to be NCAA officials. This could pose a problem for USATF in the long run, if officials just want to do only high school or USATF or NCAA. This comes down to economics - USATF does not pay officials.
- Rules books – I've sent out a link: if you are a member you can get the rule book for \$5.00 plus S&H. It is also available online for free. An issue has been presented that with the rule book online, what is an official to do if electronics are not allowed in the competition area – National is reviewing this
- This year we're up to 153 certified officials, with 24 new officials. We have 91 Association level officials, 29 National level officials, and soon we'll have 10 Masters level officials. A problem has surfaced with testing – while they are open book tests, they're finding that people are still cheating – in California someone was selling the answers. This violates the ethics code that we sign to be an official.
- It is requested that officials who work National meets have background checks.

Racewalk:

Gene Tomlin - Absent

- No Report Received
- Ben Vail noted that he has been approached by three (3) certified RW officials – there is a husband and wife team in Gunterville, and she was the Masters champion for her age group in Utah for years. They would like to take over as joint chair for RW if that would be possible. They also would like to put on RW clinics – this would really help our Youth who attempt this (but have not had much training). We could just reimburse them for gas. And they could put on a mini-clinic about 30-40 minutes before the event at a meet, to help make this all go smoother.
- Jeff Jackson noted that at the National meeting, a Texas group did a presentation about RW to address obesity, and they applied for grants to help with this. Jeff has a copy of the book they prepared about how to RW, and he noted that the Texas people will come and talk to your school board, Mayor, etc. about RW as good exercise if anyone is interested.
- Edwin Hampton noted that the National office will also send people to your area to teach RW clinics.

Coaches Education

Dale Beard - Absent

- No Report Received

Website Coordinator

David Bullock Submitted the following report:

- The site address is www.al.usatf.org.
- Each discipline head will manage his/her own page on the website.
- If you are sending things to David to post on the site, please use a Word document.

- We get a portion of USATF sales money when things are purchased from OUR website.

LOC

Jim Pugh, Director - Submitted the following report:

We'll bid in 2014 for the 2015 JO CC meet, although we still could get in earlier (if no one bids). We'll have people on the LOC who are interested, have the ability and can work from now until the meet. If you are interested, please let me know. The initial meeting will be in a few weeks, to identify the areas we need to address. I have a copy of the bid from the 2010 one we did. We will partner with the city of Hoover, and the site is Veteran's Park again.

This is to have the best meet we possibly can, to bring money to the Association – there's no personal money coming, and you'll work hard.

Upon request of President Joe Henderson, John Bahakel gave an update on the **Grievance committee**: Per the National office, we do have a procedure in place in our association bylaws for grievances. There are 7 people for the three on the committee, so that if someone is not available at the time or if there is a conflict of interest there are others who can fill in for that incident.

President's Report:

Joe Henderson Submitted the following report:

- Membership Cards – will be permanent numbers in the future to save money.
- Accreditation Process – will improve the process.
- Early club membership – will be done again this year
- Insurance for the clubs – very important: there is no insurance for clubs whose coaches don't have background checks. Go to TC Logic and put in the club name. Do not do the one for Youth clubs through Coach Registry.
- Grievances – should be handled in approximately one (1) month.
- National Governance manual indicates that International athletes are important to have as delegates for the national meeting, but are not required.
- Association – should budget funds for coaching education scholarship and advertisement; remember to apply to National for a grant (up to \$2,000.00).
- Karen Krsak – demand professionalism from the Association and officers; follow the rules or you will be labeled as non-compliant.
- According to Sherry Quack, we are in full compliance (for accreditation); we even have 6 of the 9 “non-required” items.
- Coaches – you cannot sign in all the kids under your e-address for membership, per Lionel Leach.
- Regional Representative – use this person if there are questions about something in the national manual. Pam Betz from Florida is our new rep (she replaced Marlene when she got a new position).

Old Business

Ben Vail noted that the Operations/Procedures manual is close to being complete. We need to have a strategic planning meeting so that everything is in place for the new officials to use after the September elections. Maybe we can do this in late summer – after the JO?

New Business

- Association Outdoor meet: We have one bid – Alabama Heat, Birmingham - for Parker HS. Ben Vail made a motion that we accept their bid. This was seconded by Walt Bell. The motion was passed.
- Association Cross country meet: We have one bid – Huntsville Metro TC, Huntsville – Airport Field, off Drake Avenue. Ben Vail made a motion that we accept their bid. This was seconded by Bill Murray. The motion was passed. Open and Masters will be on the same day.
- Identify financial assistance for USATF Alabama National Qualifier – we did entry fees last year, and gave the athletes T-shirts. I suggest we do that again for this year. Angela Vail noted that not everyone

contacted her last year for the reimbursement money. Mary Birdwell had sent her a list of who was owed what, and they were all instructed by Mary to contact Angela with name for the check and address to send it to, but several did not respond. Ben Vail made a motion that we do the same thing for 2013 – reimburse registration fees and T-shirts. This was seconded by Bill Murray. The motion was passed.

- Whoever gets the bid needs to pay the officials for the Association meet.
- Nominating committee – elections will be held in September for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Chair.
- Have integrity – to our children, to our clubs – no matter the size - and to our Association. Don't try to take other coaches/club's athletes.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ben Vail; seconded by Gini Bell. All in Favor - approved. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela L. Vail
Secretary-Treasurer