

Minutes of the Alabama Association of USATF Annual Meeting
Shelby County Services Bldg. - Pelham, AL
September 29, 2013

President Joseph Henderson was unable to attend the meeting for personal reasons; Vice President Richmond Brown was not able to attend the meeting for health reasons; Secretary-Treasurer Angela Vail called the meeting to order.

Officers present: Angela Vail, Mary Birdwell.

Angela Vail appointed Gene Tomlin as Parliamentarian. Gene asked that Charles Thompson assist him when needed; Charles agreed to do so.

Angela Vail made the motion, per Joe Henderson's e-mail request to Mary Birdwell, that Mary be President pro temp for this meeting. Motion was seconded by Bill Murray; vote was approved by the majority (one nay was noted).

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

- Alabama Heat
- Alabama Track Masters
- Birmingham Vault Club
- Hoover Parks and Recreation Track Club
- Huntsville Metro Track Club
- Magic City Runners
- Montgomery YMCA Dream Team
- Mobile Parks and Recreation
- NOR AL
- North Alabama Trackers
- Peak Athletics
- Southern Running
- Sprint South Track Club
- Thunderbolts
- Track Alabama
- Tri City Striders

Jeff Jackson introduced two of our Alabama athletes who represented us on the national stage – World Team and Junior World Team. For Junior World Team, from Thompson high school, running the 100 and 200m dash, was Jaylon Jones. Marlon Humphries also made the Junior World Team, in the 110 high hurdles and 400m hurdles; he was unable to attend the meeting today. For World Team, running for Speed City Track Club in the 4X400 relay, and placing 5th in the 400m dash at the national trials and 9th in the high jump, was James Harris, who attends Florida State. James brought along his gold medal for the members to view – awesome! Jeff presented both athletes present with a framed certificate.

Secretary Angela Vail asked that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as prepared, even though they had not been posted on the website yet due to technical difficulties; she was working with current Website Coordinator David Bullock on getting them posted. She asked if anyone wanted anything to be read at this meeting; no one requested any review. Bill Murray made a motion that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as prepared; seconded by Bill Evans. The motion was passed.

Reports

Secretary/Treasurer

Angela Vail Submitted the following report:

- Treasurer's report: As of 9/28/2013, Compass Checking - \$18,099.64. The Money Market account - \$45,866.17; we earned \$246.70 in interest YTD (this is currently at .2%). The CD - \$5,233.62; we earned \$48.57 in interest YTD (this is currently at 1.24%). The total for all accounts is \$69,199.43. Also, the association's 2012 990EZ tax form will be posted soon on the website under Financials.

Membership

Mary Birdwell Submitted the following report:

- We have 1159 members this year, which is very good – the most we've had in 4 years; 373 are age 18 or above, and 786 are Youth, 17 or younger. We now have 40 approved clubs right now, with 1 pending. All clubs are done online now. Renew online after November 1, and that will be good for all of 2014. Same thing with your membership – renew after November 1, and that will be good for all of 2014.
- We have approved 21 sanctions right now, the most we've had at this point in the year in a long time. We have to have 22 championships this year for national's accreditation standards.
- Membership renewal date change is still in discussion with the Youth group and the national office, as verified at the Associations Workshop we attended last month.

Men and Women Track and Field

Drew Bell - Absent

- No Report Received
- Mary Birdwell noted that there was one meet this year, in June, with Race Walk, Open, and Masters included. Several new people attended this meet, enjoyed it, and e-mailed her that they would come back next year for that meet.

Race walk:

Gene Tomlin - Submitted the following report:

- Kids need coaching in Race walk technique to help them improve as legitimate contenders.
- Ben Vail introduced Ben and Jeanene Kaiser and stated that they can assist anyone (coach, athlete), who is interested.
 - Ben Kaiser noted that they have passed out many videos on RW by a professional RW person. Jeanine stated that they can present a RW clinic if you will contact them. The video is copyrighted and available for purchase.
 - Edwin Hampton noted that the National office will also send people to your area to teach RW clinics.
 - Mary Birdwell stated that there might be a few grants available for RW – we need to look into this.

Youth Committee

Jeff Jackson Submitted the following report:

- We had 21 kids make it to the National meet from our Association. We had 287 males and 286 females at our Association meet in June. It was well attended and I thank the officials for all their hard work.
- Mary Birdwell noted that Coach Henderson is hosting the CC meet on November 23 in Huntsville, at Airport Blvd on Hwy 31 (old Airport, not the new one) – good course. This will be for Youth, Open, and Masters.

Masters Track and Field

Bill Murray Submitted the following report:

- Masters and Open T&F Championship was June 1, 2013 in Hoover. The World Masters Championship will be October 15-27, 2013 in Porto Alegre, Brazil, and the first ever USATF Alabama Indoor O & MS Indoor Championship will be at the Crossplex in Birmingham on December 27-28, 2013.
- For next year (2014): The O & MS Indoor Championship will be at the Crossplex in Birmingham – the Donate Life Master's Invitational will be a charitable event on February 16. This event was the idea of Jim Pugh's daughter, and proceeds from that meet will go to pediatric organ transplants/research. The USATF Master's Indoor National Championship will be in Boston, MA on March 14-16. The WMA World Indoor Championship will be in Budapest, Hungary on March 20-25. The USATF Alabama's O & MS Championship will be in Birmingham on May 31.

LDR

Edwin Hampton Submitted the following report:

- We're working on a meet up with UNA for next year.
- Mary Birdwell had previously discussed the LDR meet on December 15 in Vestavia – that will be a 5K and 10K for sure, and maybe a 15K too; she stated that yes, it would be sanctioned later. Mary indicated that she is trying to get Valerie (with Trak Shak) to sanction the Mercedes race.

LDR Masters

Betram Golden - Absent

- No Report Received

Coaches Education

Dale Beard - Absent

- No Report Received
- Mary Birdwell stated that we are trying to get a Level II school in the Southeast. Paul Brueske is working on this for down in Mobile.

Officials:

Ben Vail Submitted the following report:

- Our Association finished the 2009-2012 Olympiad with 124 officials, down from over 200 the previous term. Currently for the 2013-2016 Olympiad we have 108 officials: 40 apprentice level, 32 association, 26 national and 10 master level officials.
- Para-Track Certified officials include: Helen Carden, Doug and Martha Moran, Ben and Angela Vail, and Joe Williams.
- NOC recognition: In 2012 the NOC recognized Reid LaPorte and Laura Gast. For 2013 the NOC recognized Angela Vail, Dan Passen, Tommie Stinson, Debbie McMoore, Robert Wheatley and Willie Ray. Also: Connie Tolbert-McClinton was chosen as one of two officials nationally for the National Mentoring Program. She participated at the National Junior Outdoor Championship in Des Moines, IA.
- Our Association continues to have officials work national meets.

Youth National: Houston Young, Angela Vail, Ben Vail, Laura Gast, Robert Wheatley, Bryan and Moriah Lorge.

National Masters Indoor Championship: Ben and Angela Vail.

National Masters Outdoor Championship: Bill Murray, Robert Wheatley, Laura Gast, Ben and Angela Vail.

JO: Houston Young, Laura Gast, Connie Tolbert-McClinton, David Bullock, Robert Wheatley and Mary Birdwell.

- This year the Association will hold a regional clinic on November 16th at the Birmingham Crossplex. We continue to be seen as a national leader in indoor clinics. This year the NOC president and secretary will be in attendance.
- The 2014 Championship Applications are now available online and they include:

2014 Open Indoor Championship in Albuquerque, NM

2014 USATF Senior Outdoor Championship - TBA

2014 USATF Junior Outdoor Championship - TBA

2014 IAAF World Junior Outdoor Championship in Eugene, OR

President's report:

Mary Birdwell read the President's report that Joe Henderson had e-mailed to her, in which he discussed his joy at serving as President of our Association for 2 terms and his passion for developing youth athletics : track and field and cross country in particular. He noted that he had seen development and improvement in many areas, including: selection of and support for our delegates who attend the annual national meeting; entry-fee support for the athletes who qualify for the outdoor Junior Olympics; accreditation standards; and our LOC. He noted that the improvements have come about because of the efforts of the concerned and dedicated individuals in our organization, that we

should continue to develop and expand our events arena, the importance of club managers continuing to be directly involved with the rules, regulations, and operations of the association, and the importance of updating our bylaws to keep them in compliance with the national ones. He closed by stating that 2013 was a good year for our Association, he noted the character traits of people that can help the Association, and asked that we remember the Association cross country meet in Huntsville on November 23.

LOC:

Jim Pugh, Director - Submitted the following report, during waiting-time of Elections process:

The LOC, for hosting regional and national level meets, has met twice to do preliminary planning for just in case we get to bid this December on the 2015 JO cross country meet. In 2010 we made close to \$90,000.00 – we got to keep all the entry fees at that time. Now, National is considering taking all the entry fees and making us pay an additional 25% of net profit. If they do that, we'd only make about \$30,000.00 – for 2 years work - and half of that profit went to pay all the volunteers that helped put on that meet. So, that would mean, if we do this again, that we'd only have \$15,000.00 for the Association, and \$15,000.00 to split between 300-400 volunteers. The average school would make about \$1,000.00 – this may just take away any incentive we have for hosting a national meet, because there's no way just this association can come up with the volunteer manpower/hours necessary. We've got to involve the local high schools and local track teams to be able to pull something like that off. Mary added that you have to pay \$50,000.00 to do the meet, and while you do get \$25,000.00 back, they hold it all until you've held the meet. While it's great to be able to say that you hosted a meet like that, it puts a lot of pressure on you.

New Business

As discussed at different points in the meeting, by Mary Birdwell, Jim Pugh, William Spear, John Bahakel, and others, the National office may be taking away the incentive to bid on larger national meets. Therefore, it may be in our best interest to consider our available resources in efforts to have perhaps regional or just larger invitational meets in our state. We would be more likely to keep a greater percentage of any profits for our Association. Mary Birdwell is currently checking with Samford and BSC about the use of their facilities. Also, the Association itself is likely to host the future outdoor meets in June.

Elections

Nomination committee - Gini Bell, David Bullock, and Sundra Holmes

Sundra Holmes (Club) was in charge of the vote count; Martha Moran (Official) and Casey Edwards (Athlete) were assigned to assist her.

Gini Bell of the nominating committee reviewed the overall nomination and election process. Gini stated that nominations would be taken from the floor provided the nominee was prepared to provide the Nominations Committee with the completed application and a sports resume. Each candidate would be provided the opportunity to address the membership. She stated, upon question, that if a person was running unopposed for a position, there would be no actual voting process and the vote would be by acclamation. Gini reviewed the nominations for the officers as follows:

President

Molly McGregor

- Nominations for president were called for from the floor. Jeff Jackson nominated Jay Shine, and Edwin Hampton seconded the nomination. Jay declined the nomination.
- Doug Moran made a motion that the nominations be closed and Bill Evans seconded it. The motion was passed.
- Gini announced vote by acclamation: Molly McGregor – President.

Vice President

Joe Henderson
David Bullock

- Nominations for vice president were called for from the floor. There were none. Bill Murray made a motion that the nominations be closed and Bill Evans seconded it. The motion was passed. Sundra provided each member with a vote card.
- A ballot vote was completed; Sundra collected purple vote cards. Gini announced: David Bullock – Vice President.

Treasurer

Angela Vail

- Nominations for Treasurer were called for from the floor. Edwin Hampton nominated James Fakunle, and Jeff Jackson seconded the nomination. James accepted the nomination. Following stated process, before a vote could be taken, it was necessary for the Nomination Committee to collect and review James' application and sports resume. Gini Bell requested to table the election of Treasurer while these steps were completed. She stated that, election for the Secretary and Membership positions would be completed in the interim. Gini Bell requested the floor back to continue the election of Treasure once the Nominations Committee had an opportunity to review the paperwork submitted by James.
- Bill Murray made a motion that the nominations be closed and Leah Covington seconded it. The motion was passed. Sundra provided each member with a vote card.
- A ballot vote was completed; Sundra collected yellow vote cards. Gini Bell asked for the floor back once the vote had been counted and announced: Angela Vail – Treasurer.
- The election of Treasurer took a total of approximately 55 minutes.

Secretary

Gini Bell

- Nominations for secretary were called for from the floor. There were none.
- Bill Murray made a motion that the nominations be closed and Ben Kaiser seconded it. The motion was passed.
- Vote was accepted by acclamation: Gini Bell – Secretary.

Membership

Mary Birdwell

- Nominations for membership chair were called for from the floor. There were none.
- Jim Pugh made a motion that the nominations be closed and Debbie McMoore seconded it. The motion was passed.
- Gini announced vote by acclamation: Mary Birdwell – Membership.

New President Molly McGregor stated that she would announce the committee chairs and delegates to the national meeting within 10 days to three weeks. Jeff Jackson requested that the committee chairs be elected at this meeting, and Edwin Hampton was the second club to support that request per the association bylaws. After extensive discussion, Jeff agreed that his request was only in reference to the sports chairs, and that the election(s) would occur only if two clubs did not agree on any particular sports chair appointment(s). Edwin Hampton agreed with the discussion and withdrew his club as the second.

Motion to adjourn was made by Doug Moran; seconded by William Spear. All in Favor - approved. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela L. Vail
Outgoing Secretary-Treasurer