



USATF-NJ GENERAL MEETING

LOCATION: Garwood Family Center YMCA
500 East Street, Garwood, NJ

DATE: September 22, 2016

TIME: 7:00 PM

I. Sign-In sheet along with introductions

Attendees: Ed Neighbour, MCS; Reno Stirrat, Shore AC; Bob Skorupski, Shore AC; Ben Teixeira, Clifton RR; Michael Watson, Rams Track Club; Claire Tafelski, Garmin Runners; Jennifer Simpson, Garmin Runners; Wayne Baker, Shore AC/Westfield Flyers; Cindy Cooke; Terry Mullane, USATF Managing Director; Debbie Brathwaite, North Jersey Masters; Tony Lombardi, Sparta HS Coach; Bernard Epps; Sierra Epps; Chris Faraone, Columbia HS Coach; Pam Fales: Chuck Schneekoth, Garden State Track Club; Greg Hatzisavvas, Westfield Flyers; Josiah Novack; Peter Warren, CJRRC; Elliott Denman, Shore AC; Lisa Morgan, Bloomfield College

II. President's Message: Edward Neighbour

- The New Jersey Association has had some challenges in 2016. There have been a lot of disruptions related to issues with the National office particularly with the USATF National Youth Committee. This coupled with the AAU and the failure to abide by agreements has impacted our Youth Programs. The SafeSport Program requirement caused some disruptions in getting the Youth Clubs renewed and the number of NJ Association Clubs for Youth in 2016 has been impacted.
- Our Membership year to year remains stable with the Association Membership running at consistent levels compared with 2015. September 21, 2016 USATF-NJ 6,329 members. Last year at this time we had 6,407 members. We should reach about the same membership level again in 2016.
- The National Office took longer to develop the new Website template. We received the template and the Association Office is in the process of migration of data to the new website. We do not have a date scheduled for the switchover to the new website platform. Our current website is in compliance with information required for Association Accreditation.
- We are beginning the budgeting process for 2017. The Sports committees should look at the events they will be planning for 2017 and let the Trustees know if anything new or different from 2016 in order for the Association to adequately plan for the future.
- This evening we will be having elections for delegates at the USATF Annual Meeting in Orlando Florida. The selection will be done in accordance with our bylaws.



III. Minutes March 9, 2016 General Meeting

The minutes were approved with the correction to the spelling of Fabrikcant in the header "Officials Report: Bruce Fabricant"

IV. Administrative Report: Terence Mullane

Membership Report

Individual Memberships

- 2016 as of 09/22/2016 Membership 6335, 3432 are Youth Members
- 2015 as of 12/31/2015 Membership 6845, 3958 were Youth Members

Events/ Sanctions

- 438 Sanctioned Events as of 09/22/16
- 482 Sanctioned Events in 2015

Clubs

- 126 Clubs as of 09/22/2016
- 128 Clubs in 2015

News & Notes

- Facebook has been a great resource for distributing information,
 - 1076 Friends, 795 Likes, 705 Twitter Followers
- New Website Template should be up and running, at least partially by the end of the year.
- Annual Awards Dinner will be held on 1/21/17 at the Pines Manor
- USATF Held a Terrific Run, Jump & Throw in Newark in June

V. Financial Report: Reno Stirrat

- I. The USATF-NJ Budget and Finance Committee will begin planning for 2017.
- II. The USATF NJ Association Financials for 2016
 - Membership Revenue is up for 2016 Year to date
 - While Membership totals are tracking slightly lower in 2016 than 2015, the increase in membership revenue can be attributed to higher numbers of adult members as well as the number of multiyear memberships.
 - Sanction Revenue is on a similar path to 2015 being up slightly in 2016. The Association Sanctions about 400 events per year.
 - The Revenue from the Grand Prix events is also tracking at a similar rate to 2015. The number of Grand Prix Events is about the same year to year.
- III. Expenses are running higher this year over the same period last year
 - The athlete Stipends for 2015 were paid out in 2016.



- Office expenses including payroll and professional fees are tracking at similar levels to 2015.
- The Track and Field Event costs have run higher this year. Facility rental in particular has increased substantially over 2015.
- Our Youth Junior Olympics entries were down and costs associated in putting on the event were up in 2016 again leading to a larger deficit than we anticipated.

VI. Election Delegates to USATF Annual Meeting Orlando, FL December 1-4, 2016

- Selection of 18 Delegates and alternates based on Association Membership 6,000 to 6,999.
- Delegate minimum age 18 at the time of the Annual Meeting. Must be 18 to vote at the meeting.
- September 21, 2016 USATF NJ 6,329 members. Last year at this time we had 6,407 members.
- An \$800 Stipend has been voted by the board for attendance. Requires attendance at meetings you are designated to cover, submission of report, attend Closing session on Sunday and submission of reimbursable expenses for reimbursement.
- \$200.00 in additional funding is available for those attending the Association or Youth workshop prior to the Annual meeting.

Delegation representation minimum representation by category:

- Minimum 4 Athletes (minimum 1 International Athlete if available) The Association Office reached out to the IA list based upon what was provided from National to gauge interest. Only one has responded and he is listed on the ballot.
- Minimum 4 coaches (minimum 1 High School Coach if available)
- It was noted as an example that if Ben Teixeira who is the Men's LDR Chair was selected as a delegate he would be the representative for the Men's LDR at the Annual meeting in accordance with the bylaws (G.5.)
- USATF NJ Members standing for election that were present at the meeting each made a brief presentation. Those not present that were on the ballot each had someone speak on their behalf.
- Bob Skoropski, Cindy Cook and Pete Warren volunteered to count the ballots.
- List of selected delegates:
 - Madeline Bost
 - Debbie Brathwaite
 - Elliott Denman



- Bruce Fabrikant
- Pam Fales
- Dave Friedman
- Tony Lombardo
- Mike Mannozi
- Lisa Morgan
- Terry Mullane
- Ed Neighbour
- Jane Parks
- Bill Pollinger
- Roger Price
- Jen Simpson
- Reno Stirrat
- Claire Tafelski
- Ben Teixeira
- Alternate Delegates:
 - Sheila Courter
 - Chris Faraone
 - Al Essilfie
 - Mike Watson
 - Debbie Hall
 - Josiah Novak
 - Chuck Schneekloth
 - Helen Pollinger
 - John Oellermann
 - Cora Koch
- A motion was made and seconded to recycle the ballots.

VII. Sport Committee Reports

- LDR Committee Report: Edward Neighbour
 - The LDR Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 4th in Rockaway NJ. We will be taking any proposed changes to the Individual and Team Grand Prix.
 - There will be a review and vote on the Road Mile in the Team Grand Prix which was tabled at the previous meeting.
 - The proposal to expand Wild Card Designations and possibly add a team relay was also tabled at the previous meeting.
 - The 2017 Championships are starting the bid process.



- There are four remaining LDR Championships in 2016.
- Open Women 5km October 2nd Little Silver NJ
- 8k XC Natirar in Far Hills October 23
- Masters Men 10k Giralda Farms November 13 Madison, NJ
- Ashenfelter 8k November 24 Glen Ridge, NJ
- The Bid form for 2017 LDR Championships is being posted Monday September 26th.
- The 2016 Championships have been tracked for comparison against the 2015 Championships. Most 2016 Championships have seen increases in Individual and Team participation rates when compared with 2015.
- Miles for Music is the only event that experienced a significant decline in attendance being down 22% in participants. USATF Participation was down about 18%. The race will no longer be held.
- The Cherry Blossom 10K which was a Masters Women's Championship had an 88% increase in overall participation. This can be directly be attributed to USATF NJ Championship Status. This race also drew about 38% more participation among Masters Women's Teams than Giralda Farms in 2015.
- The College Avenue Mile was cancelled about ten days prior to the race date. Fortunately The Midland Mile which was the Masters Designated Championship stepped in and took on the Open Division. That Road Mile was our most successful Road Mile Championship with 467 participants which was 158% above what the College Avenue Mile drew in 2015. Team participation was up 112% and total number of Team participants was up 120% over the College Avenue Mile. This despite the rain.
- Newport HM, The Clinton Country Run 15k had slight increases in USATF NJ participation.
- Newport 10K had 40% growth in participation with an 18% increase in USATF NJ numbers for 2016.
- The Lager Run which was an Open Championship in 2016 had approximately the same participation as Presidents Cup in 2015. The Presidents Cup which was not a Championship in 2016 saw their race participation fall 23% over 2015. There are benefits, particularly in the short to middle LDR distances in being a USATF NJ Championship.
- The Masters 5k in New Milford which combined Men and Women for the first time was down slightly over having the Masters Men and Women in separate Championship events in 2015. We may look to go back to having separate Championships for 2017. The race and course was flat and fast which worked well as a Championship venue.



- **Track & Field Committee Report: Claire Tafelski**
 - 2017 Outdoor Championship - considering combining high school and adults; targeting 6/16/17 and 6/17/17; will be reaching out to youth committee to determine if they are interested.
 - Track & Field Stipend - no change
 - Eastern Championships - checking with Don Lawrence about getting Eastern Champion participation/designation for high school/open. Josiah suggested focusing on 2017 as 2018 calendar may be a problem.
 - Annual Banquet Awards - consider using remaining stipend funds to cover cost of attendance for Olympic athletes and a guest to attend banquet. Ed to raise to Board.

- **Race walk Committee Report: Wayne Baker**
 - National 40K on October 9, 2016 Joe Palaia Park, Oakhurst hosted by Shore AC
 - New Jersey Race Walk Series 10K, Harry Wright Lake, Whiting
 - New Jersey Race Walk Series 15K, Harry Wright Lake, Whiting
 - Nyack canceled as of next year due to loss of support

- **Youth Committee Report: Terry Mullane**
 - Association Junior Olympic Outdoor Track & Field Championship was held on 6/25 & 6/26 at Plainfield High School. Though the numbers were down, the Meet was a success with all those who attended. We had great cooperation from the Officials and Volunteers, in particular the Westfield Area Y Flyers.
 - Association Junior Olympic Cross Country Championship will be held on 11/6/2016 in Deer Path Park in Flemington
 - Region 2 Cross Country Championship will be held on 11/20/16 in Central Park, Greystone, in Morris Plains
 - Annual Youth Committee Meeting will be held in Garwood on Thursday 09/29/16, 7:00pm

- **Officials Committee Report: Written Report from Bruce Fabrikant (read by Terry Mullane)**
 - We have a174 officials and approximately 50% are at the entry level of apprentice. Approximately the other half is split between association and national level officials. Currently the national office is experiencing difficulty in processing certifications. One of the objectives of the committee is to advance those deserving officials. USATF-NJ officials commit up to a year in advance to officiate meets.
 - A representative of the officials committee attended the track and field committee meeting last week and we plan to attend the youth committee meeting to improve communication and work with the committees as they plan meets.



- The officials committee would like to have more frequent conversations with the Board, USATF New Jersey office, and the sports committee on matters affecting officials and meet planning.
- The committee made a presentation to the USATF NJ Board on September 12 with the purpose to start a more frequent two-way dialogue with the Board, sports committees and USATF NJ office. The USATF Officials committee informed the Board and subsequently the sports committee the officials are available to work with the sports committee and USATF NJ office as the meets are being planned.
- The role of USATF certified officials at a track meet is to officiate track and field events in accordance with USATF rules. The decision of the track and field referee shall be final without further right of appeal unless a jury of appeals has been appointed for that purpose.
- The meet director and sports committee are responsible for setting up the competition venue and providing resources to run the meet.
- We plan to hold clinic on October 1 for those desiring to become new USATF certified officials.

VIII. New Business

- No new business

IX. Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Simpson, for Secretary Madeline Bost who was unable to attend due to illness.