

## USATF-NJ GENERAL MEETING

Rutgers New Brunswick, NJ

October 1, 2014

**I. In attendance** were: Madeline Bost, Pam Fales, William Pollinger, David Friedman, Bruce Fabrikant, Ben Teixeira, Lawren Smithline, Charlene Cumberbatch, Ron Hush, Ed Neighbour, Roger Price, Selina Patterson, Elliott Denman, Terry Mullane

**II. President's message:** Ed Neighbour opened the meeting with pointing out the continued growth of the organization. We have over 6,500 members and that surpasses the 6,376 total we achieved last year. We will be sending a delegation of 18 to the annual meeting in Anaheim CA in December.

This year was an election year for all of the Sports Committees and we have some new faces in the LDR and Track and Field Committees. Having a strong contingent of volunteers to continue to grow and improve the events we host is extremely important as we keep growing he said. Bringing new people into positions within the NJ association is critical to our success. The continued involvement and support of those that were reelected or have advanced to other positions in the association is also important because volunteers with experience and historical knowledge of the history of the Association can mentor those that are new members of committees.

As the year comes to a close we are looking ahead to 2015. The Planning for next year is starting. He requested that the Sports Committees that will be meeting over the next couple of weeks include as part of their meetings, discussions on any programs or items that they would like to implement in 2015 so that the budget and finance committee can plan for the coming year.

**III. The minutes** of the General Membership Annual meeting were approved.

**IV. Administrative Report:** Terry Mullane reported on our membership totals with 6,515 members to date with 3,410 youth and 3,105 adults. We have sanctioned 475 events to date well above the 427 for all of 2013. We have 119 clubs, six more than in 2013. We will be hosting the association Junior Olympic Cross Country meet on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Rowan College in Gloucester County. The Region II JO cross country meet will be on November 23<sup>rd</sup> in Hershey PA.

The first indoor youth developmental meet will be on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Toms River facility.

The Region II JO Track & Field championship was held at Stockton State College of New Jersey.

Our new employee is Kristen San Filippo. USATF New Jersey now has a Facebook page with 71 friends and 160 likes. The next goal is to develop a twitter account.

**V. Financial Report:** Ed Neighbour - The New Jersey Association in 2014 retained Fiscal Solutions, an Accounting Firm whose specialty is non profits. An Assessment and review of the Association's Bookkeeping and our compliance with policies and procedures was undertaken. As part of the Assessment the Trustees have adopted policies to deal with Document control and Destruction, a whistleblower policy was adopted and steps were taken to strengthen our code of ethics and conflict of interest policies. The bookkeeping and accounting is in the process of an overhaul. The Managing Director, Terry Mullane and I have had ongoing review meetings with Fiscal Solutions to review and develop our bookkeeping and financial procedures.

The 2014 Budget projected income for the Association totaling \$264,850.00 for the year. Income through August 2014 was \$245,753.00. We have exceeded our budget projections in Club Memberships, Retail revenue and Entries. Membership Revenue as of August was just short of \$69,400.00 which is close to our target of \$75,000.00 for the year. Sanction revenue stood at \$40,525 with a budget estimating \$42,000.

Expenses through the end of August were \$230,708.00. Through August 2014 our Net income is \$15,045.00.

**VI. Election of Delegates:** Eighteen members were elected as Delegates for the annual meeting. It will be held in Anaheim, California from December 2<sup>th</sup> to December 5<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Trustees approved a travel stipend of \$1,000.00 due to the distance being traveled for this meeting. In order to qualify for the stipend the delegates must attend the meetings to which they are assigned and submit reports to the association no later than February 1<sup>st</sup> of 2015. A request for the stipend must include receipts for expenses incurred. The delegates must attend the closing session on December 5<sup>th</sup>. A waiver of that requirement can be requested if requested in advance of the closing session.

## **VII. Sport Committee Reports**

**Long Distance Running:** Ed Neighbour gave the Long Distance Running Committee report. The LDR meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup> had elections for all of the committee positions.

- LDR Division Chair: Edward Neighbour
- Open Women Chair: Jane Parks,
- Open Men Chair: Ben Teixeira
- Masters Chair: Gene Gugliotta, Vice Chair: Mike Walters

Ed thanks Diane Ross, Baxter Brooks and Frank Russo for their many years of service on the LDR committee. The Trustees approved the appointment of Sheila Courter for Women's Vice Chair and Bob Skorupski as the Men's Vice Chair at the Trustee meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The committee had representatives from 6 of the 14 Clubs that compete in our Team Grand Prix at the meeting.

The next LDR Meeting will be next Thursday October 9<sup>th</sup>. 2015 Rule change proposals will be accepted for consideration. Championship Bids for 2015 will be due in mid- November.

We have held 12 of our 15 scheduled Championships in 2014, including a Road Mile that was new to the Grand Prix this year. A Fast Five miniseries was run that linked the 5 championships at the end of the Spring Summer season. We promoted and emailed standings after each race. We will be evaluating this at the next meeting

Our 8k Cross Country Championship October 26<sup>th</sup> will be held at Natirar Park in Peapack-Gladstone. This is our first XC race at this venue.

Our Cross Country runners will have the opportunity to preview the National Club XC course at the Paul Short meet at Lehigh Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>. The LDR committee is trying to encourage NJ participation in the December USATF National Championships being held in Allentown, PA. in the neighboring Mid Atlantic Association. LDR athletes who have hit the 82% plp standard can apply to have their entry fee to the event reimbursed.

The LDR Committee has granted travel stipends for USATF NJ Individuals and teams to compete at the XC Championship in Boulder, Masters 8k in Brea CA, Masters 10k in Dedham MA, Masters Road Mile in Flint MI and the Masters 5k in Syracuse this Sunday. Clifton, Shore AC, RVRR and Garmin have received support to send teams to compete at National Championships in 2014.

**Track and Field:** David Friedman gave the Track & Field committee report. The outdoor Open and Masters Meet at Georgian Court went very well although the distance from the track to some of the field events made it difficult for those who do multiple events. The indoor meet will be held at either the Toms River facility or at Monmouth University. Dave reported that the facility in Edison for outdoor events is very nice. It is centrally located within easy access to major roadways. It would be suitable for open and masters meets but would need bleachers for spectator seating if a JO event were held there.

Dave has 80% of the T&F grand prix completed. He is also working on bringing the indoor age division records up to date. Bruce Fabrikant announced the names of the new people on the track and field committee; Jennifer Simpson, Rob DeCarlo, Ron Salvio and Harold Nolan.

**Racewalk:** Elliott Denman gave the Racewalk report. He praised the work of Ron Salvio and the Freehold Area Running club for the success of the Pan-Am Cup Trials (20k Sr/10k Jr) and the National Masters 20k Championships. Out of the eight national events in 2014, five will have been held in New Jersey. Seven races are in the New Jersey grand prix. The Shore AC will host the 76<sup>th</sup> 40 kilometer national championship on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Youth:** Charlene Cumberbatch reported that the committee is pleased with the choice of the venue for the November 2<sup>nd</sup> JO cross country meet at Gloucester County. There will be a developmental indoor meet at Toms River on December 7, 2014.

The committee is asking the Board of Trustees to make it known to the Zonal representative that New Jersey will not agree to host the Zonal meet in 2015. New Jersey has been burdened with this meet, which is too large to adequately manage. Ed Neighbour will present this to the Board via email or a conference call for a vote.

With no Zonal meet to manage the committee would like to host a second developmental meet on January 25, 2015.

The committee will assess the size of the JO outdoor meet as it has become very large and even with two days it is straining the committee and the officials. The committee would like to hold the 2015 JO meet on June 20, 21, which will coincide with the dates of the other associations.

The Region II meet at Stockton went well although there was a scarcity of volunteers. Bill Pollinger added that the north Jersey officials do not like to travel to south Jersey and thus there was also a scarcity of officials.

The new Youth Chair is Al Essilfie who is from the south Jersey area.

At the national JO championship in Houston Texas, fifteen New Jersey athletes placed in the top eight in their divisions. Charlene noted that it was brutally hot at the meet.

### **VIII. Officials Committee Report**

Bruce Fabrikant announced and offered congratulations to Bill Pollinger for being selected a finalist for the Lori Maynard Award for excellence as a Race Walk Official.

An officials training session was held in Fair Lawn for eleven prospective officials. There will be another training in March.

We currently have 150 certified officials, 68 apprentices, 38 association level, 27 national level, 16 masters level and one emeritus.

### **IX. Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Madeline Bost, Secretary