



Special Committees and Task Force Chairs



PHYSICAL EDUCATION & FITNESS TASK FORCE

December 5, 2002

The following items and ideas were discussed and agreed upon.

Please note: cost was a factor that was kept up front because of the hard financial times. We felt that generally no cost was involved except for time expended. Most items utilize the available classroom resources or resources available for free at this time.

GOAL: To enhance the brain function of kids! Active kids are smarter and healthier.

All attendees agreed to work at promoting and working within their states with goals of accomplishing something to report by this time in 2003. They refused to stagnate—the time for action is now.

Major points:

1. Push for and work at mandatory Physical Education and Physical Education promotion in all states.

2. Curriculum: Search out and find the grassroots information in your communities that decide and select curriculum development within your schools. Be a part of those meetings. Aim at the middle and elementary schools. This is the only way to impact the curriculum change. Work towards NO WAIVERS FOR P E.

3. Current curriculums already available and some resource information:

• Jim Santos has developed a Fantasy “Track” Virtual Competition for middle and elementary school age kids. It is available through him and he will help you promote it.

• Mark Winitz has developed a Long Distance Running development program called, **Educations for Kids/Run USA and Run across America**. They are available at this time.

• Rich Hedges has a decathlon program that is available in CD format. This is available for use with kids at this time.

4. Utilize APHERD Conferences within your area, state and on the National Level. Be an active part and encourage their members to be a part of this push for Physical Education. The National Convention is in April 1-5 in Philadelphia, PA in 2003. It would be good for USATF to have a booth there to help promote Physical Education and to inform all the members what USATF is doing for our children.

5. Other Ideas:

a. All of the suggestions and ideas and curriculum is a part of President Bush fitness push of “No Student left Behind.”

b. Need our media to play a role in pushing and drawing emphasis to the Fitness Goals of USATF.

c. Need our USATF athlete posters to be available for teachers/kids that could be accessible for download or for teachers to have access to.

d. Write letters to legislators and senators. Get involved and join in the local curriculum standards. Work within the local committees.

e. Excess shoes from shoe companies. Find out where excess shoes go and work to set up a Shoe Carnival for PE kids in school.

f. Check with USATF’s Keith Lively to see if we can set up a web site that we could set up for kids to look at that would note the different curriculums available. As schools start to play a role, we could set up a School Challenge that states could all be a part of and the challenge could sweep the nation and compare scores.

g. Utilize “Spike,” our mascot, to promote the curriculums that are available or just to promote fitness in schools.

h. Check on PE.com.

i. Utilize USATF intro films that were made for 2001 and 2002 annual meetings. We could make these available in videos or CD’s to distribute at low cost and to encourage activity.

j. Sometimes fitness can be worked in with the help of the school nurse. They may have a tie-in with the local hospital or University, or school district.

ATTENDANCE:

Co/Chairs: Bryan Hoddle & Darlene Hickman of Pac NW in Washington

Brian Dempsey of Arizona

Jim Santos of Central CA

Jim Hite of Georgia

Cleveland Witherspoon of Indiana

Curt Ransford of Inland NW

Rich Hedges of Oregon

Shirley Connors of Pacific Assn in CA

Fred Baer of Pacific Assn in CA

Ron Johnson of South Texas

Ryan Bourque of Southern

Kelly Carter of Tennessee

Cindy Long of Three Rivers

Cynthia Doyle rep from NFSHSA

Barb Chambers of Athletes for Disabled Committee Rep.

Mark Hoffman of Wisconsin

Mark Winitz of Pac in CA and Men’s LDR