

**2004 Association Minutes  
Annual Meeting–Portland, Oregon  
Submitted by Karen Krsak  
AEC Executive Meeting**

Alan Roth, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11am on December 1, 2004.

A temporary agenda was set at that time as there were only a few people in attendance.

Ron gave his report on the Workshop survey results he received back from those attending. There were 121 registered at the Phoenix workshop but only 25 responded to the survey.

Comments received were as follows:

- Site and location need to be announced sooner to get more attending. An agenda needs to be produced to draw in association attendance.
- Centralizing the location. This sparked a discussion on various locations.
- Associations should budget for the workshop to improve their attendance.
- Same old topics every year.
- Time needs to be made for the various officers to meet and discuss like issues.
- Longer or shorter times for the sessions based on the topics.
- Pick topics that make it difficult to say “no” to attending.
- Timekeeping to stay on schedule.
- Turnover requires some topics to remain constant.
- Regional reps need to put out an agenda and an area for improvement.

Child Protection was the major discussion during the meeting. Many felt that the time for talking had ended and the time for action was now. Many felt who had attended the Youth Committee Executive meeting that they were moving forward as we stood still. Alan assured everyone that both committees had the same goals and further discussions and sessions would be given to this topic. Alan also assured everyone that the General Competition Division would also be discussing the topic.

Alan asked if anyone had any issues for Norm Brand to take to the rules committee meeting for this year. Norm mentioned to Alan that he is thinking of retiring and that Alan may want to consider replacing him in the near future.

Alan announced that the Board of Directors had voted positively on the AEC request to penalize those clubs that renew after May 1 to the tune of a \$100 late fee. This would be from May 1<sup>st</sup> through September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. This may or may not be enforced in 2005 as most mailings have gone out to the clubs.

Alan announced that we will be adding a member to the AEC who will not have voting rights until the new subcommittee is voted in. It is the Subcommittee on Adversity and Leadership. The Chair of the subcommittee will be our representative to the National Task Force on Diversity and Leadership headed by Evie Dennis. Alan has approached Cliff McKenzie to be the new subcommittee chair and he has accepted the position.

Alan raised the issue of associations that are running into trouble by not abiding by their own bylaws and by the rulings of NABR panels. This has occurred recently with the Potomac Valley Association.

The Club Council, with Dave Oja as interim chair, was established last March for athlete development. There are three tiers of development, open development for clubs, elite development for clubs (EDC) and Team USA Training Centers. The first meeting will be Saturday and the Council has received applications from 10 clubs. Dave hopes the Council will be the voice of the elite development clubs and will help with the club championship events. Steve Vaitones suggested that associations get input into the clubs and participate in association championships. This should include clubs from across the country not just the East and West coasts. The goal is that athletes who finish college have a development club nearby and as many as 80 clubs countrywide would be good.

The Club Handbook was discussed and Andy stated that progress has been made in the last 6 months. Jim McKee and Bob Fine have made important contributions. Alan asked Dave Oja to include information for and about elite development clubs.

Bill Roe appointed Alan Chair of the General Competition Division. This Division is comprised of the 3 committees: Masters Track & Field, Youth Athletics and Associations. Alan wants to get representatives from other committees such as officials and coaches education to be on the Division's Executive Committee.

Ed Parrot and Scott Erwin brought L & L items to the committee. The topics of the National Clubs have again come before L & L. We are opposed to clubs that are registered in one association and recruit semi-elite and elite athletes from other associations to compete in our club championships. However, we support clubs that recruit athletes outside their association to sponsor them without the intention of building a strong team to compete. The goal is to create real club competition among locally-based clubs and discussion centered on the percentage of outside athletes who make up the club. It was discussed that in any specific competition, a percentage of a club's members must be registered in the association in which they reside.

For the L&L review, items R10 & R12 (national clubs) were discussed among the members of the committee. Scott will monitor and may need key members of the AEC to attend the L & L committee sessions at specific times.

It finally came to a straw vote on the percentage of local members required for club competition. It was agreed that the AEC stance would be that 80% of the scoring athletes be from the association in which they reside.

Neighboring associations may be an issue for compromise for item R12.

R14 was noted the date of receipt by the national office.

B32 is being opposed and Steve Vaitones spoke to it.

Coaches Education B37 and B38 are supported.

Child Protection was again brought up. Patti and Robin have different ideas about the centralization or decentralizing of the processing. Each association has different needs and can seek out help. The goal that everyone wants is to leave Portland with a game plan that can be implemented.

The Youth Committee has stated, according to those attending, that they have approved the document submitted by Robin in principle. Alan explained that we all have the same goal to get this accomplished. The Association Committee and the Youth Committee need to work in conjunction with each other to make this work effectively. A vote will be taken at the General Competition Division meeting. Most feel that non-disclosure statements are needed by the individuals who do the screening while being bonded may not be needed. All agreed that even if Patti or Robin does not attend our committee meetings, the screening issues must be resolved.

It was decided that this would be Thursday's number one agenda item for committee meeting then.

The next topic was conflict of interest. It was discussed that paid contractors of associations should not hold a seat of power where they could make decisions about who is hired and how much the contractor is paid. Conflict of interest statements need to be used in the associations. A discussion ensued that some associations are small and with so few people there may need to be contractors who are also decision makers. It was thought that maybe a full disclosure to the Association's Board would be acceptable. Our national Coaches Education committee may have conflicts of interest due to the majority being financially tied to the classes and may be worst example.

The Facilities Access Taskforce was the next topic on the agenda. Scott Davis has had some serious health issues that restricted his role as Chair so Cynthia Doyle is now the Chair and will have Taskforce membership from our 5-D organizations such as NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA. Also participating are the National Recreation and Park Association and the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. Cynthia is the T&F person of the National Federation of High School Associations.

The 2005 Workshop was discussed. It had been stated a year ago that Indianapolis would host the Workshop every other year. Baton Rouge plus various other cities are again interested in hosting the August Workshop. Date, location and agenda are key to the success in drawing in more attendees from the associations. Suggestions for breakout sessions, what topics would make people interested enough to attend? Also we need to produce a better Sunday agenda and at least post a draft agenda early.

Tom Light talked to the idea of an AEC website. Explaining what is the AEC, how it functions and how people can participate on it.

There was a small discussion about the elections that would take place on Saturday morning and Earl stated that he would not be running for the East Region again.

This AEC meeting followed a scheduled that started with an hour from 11 AM – 12 PM and then went from 4 PM to 7PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.

## **2004 Association Minutes - General Meeting**

Alan Roth called the meeting to order on December 2, 2004 at 9 AM.

It had been decided the previous day that the number one agenda item for this session would be the Child Protection issue.

Alan summarized the history of this process from Greensboro's meeting. He stated that 90% was completed with only 10% still with issues. Patti Petesch has been ill which set us back and cost us time.

As the discussion evolved, many stated that law enforcement agencies will do the background checks for free but they may only be local. Rapsheets.com now covers all but 7 states and will do most at \$1.75 per search. The cost to each application for search would be \$5.00 plus a membership to USATF. Some associations may want to hire another association to do their searches for them. The 7 states that are more difficult can be done but the fee would be higher. No one had a list of the 7 states.

Robin gave her proposal to the group and stated that it had been sent to the National Office for review. In addition she stated that no official would be re-certified unless a background check was completed. Robin stated that the people being screened would not be paying for the screening as the cost would be picked up by the Florida Association. Robin also stated that Jill Pilgrim gave her okay to use this for Florida.

The national office has included in its budget the coverage of DNO insurance for all fully accredited associations. If all associations need coverage, the budget is likely to cover only 75% of the cost.

North Carolina announced that they would be following the model set down by Florida.

Jill Pilgrim stated she has not reviewed the program and she then proceeded to discuss the various legal issues.

- Should have a signed consent form allowing the search.
- One person should handle the confidential information.
- You will need the SSN or license number.
- A process to avoid the misuse of such information as in an election.
- The holdup is the procedures that each association will use but each association can move forward with a program to suit their needs or use the national program.

Discussion on all levels continued concerning fees, who will handle the process and the costs to the various groups within an association. It was also discussed if this was going to be a national program handled through Indianapolis or at the association level. Robin agreed to take on any association who wanted to use her group and she would only charge the \$1.75 that it cost for the search.

Straw votes were taken regarding the key issues and there was consensus. There was an unresolved question of the necessity of having a formal vote at the Associations Committee Business Meeting on Saturday. The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

## **2004 Association Minutes - General Meeting 2**

Alan called to order the meeting of December 3 at 4:15 PM.

He reported that the elections would take place at 9:30 tomorrow morning, Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Alan announced that funding for the Facilities Access Task Force was approved that morning by the Budget and Finance Committee. As a point to be thinking about he asked what barriers are there for track access? Is it is the liability insurance, greedy schools etc.? A survey will be provided to the clubs for their input. We need to know what the managers of facilities report are their policies and procedures for use of the track area, and we need information from users as to what they see as the constraints to using these facilities.

Cynthia Doyle will survey the high schools, Jack Hazen from NAIA will be on the committee and gather information from college track coaches, Mark Bockelman is the representative from the NCAA, Bryce Roderick is from the Jr College group, and there is the Political Director of the National Recreation and Park Association and a liaison person from the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Alan discussed the fact that the Facilities Access Task Force will be under the direction of the General Competition Division with a budget of \$5,000.

The Associations Committee was given \$10,000 for expenses for 2005.

Marilyn Mitchell gave her report on Masters Track & Field. She announced that George Mathews was reelected Chair and Susie Hess was re-elected to the Vice Chair position.

The Masters 2005 Indoor Championships will be held in March in Boise, Idaho, Honolulu, Hawaii will host the outdoor championships in August and the WMA will be in Spain also in August. She asked that the associations try to avoid these dates when scheduling association meets. In 2007, the Armory in New York will host the indoor championships. She noted that the athletes wanted to be able join any association but this was withdrawn by the Masters T&F Committee in L & L.

Andy gave his report for the remainder of the session.

Andy asked that new representatives of various associations introduce themselves. He then addressed the accident of Mark Springer. The staff has been on a roller coaster for a couple of months and he gave us the information of how Mark's involvement in the annual meeting would be missed.

Andy then discussed the various programs that have thrived under Alan's direction and building relationships outside of USATF.

He also talked about the time he has been pulled away from the associations to handle work such as the National Club Marathon Relay Championships, but there is a new position in the National Office to handle LDR and the NO has received 50 applications for the position. He is anxious to return fulltime to the associations and membership.

Andy stated that over 6,000 events are on the on-line calendar. This is the most viewed webpage of ours over the past year. Sanction administrators have been given security codes so that they can put their events on the calendar.

Andy provided the website handout that was used at the Phoenix workshop.

He announced that Crown Medals will have a website for purchases. Most medals will be approximately \$.75. They will be able to be customized but the customized items would be more expensive. E-mail will follow in a couple of weeks on the ordering process.

A handout of required documents was provided and there was a discussion of the 990 financial forms. Andy suggested that everyone check to see what is required in their state for updating information and future annual meetings will be targeting those documents.

Three workshops were held during 2004. In March a rookie workshop was held for new membership chairs. Four associations participated and it was held in Indianapolis. In August, the regular Workshop was held in Phoenix and 51 associations participated. In October, in conjunction with the Club Championships, an LDR workshop was held in Akron with 17 associations participating.

In 2005, along with the regular Workshop in August, another LDR workshop will be held with a tentative date of the first weekend in June.

The Association Committee has requested that Indianapolis be the location for the regular Workshop every other year. The tentative dates for this year are the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend or the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of August.

The Club Championship Series held in July was the biggest ever. There were 350 athletes, 35 clubs and 20 associations being represented.

There were four regional meets, New Jersey, Alabama, Missouri and Washington. The Marathon Relay Championship was held in October in Akron. There were 10 clubs and 8 associations represented. Kentucky and Colorado offered travel money for those who advanced from their associations. The Cross Country Championships that will be held tomorrow will have 950 athletes. 63 clubs and 26 associations will be represented. Colorado will have a team in every age group.

A Regulation 7 document was handed out to the group. Andy agreed it needs a lot of work on language for next year. It is also on the document resource page.

D&O insurance was the next topic. Andy stated that guidelines need to be made on any association which will qualify via accreditation to have Indianapolis pick up the cost. If an association receives a renewal form now, pay the bill and the association will be reimbursed for the cost once the guidelines are worked out.

A handout was provided on membership summary comparisons.

Work continues on the on-line process of sanctions and is the number one priority due to the competition of other organizations that want to get into the sanctions business and already are developing online systems.

Andy provided a handout explaining the Club Council. David Oja has done an excellent job getting the Council going. He also said that elite development clubs are a goal and to have at least one in each association.

A duplicate membership policy handout was provided.

Association grants had a very low turnout this year. Andy felt that the time for applying changed and maybe some confusion in the form added to the few responses he received. The grant monies were scaled back this year to \$15,000 versus the previous amount of \$20,000. There are still some monies available so Andy has extended the deadline to December 15 for any association who may still want to apply.

Additionally, associations who have full accreditation can apply for an additional \$500.

At the end of the session, Alan asked that Pat Pretty give a summary of Coaches Education. Pat explained that for Level 1 schools an association could apply any time online with no deadlines. We are modifying the system so they can contact us to arrange a date and Pat stated he could also arrange for an instructor if needed. There will be a DVD Level I course with a cost of approximately \$150 to \$200. The test would be online and this will be available this coming year. Club based fees are still being worked out. Alan said that we need to revisit the coaches ed accreditation requirement as associations will not be able to meet the objective if many of the coaches are taking the course online.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:16 PM.

### **2004 Association Minutes - General Meeting 3**

Alan called the meeting to order on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.

The first item on the agenda is the election of Committee officers. The positions open to election are Chair, 2 Vice Chair positions, Secretary and Treasurer. Member Services came in to handle the elections.

Nominations for Chair were as follows: Alan Roth and Ron Mascarenas – nominations were closed. Vote was Alan 23, Ron 21 with Alan being re-elected.

Nominations for Vice Chair were next with Ron Mascarenas, Clif McKenzie and Mary Bryant. Nominations were closed with the top 2 being elected. Vote was Ron 32, Clif 36 and Mary 21 with Ron and Clif being elected.

Nominations for Secretary are as follows: Karen Krsak. With nominations being closed, Karen won by acclamation.

Nominations for Treasurer are as follows: Kountez Moore. With nominations being closed, Kountez won by acclamation.

Elections were finished and ballots destroyed.

The business meeting is to be held from 4:30 – 6:30 this evening just prior to the meeting of the General Competition Division. Alan invited all to attend, as the main order of business will be to assemble an executive committee.

Alan reminded everyone that if you want to be in the USATF Directory you must be a member of USATF so get your membership renewed.

Regional groups need to elect their reps for the next term. Earl Williams is retiring and will not seek re-election for the East Region. Earl Williams made a motion on the floor that the regional meetings be held later in the day and George Regan seconded the motion. Discussion ensued around the timeframe for the meetings. The topic was whether to hold the meetings at the end of the current meeting or at the end of this evening's session. It was decided to hold the meeting at the later session as has been the tradition.

The Subcommittee on Diversity and Leadership was moved and passed. Clif McKenzie was appointed by Alan to be the Chair of the Subcommittee and our representative to the Diversity and Leadership Taskforce chaired by Dr. Evie Dennis.

Katherine Branch will be replacing Robin Beamon as membership chair.

Ron gave his report on the Phoenix workshop in August. Ed Parrot suggested that at the regional meetings suggestions should be solicited on topics to make the regions better. Some suggestions that

came out of Ron's report was the need for breakout sessions, an early agenda for the Workshop and minutes on the website. Ron will be contacting Karen for the files from the minutes to post.

The Facilities Access Taskforce is being activated.

Linda Bommicino is still leading the group that will work with associations who are having difficulties and need someone to come in and advise them.

Jackie Calendar gave a summary of the grievances that's he's been involved with. He also explained the process and how to handle a grievance and explained the various types of issues he deals with.

A conflict of interest discussion was next as a topic. Alan asked for volunteers to review the national conflict of interest statement to see how it can apply at the association level. This involves 23K from L & L and Scott Erwin gave a summary. The members will be as follows:

Linda Bommicino	Mary Stroud	Jackie Calendar
Scott Erwin	Tom Light	Andrew Reynolds

Scott Erwin then reviewed the L & L issues left from last year:

- R10 and R12 were withdrawn with a more comprehensive package for 2005.
- R14 was withdrawn
- R16 was passed

Kountez then gave the Treasurer's report. We had \$16,000 for 2003 and the same in 2004 although it was broken up \$10,000 for the committee in general and \$6,000 for the regions. This was from a total request of \$25,000. The committee has used \$5,923 through August with most of the expenses coming in December.

\$1,500 is the budget for each of the 4 Regions. A discussion of the Regional Championships and the finances of the regions ensued.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

## **2004 Association Minutes - Business Meeting**

Alan called the business meeting to order at 4:30 PM on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Alan explained that the AEC has conference calls monthly, talks to subcommittees, aligns taskforces, and meets the first day of the Workshop and the first day of the annual meeting. This all helps to keep the activities of the associations in play all year.

Tom Light gave his report on the Communications Subcommittee. He stated that the ListServ is an excellent way of communication. Currently there are 100 people on the list and he would be happy to set up any others who wish to join. He just needs an e-mail asking to be put on. Several questions came up about how a listserv works. The e-mails can arrive individually or you can set it up to

receive them once a day in digest form. He suggests that everyone use the checkbox for out-of-office so messages don't stack up.

An Associations Website is being suggested for the Committee as a means of communication. We have been waiting for about a year for Keith Lively to set one up so now Tom is waiting for a password so he can do it for us. He asked for feedback on what the associations would like to see on the site.

Ruth White gave her report on awards. The Horace Crow Award is given each year for the person in an association who has contributed the most to the success of that association that year. She was disappointed that only 7 associations sent in nominations for the award this year. Normally she gets between 7 and 12. This year's award was given to Rich Spielman of the Ohio Association.

Norm Brand stated that the rule for the Ultra Weight Pentathlon for Masters passed in the rules committee this year.

Barbara Chambers gave her report from the Athletes with Disabilities Committee. There is a restructuring in progress which encourages a sport chair from each association be appointed. The Committee is interested in providing stipends for those associations that provide events for disabled athletes within their associations. A cross-country meet will be hosted for the first time nationally for the disabled. The Americans with Disabilities Act has come into play as athletes are asking for reasonable accommodations while competing. It will take about 4 to 6 weeks to put something together for race directors and will be on the entry forms. Various examples were given of reasonable and unreasonable ADA requests.

LeAnn Myer from the AADP Program gave a report. She invited the regions to send participants to be part of the elite field. Forty associations sent athletes to Freihofer's Run for Women in Albany. There are 6 spots in the 25K in May at Grand Rapids. The ½ Marathon in September in Iowa and the 10K at Tufts in October are among the races that will have AADP opportunities for associations.

There was a discussion concerning athlete section, flow of monies and that the associations may want to add additional money for the athletes.

Mike Roth gave a report on Race Walk next. The bulk of the work in Portland was a re-write of the operating procedures, which brought it in line with the High Performance group. The 2005 schedule was approved and will be announced at the closing session.

There is a Race Walk Grand Prix that still needs work for team effort but the individuals were well received.

Alan announced that the liaison person from the Associations Committee to the Sports Science and Technology Committee is no longer available so Alan will be looking to fill that position.

One item that came out recently is performance enhancement drugs that can double endurance. This can be another difficulty for USATF as we battle to stay drug free. The drug can be seen on the

website: [www.salkinstitute.org](http://www.salkinstitute.org). (specifically:  
<http://www.salk.edu/news/releases/details.php?id=104>)

Karen left this meeting early to attend a voting session of the Officials Committee. Ron Mascarenas then took notes on any remaining subjects.

Regional meetings were to be held at the end of this session. Karen left this meeting early to attend a voting session within the officials committee. Ron was taking notes of any issues brought up. Below are the notes that Ron took for Karen after leaving the meeting.

Tom Light reported on the list serve as well as the web site--people can contact him at the following [USATFAK@aol.com](mailto:USATFAK@aol.com)

Ruth With reported out on the Horace Crow Award process. Encouraged more participation from all associations. She also reported on the Youth Committee Meetings--Election results as well as bid locations for 2006-Track Jo's, Youth Athletic, XC Jo's

Michael Roth reported on Race Walk information.

Barbara Chambers reported what was discussed at the athletes for the disabled. Talked about a championship XC meet in Long Island.

Steve V reported on the out come of certain rules and added information on RW

Every one broke up into the Zone Meetings, most meeting lasted for about 30-40 minutes, many different topics were discussed and all finished off with Zone rep elections.

West is Harry S.  
East is Michael Roth  
185 Lake Avenue  
Saint James, NY 11780  
(631) 584-9824  
South is Jackie C.  
North is Ruth W.