

**Minutes of USATF Race Walking Committee  
USATF Annual Meeting Reno, Nevada**

**General Session I - Thursday, December 4, 2008      1:00 pm      Silver Legacy, Reno, NV**

Meeting called to order by Vince Peters, Chair at 1:20 p.m. Roll call of committee members confirmed the RW committee had a quorum to conduct business. Vince started our session with a moment of silence in memory of Bob Fine, Master RW chair, who was killed in an accident while running Wednesday morning in Reno.

**Officer's Reports:**

**Chair, Vince Peters** - Chair's report available on table in print form. Vince gave a financial report. He reported that money left in the \$14,000 general fund would be used by the end of December for the Junior Camp in Texas. He reported that USATF has put \$90,000 in a line item for the World Youth Olympics. He also reported that the RW committee had the following budget items approved:

\$2000 for USA/Canada Dual; \$6000 for committee business; \$10,000 for 2009 Grand Prix; \$47,000 for the Pan Am (Americas) RW Cup. All RW development funding proposals were rejected. Vince reported that the 2009 Pan Am (America's) RW Cup would be held on the same 1km loop in El Salvador. Two youth male race walkers have made the qualifying time for the IAAF World Youth.

**Vice Chair, Steve Vaitones** - He reported helping the chair in anyway requested, but essentially he works with the Junior program and Development. He functions as liaison between the US and Canada for the US/Canada Dual. He serves on the standards and records committee. He acts as a resource for other committees and National Office verifying performances. He also reported that because this is a Rules year, he has been busy with rule proposals and discussion.

**Rules Subcommittee Report** - Since Steve was available, issues concerning Rules were discussed now. **Item 4** was brought up by Bruce Leasure. He expressed concern that the wording on all entry forms must be approved by the Chair and Chief Executive Officer of USATF would create delays for meet directors organizing our National Championships. Steve explained that entry forms already are sent through the Chair and the USATF Legal Department so he doesn't envision any impact on our committee championships. **Item 9** which clarifies that an athlete is only eligible to get a waiver into the National Championships in the event they achieved their performance. Motion made to recommend approval of Item 9, seconded and passed. **Item 70** was proposed because of concern that race walking has qualifying events that might not be adhering to standards that would make the event a legitimate qualifying meet. The RW Executive Committee recommended rejection. After discussion which suggested various modifications, the motion was made to not recommend the Item 70, seconded and passed. **Item 105** proposed that team awards be given based on the 5 year age groups. Motion made to amend proposal to 10 year age groups with five athletes declaring and three scoring. Amendment passed. Motion made to recommend Item 105 as amended, seconded and passed. **Item 22** proposed changing the number of athletes a lap scorer is responsible for to three. Motion made to amend item to only say track races. Amendment seconded and failed. Motion made to reject Item 22, seconded and passed. **Items 66, 67 and 68** were discussed. Item 66 was amended to strike the last line. Recommendation made to table all three and in final Rules report all three were withdrawn. **Item 73** was brought up by Allen James. Any athlete who achieves a National Record would be required to submit to doping testing at the end of the event. His primary concern for race walking is that many of our events are so small that testing is not available at the meet. Question arose would the time frame to be extended to allow that athlete time to get to an appropriate testing site. Steve indicated he would bring up the concern.

**Nominations - Gary Westerfield, Nominations, presided.**

2008 is an election year for the USATF Race Walking Committee and our operating procedures allow for nominations from the floor for all elected positions except Chair. Candidates for chair must declare in advance. No additional nominations were made for Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Additional nominations for At-Large Delegates were: Jo Burrows, Ray Funkhouser, Dave McGovern, and Pedro Santana. Since there was only one candidate for Secretary, Ginger Mulanax, motion made to elect her by acclamation. Motion passed. Candidates for Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer were given the opportunity to present a statement to the committee. Candidates for Treasurer were Jo Burrows and Mike Tarantino. Jo presented her qualifications for the position. Mike was not in attendance at the convention, so Chris Rael spoke on Mike's behalf. Candidates for Vice Chair included Steve Vaitones, incumbent, and Loretta Schuellein. Steve presented his record and qualifications for the position... Loretta had not yet arrived at the convention, so Chris Rael and Dave McGovern spoke on her behalf. Candidates for the position of Chair were Vince Peters and Chris Rael. Both were given two minutes each to present their positions and plans. The committee was reminded that the election was to be a 2:00 p.m. Friday.

Candidates for USATF President were given the opportunity to speak to the committee. Each candidate was given 15 minutes to introduce themselves and explain their goals for USATF. Bob Bowman was the first candidate to speak. Stephanie Hightower was the second candidate and Dee Jensen was our final Presidential candidate to speak to the committee. Their presentations gave the race walk committee the opportunity to listen to each candidate on a more intimate level and generated good discussion within the committee.

**Secretary, Ginger Mulanax** -. The Secretary also reminded delegates that the voting rights of their associations should be checked in order preserve voting rights in committee. The committee was also reminded that our election was Friday at 2:00 p.m. We will stop business at that point and conduct our elections. Procedures to alter the voting representative for each association were reviewed.

**Athletes for the Disabled** - Art Klein reported information about opportunities for race walking to work with returning veterans. The program is called "Wounded Warriors" and the Athletes for the Disabled Committee is working on getting these returning soldiers plugged into track and field. Art reported that race walking would be a good alternative until their bodies are back in shape. He recommended anyone interested in the program to contact VFW and American Legion Posts.

**Law and Legislation Subcommittee Report** - Ray Funkhouser reported that two items were important to the RW committee. Item 22b stated that the USATF RW Committee shall make recommendations for the IAAF Walking Committee. No discussion - approved. Item B2-b defined what an active coach is. After discussion, the committee recommended that Ray Funkhouser, our representative to the L & L committee, express our negative sentiments concerning the proposal and our wish to have a more definitive definition of active coach and a better explanation as to the need for such a designation.

**Coaching Education Subcommittee** - Wayne Armbrust reported that he had had several email and phone conversations with Troy Engle, Chair of Coaching Education, concerning race walk material in the Level I and Level II Coach Education curricula. Since Troy has changed jobs, Wayne reports that recent conversations have been limited. Troy and he plan to meet at the convention.

**Official Committee** - Ron Daniel made the following report.

1) The newly revised "Race Walk Officiating Handbook" is available on the official's website and will be available on the race walk web site. Many thanks to Cheryl Sunman and Ginger Mulanax for seeing the project through to its conclusion.

2) Ron reported he had conducted three training sessions prior to the Olympic Trials 50K, World Cup Trials 20Ks and Olympic Trials 20ks races. The focus was on too many bent knee calls in elite level trials and championships. .

3) IAAF Level I training and certification to be conducted in Pharr, TX at the time of the Pan Am Cup Trails. Weekend of March 27-29, 2009. Forms will be available after the convention and by contacting Ron at [rondaniel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rondaniel@sbcglobal.net)

4) Master Race Walk Certification form sent to the Association Officials Certification Chair with the request to give to all Master level race walk officials.

5) Continued discussion of the Chief Judge's decision in the last 100 meters. Ron reported that the IAAF Race Walk Committee made a recommendation to the IAAF - "The Chief Judge bases his decision to disqualify the athlete on his observation of the athlete's mode of progression, and on his judgment of whether or not the athlete obviously fails to comply with Rule 230.1. Thee Committee recommends that obviously failing to comply is to be intended as clearly improper race walking for which the athlete would have undoubtedly received an immediate red card from any three judges on the course. This does not necessarily mean running, which would be a very extreme case. It is important that this interpretation of obviously failing to comply with Rule 230.1 is understood."

### **Medical Services**

Maryanne Daniel reported that nothing had really changed in regard to medical services for athletes. However, she expressed a hope that with the new structure that perhaps some programs; such as the massage therapy program, might be reemphasized and gain more support.

### **Records -**

Justin Kuo reported that Race Walking had no Open or Junior records to ratify. There are Master RW records that the Masters Committee will need to approve.

General Meeting 1 recessed 4:00 p.m.

### **General Session II - Friday, December 5, 2008 11:00 Silver Legacy, Reno, NV**

Meeting called to order by Chair, Vince Peters. Committee sign-in with verification of association delegates in attendance confirmed the RW committee had a quorum to conduct business.

### **Site Selection Subcommittee Report - Dave McGovern, chair of the Site Selection Subcommittee, provided the following report.**

- Jan 30 1 Mile (OM, OW) – New York, NY – Vince Peters - [mv\\_tc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mv_tc@sbcglobal.net)
- Feb. 15 50k National Championship (OM, OW, MM, MW) – Santee, CA, Philip Dunn
- Feb. 28-Mar1 Indoor Track & Field Championships (3,000m OW & 5,000m OM) – Boston, MA – [www.usatf.org/Elite](http://www.usatf.org/Elite)
- Mar. 20-22 Masters Indoor Track & Field Championships – Landover, MD  
[www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAMastersIndoorTFChampionships/](http://www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAMastersIndoorTFChampionships/)
- Mar. 30 America's Cup Trials (20k OM, OW, 10k JM, JW) – Pharr, TX [www.usatf.org](http://www.usatf.org)
- May 17 15k (MM, MW) – Riverside, CA – Dave Snyder
- May 30 10k (OM, OW) – Albany, NY – Don Lawrence – [walk2agoal@yahoo.com](mailto:walk2agoal@yahoo.com)
- June 24-28 Junior Outdoor Track & Field Championships (10k JM, JW) – Eugene, OR –  
[www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAJuniorOutdoorTFChampionships/](http://www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAJuniorOutdoorTFChampionships/)
- June 24-28 Outdoor Track & Field Championships (20k OM, OW) - Eugene, OR  
[www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAOutdoorTFChampionships/](http://www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAOutdoorTFChampionships/)
- June 24-29 Youth Outdoor Track & Field Championships – Ypsilanti, MI –  
[www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAYouthOutdoorTFChampionships/](http://www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAYouthOutdoorTFChampionships/)
- Jul. 28-Aug 2 Junior Olympic Track & Field Championship – Greensboro, NC –  
[www.usatf.org/events/2009/USATFJuniorOlympicTFChampionships/](http://www.usatf.org/events/2009/USATFJuniorOlympicTFChampionships/)

Aug. 16 15k (OM, OW, JM, JW) - Minneapolis, MN - Bruce Leasure –  
[racewalk-mn@comcast.net](mailto:racewalk-mn@comcast.net)

Sep. 13 40k (OM, OW, MM, MW) – Ocean Township, NJ - Elliott Denmen –  
[Elliottden@aol.com](mailto:Elliottden@aol.com)

Oct. 3 5k (OM, OW, JM, JW, MM, MW) Kingsport, TN – Bobby Baker –  
[RLBaker@chartertn.net](mailto:RLBaker@chartertn.net)

Oct 11 1 Hour (OM, OW, JM, JW, MM, MW) – Waltham, MA – Justin Kuo –  
[JKuo@usatfne.org](mailto:JKuo@usatfne.org)

Oct 18 20k (JM, JW), 30k (OM, OW, MM, MW) – Hauppauge, NY – Gary Westerfield –  
[garyw@optonline.net](mailto:garyw@optonline.net)

TBD 20k (MM, MW) Event has been awarded to CA for 2009 but date/location has not  
 been decided.

Applications and information for most events available at [www.usatf.org/Events](http://www.usatf.org/Events) and  
[www.racewalking.org/american.htm](http://www.racewalking.org/american.htm)

Committee voted to accept the report of the Site Selection Committee

Other information related to Site Selection, meets, and meet entries include:

- 1) Contact Vince Peters about entry into the Millrose (1Mile).
- 2) Brief discussion about the need to change the USATF Indoor Men's distance from 5000m to 3000m. No decision made. This is not a decision that can be made alone  
 by the USATF Race Walking Committee
- 3) Vince announced that the 20K Outdoor Championships would start and finish on  
 track and use a 1km loop around the stadium in Eugene.
- 4) USA/Canada Dual Meet needs to be determined. Steve Vaitones has had sites  
 volunteering and the target date is Aug 23, 2009 hopefully near the border of  
 Canada.

**IAAF** - Bob Bowman, member IAAF Race Walking Committee reported to the committee. Written report available. The IAAF Race Walking Committee met on June 8th in La Coruna, Spain... The major items discussed were:

- Final version of a Code of Ethics for race walking judges presented;
- Entry standards for major athletics events;
- Review of the situation that developed following the Chief Judge's disqualification of an athlete in the final stage of the Men's 20km race walk in Osaka, and the Committee's recommendations;
- Review of the participation and regulations of the annual Race Walking Challenge series, and the Committee's recommendations;
- 2009 Calendar of Events;
- Proposals and plans associated with Level II and III Judges Education and Certification System.

Discussion following Bob's report included:

- 1) Notice that July 31-Aug 2 will be the Pan American Junior Track & Field competition in Port of Spain.
- 2) Concern expressed about the March 14-15 IAAF Race Walking Challenge race in Chihuahua, Mexico being at altitude and also conflicting with our America's Cup (Pan American) Cup race. Discussion occurred about legality of using an international race as a qualifying event for a U. S. team.

3) Questions about standards for the World Cup came up because several athletes at the 2008 World Cup obviously walked below world level. Bob reported that the IAAF RW Committee had discussed the issue and agreed to continue the discussion at next year's Committee meeting.

4) Questions about age limits for judges wanting to attend the Level I training in Pharr, TX. Ron and Bob reported that for Level I there is no age limit. Level II and Level III judges do have an age limit.

### **Facilitates and Equipment Subcommittee report**

Jo Burrows reported that most of the discussion did not pertain to race walking. For meet organizers, the IAAF handbook on the layout of a track would be useful.

### **Law & Legislation**

Ray Funkhouser reported that the primary L & L issue this year was the restructuring which passed at the opening session Wednesday night. 2010 will be the next regular L & L year. Only item up for vote at the closing session is Art 7 which would impact associations and how they determine their delegates to the Annual Meeting. All items tabled from 2007 have been withdrawn. Information will be going out that every committee must have operating procedures that meet ethical and diversity standards. The USATF National Race Walking will need to review our operating procedures to be sure they conform to the national regulations.

**Standards** - Steve Vaitones reported that since this a post Olympic year, there is no real reason to change any of the race walking standards. Current standards seem to be doing the job. He noted that the standards were listed on page 155 in the USATF Annual Meeting Report booklet.

Indoor Nationals Standards:

Women: 3000m Race Walk 14:40.00      Men: 5000m Race Walk 22:00.00

Junior Outdoor Standards:

Jr. Men: 10,000m Race Walk 55:15.00; 5000m Race Walk 25:30.00;

Jr. Women: 10,000m Race Walk 59:45.00; 5000m Race Walk 28:30.00;

Open Outdoor Standards: Men 50Km - 4:45:00; Men 20Km 1:36:00; and Women 20Km 1:48:00,

Finally, RW Operating Procedures allow athletes and coaches to appeal to the chair for entry into the meet.

**Staff Selection** - Vince appointed Cheryl Lemons, to serve on the staff selection subcommittee which will meet Saturday afternoon. ,

**Officials** - Ron Daniel gave an updated report based on his attendance at the official's general meeting. The new liability insurance and its impact on associations were mentioned. The insurance will cover certified officials at non-USATF sanctioned meets. He also reported that a liberal limit of 4-6 months from January 1, 2009 has been given for recertification and there is a new requirement for being a certified official, current USATF membership. The National Official's Committee gives out awards for outstanding officials in various categories. He suggested a proposal to recommend a RW official/judge award be started.

**RW Development** - Maryanne Daniel reported that the USOC directed that any development money should show how the plan would get a RW person onto the medal stand. For various reasons, all of our projects were denied. It is necessary that any new proposals show a direct relationship to getting medals and Maryanne mentioned that race walking is not the only event affected. In 2008, the Talent ID program was funded. While the program has some positive

aspects, race walking is not getting the level of athlete through the Talent ID program, even though handouts and video were shared and distributed at several meets including the Indoor Nationals, Outdoor Nationals, Junior Nationals, and Junior Olympics. She reminded us that we are looking for middle distance runners in the middle of the pack. Monies from the Talent ID program provided support for those college age athletes to participate in the Junior Camp in Chicago over the summer. In 2009 another Junior Camp is being planned to reach 15-19 year old athletes, maybe to include Talent ID athletes (16-26) and emerging elite. Brainstorming occurred on ways to effectively broaden the Talent ID program. One suggestion was to mass produce information with the idea of reaching more local athletes. Included in the discussion is the time and energy needed to sell the program, to give encouragement to the athletes interested and to appropriately follow-up the athletes. Generally speaking, race walking is able to get funding for the camps, but athletes are required to get themselves to the camp which can hinder some athletes from participating.

Art Klein, Pacific Association, reported that his association plans to have training opportunity February 6-8, 2009 at Santa Clara High School, People interested should contact Art Klein.

#### **Athlete Advisory/HP Audit Committee**

Allen James reported that being considered is a new model for providing track and field support. Being proposed is the idea of cities having track clubs that encompass youth through masters. Then team scoring could be reintroduced as cities would participate in dual meets. This European/Australian model would provide competition opportunities for all levels of our sport.

#### **Substance Abuse**

Jan Price gave an oral report about dangers of certain substances. Specially she gave warnings about melamine, excessive Vitamin B6, caffeine, Steroids, Viagra, and Selenium/Vitamin E. For people wanting more information, contact Jan Price.

#### **USATF 20K Olympic Trials and 2008 USA/Canada Dual Meet report**

Jim Bean provided an oral report for both competitions. Jim said that the LOC realized that having the race walks off site at the Trials created a lot more work than they realized. This is one reason the LOC has agreed to state and finish on the track. Athletes have expressed the preference for a 1k loop over the other two options of a 2k loop or on the track only. There had been some problem with vandalism at the race walk site during the Trials. Question arose whether anyone had seen a copy of the USATF filming done during the races by Mike Young. No one had and Vince Peters indicated that he would follow up. Jim reported that the Canadians had done a good job organizing the USA/Canada Dual meet in Victoria. He reported that the decision to stay a day longer to participate in a clinic and a Dartfish review of performances was a very valuable use of resources. He reported that our teams worked well together despite high temperatures and high humidity.

#### **Committee Elections**

At 2:00 p.m. the committee stopped other business and conducted elections. In absence of representatives from Organizational Services, the committee approved a recommendation that we use non-voting persons in our meeting to count the ballots. Selected were Bob Hickey, So California, AC Jaime, South Texas, and David Snyder, So California. Ballots were distributed by roll call. Ballots were collected by the counting committee. The following are candidates for the various positions:

Chair: Vince Peters and Chris Rael  
Vice Chair: Steve Vaitones and Loretta Schuellein  
Treasurer: Jo Burrows and Michael Tarantino  
At-Large Delegates: Karen Byrne, Maryanne Daniel, Jan Price, Tom Eastler, Bill Pollinger, Bruce Leasure, Michael Roth, Steve Pecinovsky, Gary Westerfield,

Jo Burrows, Ray Funkhouser, Dave McGovern, Pedro Santoni (voted for 5)

Elected on first ballot: Vince Peters, Chair; Steve Vaitones, Vice-Chair, Jo Burrows, Treasurer; Maryanne Daniel, At-Large; Ray Funkhouser, At-Large, Dave McGovern, At-Large; and Gary Westerfield, At-Large.

The committee voted to elected the last At-Large position by hand vote. According to our operating procedures, the two candidates for that position were the new two highest vote getters - Tom Eastler and Bill Pollinger. Tom Eastler was elected to the fifth At-Large position. Motion made, seconded, and passed to destroy the ballots.

The committee resumed regular business.

### **World Cup Report**

Steve Vaitones gave an extensive report on the World Cup meet in Russia. He reported that the Russians had done a great job and that it was exciting for our athletes to see and get to participate in the excitement that Russians demonstrate for race walking.

### **NACAC Under 21 Meet report**

Mike Roth reported the meet in Toluca was a good opportunity for our athletes. We had two male race walkers and two female race walkers who participated. High altitude was a factor that influenced the performances.

### **Junior Nationals Meet report**

The race walking competitions at the Junior Nationals in Columbus, OH occurred Sunday morning early on June 24, 2008. The fields for both the men and women's races were complete with only two females failing to show. Performances were not outstanding. Results from the races were used to select the USA/Canada Dual team.

### **USA Race Walking Grand Prix**

Funding has been approved for the 2009 Grand Prix; the dates for the included competitions will need to be adjusted. Results for the 2008 Grand Prix will be announced at the Award Breakfast Saturday morning. Vince still needs to find a new coordinator for the program. This person would need to tabulate results, provide information to the meet directors, secure materials and distribute awards and information.

**Podium Education Conference** - Dave McGovern is developing a RW PowerPoint for presentation at the Podium Education Conference next week in Las Vegas, NV Tuesday through Thursday, Dec 9 - 11, 2008. Vince and Dave will both been attending. The PowerPoint will be available on line after the conference.

### **Junior Camp**

Diane Graham-Henry reported on the successful Junior Camp held in Chicago the week after the Junior National. Diane explained that one goal of the camp was to promote a camaraderie among the young walkers and the build a cohesive group that will encourage the athletes to stay with race walking. The camp built in several components - everything from strenuous training drills, to peaking, to social connectiveness. Contact **Diane Graham-Henry at [arcaswiss@aol.com](mailto:arcaswiss@aol.com)** if anyone is interested in the curriculum for the camp.

The committee proposed that a resolution be presented to the body of USATF Sunday morning in acknowledgement of Bob Fine's contribution to race walking. Vince appointed Diane Graham Henry, Cheryl Sunman, Rod Larson, Pam Betz and Sandra DeNoon to write a resolution and present it at our general session Saturday for approval.

Meeting recessed 4:00

**General Session III Dec 6, 2007 10:00 a.m. Silver Legacy, Reno, NV**

Meeting called to order by Vince Peters, Chair. Sign-in sheet verified the committee had a quorum to conduct business.

The Resolution Committee presented the resolution honoring the contributions of Bob Fine, Master RW chair, to the USATF Race Walking committee. Motion made to approve resolution, seconded and passed. Vince Peters, Chair, will present the resolution at the closing session of the USATF Annual Meeting.

**2008 Race Walk Committee Awards** - As announced at the breakfast, the following received awards:

Joanne Dow - Ron Zinn Outstanding Female Race Walker

Philip Dunn - Ron Zinn Outstanding Male Race Walker

Miranda Melville - Henry Laskau Outstanding Junior Female Race Walker

Trevor Barron - Henry Laskau Outstanding Junior Male Race Walker

Oregon - Outstanding Association

Diane Graham-Henry - Mike Riban Outstanding Contributor

2008 Chair's Awards for Outstanding Support & Service to the USATF Race Walking Committee  
Robin Beamon and Jim Bean

#### 2008 USA Race Walking Grand Prix

1st Place Male - Theron Kissinger

1st Place Female - Teresa Vaill

2nd Place Male - Patrick Stroupe

2nd Place Female - Solomiya Login

3rd Place Male - Matt Boyles

3rd Place Female - Joanne Dow

1st Place Junior Male - John Randall  
Davis

1st Place Junior Female - Catherine

2nd Place Junior Male - Matthew Forgues

2nd Place Junior Female - Allison Chin

3rd Place Junior Male - Roberto Vergara  
Monahan

3rd Place Junior Female - Jenna

#### Men's team awards

1st place - Pegasus Athletic Club

2nd place - Shore Athletic Club (tie)

2nd place - New England Walkers (tie)

#### Women's Team Awards

1st Place - Walk USA (tie)

1st Place - Pegasus Athletic Club (tie)

3rd Place - Maine Racewalkers

**The Chair announced that Philip Dun had been selected as one of the Athlete Representatives to the new USATF Board of Directors.**

#### **New Business**

##### **Coaching/Training Curriculum**

AC Jaime showed the DVD that goes along with the newly written book, "Racewalking! Fun? Alex and Maria Discover Racewalking." There is also a recommended curriculum for teaching race walking to elementary age children that can be used with the book and DVD. The curriculum, DVD, and book are intended for use by elementary PE teachers to provide high quality, low cost, physical training in race walking that has the potential to provide life-long benefits in health. It is geared to elementary students because of their ability to leap wholeheartedly into a new, fun activity.

For information about the book, the DVD, and the curriculum, contact **AC Jaime at acjaime@sbcglobal.net, or Tom Eastler at eastler@maine.edu**

Gary Westerfield, Walk USA, showed a second race walk teaching DVD geared for coaches and judges. The DVD was developed by Bill and Barbara Vayo. The expressed goal was to produce a "non-threatening, user-friendly, professionally packages, standardized, turnkey video." The video has all the necessary tools needed to teach and judge race walking. The teaching segment of the DVD is taught using easy to follow examples, demonstrates common errors and how to correct them. For information about securing the videos, contact Gary Westerfield at **garyw@optonline.net**

Both DVD have the potential to greatly enhance race walking exposure and development among our youth.

### **One-Hour Postal - 2009**

Bruce Leasure, MN, will be taking over handling the long existing 1 Hour RW Postal that Elliott Denman has sponsored. Bruce reports that registration for the event must be done through the website [www.walkonmn.org](http://www.walkonmn.org). There is no entry fee, but if a person wants an award there will be a cost. Awards will be given based on distances. T-shirts will be available for purchase. Results must be submitted using Bruce's format - no exceptions. Bruce also announced a RW only marathon on May 16 with a 7:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. time frame in Minnesota.

**Simultaneous Continuous Marathon** - Jo Burrows explained the concept. She was introduced to it as a result of an Official's Exchange with the UK. It is essentially a relay in which the youth athlete runs or in our case, race walks, 200m around the track and hands off to next athlete. This continues until the relay team completes the marathon distance. Jo explained that they did it in Weston, W VA in October, 2008 with great fun and success. Their results were compared with results around the world. Jo Burrows presented the program to the USATF Youth Committee. A subcommittee was established to work on the implementation - Chair, Jo Burrows, Stella Cashman, Vince Peters, Bruce Leasure, Sandy DeNoon, Diane Graham-Henry, Becky Klein, and Ray Funkhouser.

**Sports Psychology** - Allen James reported that Rick McGuire says that they plan to have sport psychologists available for the different levels - youth, juniors, open, etc. Discussion centered on the fact that Race Walking used to have a psychologist assigned to us. Issue came up as to whether race walkers used the psychologist enough. Allen was asked to pursue selection of another RW psychologist and forward that person's name onto the elite athletes.

### **National Team Meeting**

Loretta Schuellein stated that it was wonderful that we are developing junior camps, DVDs to attract youths into race walking, but asks what is being done currently for our National Race Walk Team athletes. Loretta said that those athletes would like an elite camp and that those athletes would like to meet and discuss issues related to them in the hopes of getting more support and help. After discussion, Vince Peters, said that he would find a room for a National Team Athletes' meeting Saturday afternoon. Susan Armenta indicated that while an elite camp would be a good temporary start, what the race walk athletes need is ongoing support. It was proposed that an Elite Athlete Subcommittee be established whose purpose it would be to work for that ongoing support. It was clear from the statements that our National Team Athletes deserve a more consistent support than we as the Race Walking Committee have provided for the last few years. Athletes volunteered to work on a subcommittee include Susan Armenta, Jolene Moore, and Solomiya Login. Others interested should contact Vince Peters.

### **Proposal for Race Walk Development**

Due to a lack of time, Wayne Armbrust was not able to present fully his proposal for Race Walk Development. Wayne identified the problem for USATF Race Walking as having few athletes at a high level, aging athletes, no replacements coming up and race walking not being respected. Wayne used the running community as an example. His proposal is that the RW committee encourages NAIA schools to recruit World Class Juniors with full scholarships. He wants the Race Walk Committee to provide schools with the names eligible foreign World Class walkers. Then encourage those athletes to become citizens so they can represent the U. S. Wayne feels the result will be that coaches will see world class race walking, race walking will gain respect, and that our own native born race walkers will step up to meet the challenge. Because there was not time left to discuss Wayne's proposal adequately, it was suggested to put it out on the race walk listserv for discussion.

**3000m vs. 5000m distance in Men's Indoor Race**

Due lack of time, this item of new business was tabled for discussion later.

Announcement made that Ray Funkhouser would become the Chair of the Master's Race Walk Committee.

**Regional Meetings** - Group broken into the four regions - North, South, East and West to create regional schedules. **Each region should be sure to give their schedule to Vince for inclusion on a composite calendar. Contact Vince at mv\_tc@sbcglobal.net**

Meeting adjourned 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginger Mulanax, Secretary  
January 5, 2009