

# Missouri Valley USATF Annual Board Meeting

## October 9, 2005

10:00 a.m.

Emporia State University , HPER Building

### Minutes

#### **Attendance:**

Mark Stanbrough, President; Susan Melgares, Membership Chair; Harold Cribbs, Officials Chair; Wayne Armbrust, Racewalk Chair; Terry Drake, Men's LDR Chair; Shawn Love, Women's LDR Chair; Ed ward Thomas, member; Kenneth Ferguson, Law & Legislation Chair; Alan Webb, Youth Chair.

Michele Hart, member, joined at 10:50 a.m.

Terry Drake & Shawn Love left at 11:15 a.m.

Cliff Wiley joined at 1:05 p.m.

#### **Accreditation Review**

Mark reported that in the 2004 Association Accreditation Review that the only standard not met was our membership ratio. The MV Association was at 12.70% and we are required to be at 20%.

#### **Membership Numbers**

Susan reported that our membership numbers for 2003 were 10078, for 2004 were 673, and for 2005 are currently 745. There are 27 USATF Clubs in the association.

#### **Increasing Membership**

An open discussion was held concerning increasing membership in the MV Association. Harold and Kenneth discussed how to increase awareness of the advantages of USATF compared to the AAU. A suggestion was to create a membership brochure that would show these advantages. In addition, the MV Association also needs to get information and educate club coaches and high school coaches about USATF.

At the Association Workshop in Indianapolis, IN, there was discussion about grants being given for brochures. We could try to get a grant to help with brochures that could be put into race packets.

Brochure Needs—What can USATF do for you?

- 1—Various national and world championships—elite levels.
- 2—Quotes from kids who have made it in those events.
- 3—Calendar of events—track & field, cross country, road races, race walking, etc.
- 4—Coaches education.
- 5—Membership benefits—national level and association level—include insurance, etc.

Took a look at NJ LDR Brochure—insert put in brochure with specific yearly date.

We have been given a \$700.00 USATF Grant to be used for Developmental Meets. This grant may be used to make this brochure.

What do we do with the brochure? How do we use it?

Get brochure to different high schools, clubs, sporting good stores, YMCA, recreation centers, racing packets, & current parents.

Open discussion about getting information to the various entities mentioned above.

### **Long Distance Running**

#### **Run Kansas City**

Terry discussed his ideas for Run Kansas City—a portal of races in the Long Distance Running Community; there would be a series of four races that membership would in Run KC would include. The membership fees would include entries into the four races, uniforms, and their USATF membership. Terry thinks that he can get around 1000 members. Financial assistance is close to being secured for a weekly/monthly show on Sports Network.

#### **Current Road Races**

Terry and Shawn discussed the possibilities of getting more road races tied into the USATF. Grand Prix races were discussed to increase the ability to have more prize monies. Hospital Hill will be the women's Half Marathon National Championships & the Association Championships for Men. The Olathe Marathon will be the Association Championships for both Men and Women. The women's 10K Association Championships will be in Springfield, MO, on October 15, 2006. Looking at finding a 5K race in Wichita area for Association Championships. Mark asked about an 8K Association Championships—this will be looked into.

In summary, hook up with existing road races, must be USATF member to earn prize money. USATF booth will be set up at all races. Shawn suggested to continue to support MARA's Grand Prix and piggy back on that existing series. We need to emphasize the importance of being a member.

#### **Bid Forms**

Shawn reported that they are discussing a \$50.00 bid fee to bid for USATF MV Road Running Championships. The course must be certified and sanctioned. Medals will be provided for top three finishers. Mark thought that early on we need to be flexible in how we accept bids.

### **Membership Benefits**

Mark brought up the current member benefits with discounts at businesses. Once we get members, we need to keep them. We need to sell USATF.

### **Sanctions**

Jay Mulligan could not be here, but Mark reported that he has been doing a good job with sanctioning events. Each year we have been getting more and more sanctioned events.

Wayne reported that he is trying to get more Columbia road races to become sanctioned. Currently, there is only one race that is currently sanctioned.

The road races will need to have games committees, etc., so that problems that arise can be handled. A few instances were discussed at current races held in Kansas City.

A championship schedule will be set up in the next few weeks. Susan suggested that Pat Melgares will be the race director of the St. Pat's Road Race in Manhattan, KS.

### **Association Cross Country Championships**

Mark discussed the meet being held at Rim Rock since we are bidding for the national meet and switched weekends for the AAU. Wayne did not think we should be changing our schedule because of AAU. The National Office is trying to become more proactive with AAU and make certain that we do not have any conflicts.

We need to push for these championships to have a team feel with the road racing community—Ernst and Young was given as an example by Terry.

### **Officials**

Harold reported that the number of officials have dropped severely in the association. This includes past officials and coaches. Some have not renewed yet. Columbia has had a good renewal rate as has Gerald Christensen's group. Harold is worried about Cliff Wiley's meet and how we will be able to get officials for the competition.

Unfortunately, the Columbia group does not move from Columbia—they are a good group, but they do not travel.

Mark contacted college coaches about former athletes & parents to begin getting a new officials. He has not received any response.

The three officials clinics from last year brought in a few new officials—these were held in Columbia, Lawrence, and Emporia. UMKC would be a possible venue for another one. We have emailed all officials of the clinics. High school, middle school, and college coaches all have a list of workers who help run off track & field meets. We need to get these lists and mail them information about the clinics—this can be our base. Parents of USATF members can be a group that will be another base. Master athletes are also a possibility.

It was suggested to have a schedule of meets that need officials listed on our web site.

### **Membership Fees**

National office is suggesting increasing the youth membership fee to \$20.00 and the adult membership fee to \$30.00 or \$40.00. The increase in membership fees is to help support member benefits, infrastructure improvements for Grass Roots initiatives, marketing and branding of USATF, and sport committee programs.

Members of the board are concerned that the price increase is going to have opposition and fewer people will join.

### **Hosting/Bidding for Meets**

Why do clubs host meets instead of having the association running off the Association Meets? The association needs to be more in control of the meets so they are in control of earning more income. Suggestion is to give clubs money for helping us run off meets and to get sponsors to help bring in more money.

### **Proposed Changes for USATF MV T & F Championships**

We have decided to do online entries with no meet day entries. We need to check into credit card possibilities, membership # being required. Cliff Wiley suggested Coach O (Charles Oliver) former Tennessee Track & Field Coach.

Payment must be made prior to packet pick-up. All payments must be certified checks, cashier checks, cash, or credit card.

All Region 9 entries must be made before the end of the association championships. All non-qualifiers replacing a qualifier must be made that day.

All Region 9 payments are to be paid in cash.

We are in favor of proposing to our Region 9 Coordinator to qualify 6 individuals to the Region 9 Championships.

### **National Convention**

Kenneth, Susan, Mark, and Alan indicated that they were interested in attending. Michele is checking her schedule.