



MINUTES FOR THE OCTOBER 3, 2009

ANNUAL MEETING OF MISSOURI VALLEY ASSOCIATION

ROLL CALL MEMBERS

Present: Ken Ferguson-President (KC Flyer); Edward Thomas-Membership Chair (KC Extreme); LaShone Thomas, Treasure (KC Extreme); Melissa Gore-Secretary (Olathe Express); Wayne Armburst-Race Walking Chair & Sanctions Chair; Patrick Simon – Wichita (Youth Program); Greg Miller Officials Committee Chair; Monica Joannes (Officials Committee), Andy Gilmore (Communication Chair); Dennis Webber-Masters Chair (Hays Striders); Terry McMillian- Disabled Athletes Chair; Jonathan Epps (Officials Committee); Dwane Pierre-(KC Flyer);

Absent: Forika McDougald, I, Youth Chair (Track N Field United); Alan Posiner-Master Race Walking Chair (Heartland); Michele Goulsby-Vice President; Vince DeGrado (Coaching Education)

Credentialing: The Membership Chair, Ed Thomas, checked and verified eligibility of members claiming voting privileges by checking memberships against the national office list.

Minutes 2008 Annual Meeting: Copies of the minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting have been available at the Missouri Valley Association's web site. Wayne Armbrust moved to accept the minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting. The motion was second by Ed Thomas. The motion passed by unanimous consent of members present

Report of the President

Media/Communication Committee: Ken Ferguson commented on the work of the Media/Communication Committee under the leadership of Chair Andy Gilmore first and foremost were improvements made to the Missouri Valley website. Following the 2008 Annual Meeting, Andy Gilmore completed Phase I of the Communication Plan which called for redesigned the Association's website. The Association has received very positive comments from the membership regarding its current website. Andy reported the Association is currently using Facebook at its website to communicate with members and to distribute event notices and other information. Andy has also established a Fan Page at the website.

Andy also reported web analysis tools available through Google allow the Association to track traffic at the website. According to Andy, the Association saw its highest volume of traffic during the Grand Prix series and Championship. Volume also increased leading up to the Association Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

After recommendations to begin archiving 2008 materials at the Missouri Valley website, Monica Joannes volunteered to assist the Communication Committee with archiving, updating events schedule and developing individual committee pages at the Association's website.

Strategic Membership Service Initiative: The Association will focus on becoming a more service based membership organization. The first step will be to provide more competition opportunities in currently underserved parts of the Missouri Valley Association. Patrick Simon agreed to work with the Association's Youth Chair in developing more opportunities in the Wichita area. Dennis Weber, Masters Chair, also agreed to work to increasing participation opportunities for youth, open and masters competitors in the far western end of the Missouri Valley Association (as far west as the Kansas-Colorado border). The following was reported:

- Jan.-Feb. 2009 – Youth membership increased to by 57 members over the same period in 2008, due primarily because of a new indoor initiative within the Missouri Valley Association, “The Indoor Grand Prix High School Series of Meets.”
- Boys & Girls Club of America joined the Association in 2009 and the President is currently serving on an Advisory Board for that organization on behalf of the Missouri Valley Association and USATF. Boys & Girls Club of America started a new track program. Ken is encouraging them to be a part of Association.
- Upcoming Cross Country Championship is scheduled to be held Nov. 21, 2009, at KU's Rim Rock Farm in Lawrence, Kansas
- The Association was awarded USATF Midwest Indoor Zonal Track & Field Championship which is scheduled to be held at KU on Feb. 14, 2010.

Youth Committee: Ken reported that the Association now has 15 member clubs. He also reported that the Association is currently developing an Education Scholarship Program. Only USATF members of the Missouri Valley Association will qualify for its scholarship program, which will be an 8-week ACT/SAT study course to prepare high school juniors and seniors for the respective college entrance examinations. The board approved Ken request to look further into developing both the Scholarship and a Travel Grant program for the Association. Ken reported he will be working with the City of Wichita and the Wichita Sports Commission in developing this initiative in conjunction with the bid for the 2011 Junior Olympics National Track & Field Championship. The bid was submitted by Wichita Sports Commission, Wichita State University, Missouri Valley Association and the Wichita Convention Bureau.

USATF Association Workshop in Des Moines: Ken Ferguson and Cliff Wiley attended USATF Association Workshop in Des Moines, Iowa. They distributed information about Wichita, Wichita State University's track where the 2011 Junior Olympics Championship will be held, hotel and transportation into Wichita. Ken also reported on matters the Association will have to

address in preparation for the 2011 Junior Olympics Track & Field Championship if awarded to the Missouri Valley.

Officials Committee: Greg Miller, the Officials Task Force Chair, and Ken reported on the status of matters relating to the Association's officials. The Officials Task Force, led by Greg Miller, was created in April 2009 to research and make recommendation to the board on how the Association can more effectively meet the needs of its officials. The Officials Task Force's recommendation to streamline the Officials Certification process by creating the Officials Certification Coordinator was adopted at a prior board meeting. The Officials Certification Coordinator, Jonathan Epps, will ensure that all official's certification applications are error free before they are submitted to the Certification Chair, Kevin Harrison.

Greg reported on an Officials Mentorship Initiative being developed by the Officials Committee. Under the Officials Mentorship Program, season officials will mentor newly certified officials. The Committee discussed the importance of Association Officials officiating USATF Youth meets and the Missouri Valley Association Championship. The Association will have the opportunity to comment on the application of Association Officials to officiate at USATF National Championship. According to the National Officials Committee, officials must also officiate Association Championship, if they are to be approved for National or Masters certification status and to officiate at USATF Junior Olympic and other National Championships. Wayne Armburst reported on need for certified officials who are trained race-walk officials within the Missouri Valley Association. The Task Force will worked toward increasing the number of trained race walk officials in the Association.

After the motion by Wayne Armburst and a second by Pat Simon, the Board unanimously voted to approve appointment of Greg Miller as chair of the Officials Committee.

Race Walk Committee:

According to Wayne Armburst, Chair of the Race Walk Committee, 2009 was a great year for race walking in the Missouri Valley Association. Collegiate and former collegiate walkers from our Association performed at a very high level both at the NAIA Championships and at the National level.

Things got off to a great start on January 11 at Missouri Valley College Mini-Meet in Marshall, MO. This meet is perennially one of the best non-championship indoor race walk events in the United States. Patrick Stroupe, many time NAIA Indoor and Outdoor Champion and a 2007 graduate of Central Methodist University won the men's 3000m walk in the fine time of 12:21.63 over Chris Tegtmeier of Concordia University of Nebraska. Both Stroupe and Tegtmeir qualified for for the USATF Indoor Championship in Boston on February 28th and a total of six men and women qualified for the NAIA Indoor Championships March 6 in Johnson City, TN.

Next up was the 3000m walk at the University of Missouri All-comers Meet on February 21 which doubled as the Missouri Valley 3000m Indoor Race Walk Championship. Patrick Stroupe

was again the winner of the men's race in the fine time of 12:02.36 which was the fastest time of the year in the US at the time. The women's race was won by Emily Hansen of Concordia.

February 21 was the date of the Race Walks at the Heart of America Athletic Conference Indoor Championships at Graceland University in Lamoni, IA. In the men's 3000 race walk, athletes from the Missouri Valley Association went 1-2, with Thiago Ferreira of Missouri Valley College winning in 13:12.32 followed by Peter Muldoon of Central Methodist in 13:12.67. Both athletes qualified for the NAIA Indoor Championships.

On February 28 at the USATF National Championships at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston, Patrick Stroupe finished second in the Men's 5000m walk with a time of 20:32.26.

At the NAIA Indoor Championships at Johnson City, TN, March 6, Thiago Ferreira of Missouri Valley College finished second in the men's 3000m walk with a time of 13:03.00.

Moving to outdoors, on March 29 in Pharr, TX, Patrick Stroupe won the 20k USATF Team Trials for the Americas Race Walk Championships held April 28 in San Salvador, El Salvador. Time for the Central Methodist grad was a PR 1:27:34.

April 10 was the date of the CMU-Asics Invitational at Central Methodist. This meet also doubled as the USATF Missouri Valley 3000m (w) & 5000m (m) Outdoor Race Walk Championship. Jessica Ching of Lindenwood by way of Hong Kong won the women's race in 16:34.17. Patrick Stroupe, with an eye to his race in San Salvador in less than three weeks, took things easy with a 22:20.14 over Ferreira of Missouri Valley (22:25.37) and Muldoon of Central Methodist (22:36.48). Two women and two men qualified for the NAIA Outdoor Championship May 22 in Edwardsville, IL.

At the Americas Race Walk Championships in San Salvador, El Salvador, April 28, Patrick Stroupe was the first Team USA finisher in the men's 20k event with a time of 1:31:00, placing 14th.

May 1 was the date of the Heart of America Athletic Conference Indoor Championships hosted by Central Methodist. Missouri Valley Association athletes won both the women's 3000m walk and the men's 5000m event. Newcomer Stephanie Cowell of Baker University winning the former in a time of 16:38.62 with Ferreira winning the latter in 22:15.26 with Muldoon second in 22:58.66. A total of three Missouri Valley athletes qualified for the NAIA Championships.

At the NAIA Outdoor Championships May 22 in Edwardsville, Stephanie Cowell finished 12th in the women's 3000m race walk and Peter Muldoon of Central Methodist finished 6th in the men's 5000m.

At the USATF Championships in Eugene, OR on June 27, Patrick Stroupe finish second in the

20k walk to two time Olympian Tim Seaman with another PR, 1:26:42, to Seaman's 1:26:15. Unfortunately, neither Stroupe or Seaman met the "B" qualifying Standard of 1:24:20 for the World Championships in Athletics held in Berlin, Germany on August 15.

Although the quality of several of our walkers, particularly Patrick Stroupe is quite high, our numbers, especially among women, are quite low. Additionally, we need to keep more of our athletes competing after college. Especially critical is the development of more Race Walk Judges as some of our Missouri Valley events were in jeopardy because of a difficulty in securing Judges.

Masters Committee:

Dennis Webber reported that he has been working with Vince DeGrado will be conducting a Level I Clinic in Hays, Kansas. Dennis also reported on efforts to provide more participation opportunities in the Western part of the Missouri Valley Association.

Treasurer: Reported was given on recently filing of the Association's 990EZ. Ken reminded the Board that the Association had to employ legal counsel to complete 990EZ, because the Association had receipts in excess of \$25,000 and was required to file the form. The Association employed a tax attorney because in the past the Association has only filed the EZ post card.

USATF Annual Meeting: The board voted and approved the 12 Association delegated to the Annual Meeting scheduled for Dec. 2-6, 2009 Indianapolis, IN. The Association will reimburse expenses on a pro rata basis as funds are available.

Adjournment at 4:50 pm