

# **USATF Three Rivers Association – Officials Newsletter**

## **Post Annual Meeting Information**

### **January 4, 2007**

**From: Bruce Long, Three Rivers Officials/Certification Chair**

#### **Certification:**

Our National Certification Chair, Jim Flanik has worked with developers to complete a web-based program allowing Association certification chairs to input their own certification/recertification information. This will expedite our certification process now and for future Olympiad recertification. While at our convention I attended a training class on the use of the new program. Association certification chairs will begin using the new system in January.

#### **Rules:**

This was a rules change year for USATF. While at the convention I was able to sit in on several hours of rules change debates both in the Rules Committee meetings and in Youth Committee meetings. I was impressed with the amount of time and effort put into the discussion of proposed rules changes. Impacts on and from IAAF, NCAA and NFHS rules were considered within discussion. 73 of 108 proposed rules changes were accepted. A full set of changes will be published on our website and reviewed during our next clinic early in 2007. Highlights are as follows:

1. No changes to rules for starting
2. The timing of adding the hammer throw as an official Youth Athletics event was modified. It was to have been given full status at all levels (for Intermediate and Young Men/Women divisions) in 2007. Based on an approved revision the event will not be a requirement at Association championships until 2010. It will become a requirement for Region and National championships in 2007. Three Rivers Association expects to continue competing the event at our Association championship.
3. The 5000 meter race walk for youth (intermediate and young men/woman) was reduced in length to 3000 meters
4. The use of video by the Jury of Appeal in youth meets is now limited to video designated as official by the Games Committee prior to competition.
5. Road Race timing changes were approved to record to the tenth of a second for publication. Official times will continue to be rounded up to the full second.

#### **USATF Logo and Officials Shirts**

USATF officially rolled out a new logo at the annual meeting. The logo has USATF between the vertical wings. USATF has contracted with Nike to market the new symbol on apparel and other merchandise.

The bad news is that the logo will not be available anytime soon on officials shirts or other clothing. Expected availability is by mid to late 2007.

#### **Officials Training**

Officials training materials continue to be available on the official's web site at [www.usatfofficials.com](http://www.usatfofficials.com). New additions, some from the convention, are added as they are

developed so be sure to take a look periodically. During the annual meeting Mark Heckel presented a training session on Electronic Measurement. Mark did an outstanding job preparing and presenting this topic. The use of electronic measurement is currently in place at National meets and we can expect to see its use expanded.

The USATF Officials Training Subcommittee has initiated a new approach to training efforts by establishing five new training groups. Each of these groups has been charged with the development of training in a specific area. Those training areas include 1) Championship/Convention Clinics, 2) Initial Training, 3) Continuing Education, 4) Advancement Training, and 5) Outreach Training.

### **Certified Officials Non-Sanctioned Event Insurance**

During both the 2005 and the 2006 conventions, the subject of non-sanctioned event insurance was discussed. The National Committee has agreed to investigate a national program however at this point has referred the issue to the associations for possible implementation. Currently USATF Pacific Association has the insurance for their officials. Their cost is \$12/official each year. This should be a serious consideration for us as officials since many of us officiate at events outside of USATF such as High School, NCAA, LDR, etc. I will plan to discuss this with additional detail during our clinic coming up early in 2007.

### **2007 Officials Dues**

Your 2007 USATF Three Rivers Officials dues are now due. We have made an effort to keep your fees as low as possible. As a result, 2007 dues will remain at \$20 for existing certified officials. Included in the dues is your 2007 USATF membership (\$29.95 to other members) and a 2007 rule book (a \$13.00 value). Please make your check payable to TRAC and mail directly to me at the following address:

Bruce Long  
TRA Officials Chair  
109 Evans Drive  
McMurray, PA 15317

Cindy tells me that some of you have already paid your 2007 dues to her. She will provide me a list from her records. We will reimburse anyone who has paid more than the \$20.

### **Celebration for Norm Crawford**

On March 4, 2007 the track community will celebrate Norm Crawford. We encourage all of Norm's friends to attend. The event will be held at the Crowne Plaza, 1160 Thorn Run Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108. There will be a social hour at 1:00 p.m. with a luncheon and presentation at 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per person. Please mail reservations by Wednesday February 21 to TSTCA, P.O. Box 18114, Pittsburgh, PA 15236.

### **2007 Officials Clinic**

Plans are being put into place for our 2007 official's clinic. We are currently seeking ideas and volunteers for clinic topics. Please submit your ideas to me as soon as possible. You will be contacted via postcard on the date, time and location for the clinic.

**Contact information**

If you did not receive this newsletter by email then I do not have your current email address. Please send me an email at [region2bruce@earthlink.net](mailto:region2bruce@earthlink.net) so I will be able to efficiently contact you. Please be assured that I do not share email addresses with anyone and all communications are sent on a blind distribution.

**2007 Youth Track Meet Schedule – Spring and Summer**

The Youth Committee has developed the following schedule of spring and summer youth track meets. All meets are Saturdays unless noted otherwise.

April 28 – South Park /Mon Valley at Ringgold H.S.

May 5 – East Allegheny T.C. at East Allegheny H.S.

May12 – Pacer T.C. at Bethel Park H.S.

May 19 – Wings of Moon at Moon Stadium

May26 – Nadia – site TBD

June 2 – Penn Hills Eagles at Penn Hills H.S.

June 9 – Mountain Top at Penn Cambria

June 9 – Steel City Express site TBD

June 16 – River City Elite at site TBD

June 23, 24 – Three Rivers Assoc. J.O. Championship

June 30 – South Fayette T.C. at South Fayette H.S.

## Officiating Opportunities

Meet directors from the following meets have contacted Three Rivers Association seeking officials. Meet and contact information is listed below.

[March 17, 2007](#) – Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling, WV – WJU Spring Fling Invitational – Officials needed for all track and field events  
Field events start at 10:00, Track events start at Noon  
Contact – Asst. coach Ricky Moore; [rmoore@wju.edu](mailto:rmoore@wju.edu); 304-639-7097

[March 30 & 31, 2007](#) – Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling, WV – Bill Van Horne Invitational – Officials needed for all track and field events  
Friday Multi-events – Noon start, Saturday individual events – 9:00 am. start  
Contact – Asst. coach Ricky Moore; [rmoore@wju.edu](mailto:rmoore@wju.edu); 304-639-7097

[March 31, 2007](#) - Indiana University of PA - Western PA Championships  
20 team meet - 15 officials needed  
Contact - Brian Spickler - office phone: 724-357-2464 or [email](#)

[April 7, 2007](#) - Washington & Jefferson Invitational - 15 officials needed  
Contact - Mark FitzPatrick - office phone: 724-503-1001 ext 3072 or [email](#)

[April 7, 2007](#) - Indiana University of PA - PSAC West Challenge Meet  
six team meet - 5 to 10 officials needed  
Contact - Brian Spickler - office phone: 724-357-2464 or [email](#)

[April 21, 2007](#) - Indiana University of PA - 34th Annual IUP Open  
20 team meet - 15 officials needed Contact - Brian Spickler - office phone: 724-357-2464 or [email](#)

[April 21, 2007](#) - California University of PA - 12 officials needed for multi team college meet - contact Bruce Long 724-941-5639 or [email Bruce](#)

[May 11 & 12, 2007](#) – Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling, WV – Cardinal Twilight Meet – Officials needed for all track and field events  
Field events start at 3:30 pm., Track events start at 5:00 pm.  
Contact – Asst. coach Ricky Moore; [rmoore@wju.edu](mailto:rmoore@wju.edu); 304-639-7097

You may also contact Bruce Long for additional information or to sign up for these meets.