

**National Officials Committee
General Meeting – Session # 1
November 30, 2007 – Maui Ballroom
Sheraton Waikiki Hotel
Honolulu, HI**

Meeting called to order at 8:05 AM by Chair Linda Melzer.

A roll call was dispensed with as a quorum was present by sign-in sheets.

Executive Board members present Linda Melzer, Ken Taylor, George Kleeman, Jim Flanik, Gordon Bockock, Rex Harvey, Len Krsak and Don Berry (Parliamentarian).

First Order of Business:

Secretary's Report: Given by Len Krsak. The secretary asked to suspend reading of the minutes, since copies of minutes have been posted on the officials' web-site for several months and also informed membership additional copies are available on the sign in table. Reports discussed were 2006 Annual Meeting minutes and the 2007 NOC Summer Executive Board meeting minutes. No additions, deletions or corrections were noted. Linda Melzer called for a motion to accept reports as stated. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Ken Taylor. Ken stated, as of October 31, 2007 \$35,406.43 was carried over from 2006. Income as of October 31, 2007 is \$29,070.00, for total revenues of \$64,476.43. Expenses as of October 31, 2007 are at \$32,570.67. Balance available as of October \$31,905.76.

Ken also informed members projected carryover to 2008 will be \$22,000.00. Additional projected income is \$43,300.00 for a total projected income of \$65,300.00. As of October 31, 2007 the total projected expenses for 2008 are \$65,300.00.

Linda Melzer call for a motion to approve Treasurer's report as stated. Motion passed unanimously. Report accepted.

Certification Report: Given by Jim Flanik. Jim stated, as of November 30, 2007 there are 8272 officials certified. Jim also stated the goal is to reach 10,000 certified officials by 2008. Jim informed membership for the next Olympiad certification chairs will post all data information on to the officialscert web-site. After receiving information from the officialscert web-site Jim will issue new credentials.

Jim also discussed the problem of keeping data up to date, suggested everyone must work harder at getting this data to him such as changes in mailing addresses, phone numbers, e-mails, etc. Report accepted as read.

Affirmative Development Report: Report given by Yvonne Grimes. Yvonne stated the goal for 2007 was to create a brochure available for Association to use. She stated the goal has been accomplished and the brochure is ready for publication and distribution. Report accepted.

Rules Report: Report given by George Kleeman. George discussed rule consideration changes for 2008. George stated majority of the work was done prior to the Annual Meeting on the 75 items on the list. Discussed High School changes i. e., shot put toe board, and leaving the ground in the pole vault event. Next discussed the NCAA making allowances for electronic measuring, hammer handle (110m), timing for field events (15 seconds), discussed coaching locations on the field of play and when they can coach, explained that athletes can now cross the track up until the time the first race starts. George also stated 9 or fewer in a field event will get 6 throws or jumps as long as an attempt is made during the first three trials. Also discussed raising the flag in the long jump event, once the white flag goes up the attempt is considered complete and thus there is no foul even if the athlete walks back through the pit and taping of the fingers regarding the hammer.

USATF changes, cross-country now has one hour to protest, can now move a protesting athlete into the finals in field events before the protest is finally resolved in order to keep the event moving. By doing this no one is to be displaced. Explained that mixed competition can now be run with approval and if any are records set they would count. Discussed markers to be used at field events. Explained javelin runway can now be as long as one wants. Cones must be used at the break line.

George also informed membership on how rules reviews will be conducted for the 2008-2012 Olympiad. One exam only for each discipline for which you are certified, i. e. T & F, LDR or RW “New” Officials exam for incoming association level officials will have page and rule numbers listed for easier completion. For existing association level officials they will have to seek out the rule and page number. Report was accepted as given.

Appeals Committee Report: Given by Ray Fitzhugh. Ray discussed the number of 2007 appeals and answers given in why they were not selected. Ray stated answers given are after much research is completed, especially going over past evaluations.

Ray also thank his committee members and stated 479 applications were considered for the 2008 championship season i. e., for the Trials 435 applied 130 chosen, Junior meet 219 applied 96 chosen, Indoor meet 175 applied 72 chosen and for the combine event championships 86 applied 16 chosen.

Ray’s report ended with a strong lecture on how to complete a championship application. Report was accepted as given.

Linda Melzer discussed 2008 championship meet applications, plus 500 were received however many were discarded due to improper completion, adding attachments, not having a USATF membership number or not having their correct mailing address in the data base. Linda also stated 80 to 100 championship meet application for 2008 were returned due to incorrect mailing addresses. Due to the cost and time constraints all returned applications were sent to certification chairs to be rectified. Linda also stated Certification Chairs evaluation assignment forms are used in the certification process.

Communications Report: Given by Carolee Stephens, Carolee stated new web page is working out good. She also informed membership there is no longer a newsletter and all information is now passed on to officials thru the list sever. She did state however out of 8200 certified officials only 1500 have signed on for the list server service. Carolee stated anyone wanting to post information regarding up coming meets, contact her and she will post information on the calendar page.

Ethics & Goals Report: Chair Stanley Scott was not present, Linda discussed committee's project and stated a listing of goals and a new ethics document should be ready by the first quarter of 2008.

Evaluation Report: Presented by Murray Sanford. Murray stated USATF meets are the only ones currently being evaluated. No NCAA meets are evaluated due to various reasons. Murray also stated if an individual is concerned with his/her evaluation, they should contact the head judge that evaluated them or Murray for the results and explanation.

Murray stated it is mandatory for all head of events to complete an assignment rotation form, to be used at championship meets, and turn it in with the evaluation forms. It was also stated individual comments by the event heads, on each official on the crew is mandatory. Completed evaluation forms can be sent to Murray in two ways, either through U. S. Mailing or via the web. Preferred method is the web. Additional comments on venues and equipment are also encouraged.

Hall of Fame Report: Presented by Sue Polansky. Sue thanked her committee for their work in initializing this program. She also thanked Ray Fitzhugh for the meeting location. Sue discussed implementation of the system and procedures in selecting candidates. Deadline date for nominating candidates for 2008 is May 1. Discussed what qualifications an individual must posse in order to be considered. Sue stated that individuals not selected for 2007, will reappear on the 2008 ballot. Sue also informed all individuals attending the banquet to please pick up their ticket before leaving meeting.

Linda Melzer discussed Hall of Fame agenda.

Insurance Committee Report: Presented by Chester Bradley in place of Bob Tice. Chester discussed committee's functions for the year 2007. Committee has obtained a policy bid which will cost approximately \$10.00 per year, per official, up to one million

dollars in coverage. The only stipulation, is that the official must be a member of USATF.

Linda Melzer stated NOC Executive Board favors officials becoming members. John Drolla motioned for a vote to be taken requiring all officials to become UASTF Members, seconded by Jim Flanik. After a major discussion a vote took place by a show of hands. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Recessed at 9:50 AM for 10 minutes.

Meeting Reconvened at 10:00 AM.

Jim Flanik informed members of the new logo officials pin. There are two designed pins one gold and one white. The gold pin will be issued to all re-certified officials; the white pin will be available for individual purchase.

John Blackburn discussed and handed out his Nike track meet application for 2008. In addition four other 2008 application were handed out i. e., NCAA Div II outdoor, NAIA outdoor, Junior Olympics and WMA (NCCWMA) regional outdoor championship.

Foreign Meet Report: Jim Flanik and Len Krsak gave a brief report on the WMA Italy meet. Discussed many of the situations that occur when working a meet in a foreign country.

Selection Committee Report: Given by Joe Gentry. Joe explained in order for officials to be selected for championship meets, they must be athlete friendly. Joe also stated when completing a championship application, apply for all meets listed, not just for one. Official are only considered and selected for the meets they apply for, even if there are other meet slots to be filled. Joe also announced Linda Melzer was chosen to be the selection committee chair again for 2008.

Gift: Barbara Palma presented Jim Flanik with a pair of under garments! Gag gift from the Italy trip.

L & L Report: Report given by John Bakakel. John stated 3 items were submitted by the Officials Committee. 1) Make the Officials chair the chair of the selection committee for a four year period. 2) Make it mandatory to allow review before the Governess manual is printed. 3) Make it necessary that anything pertaining to officials regarding the governess manual must be submitted by an official.

Training Report: Presented by Rex Harvey. Rex reported on how his committee is set up and the functions of each group. Rex discussed each group specifically:

Championship/Clinic Group; Chaired by Shirley Conors.
Responsible for conducting clinics at championship meets and at the Annual Meeting.

Initial Training Group; Chaired by David Bowers
In 2007 mailed survey to new officials requesting information on their Officials Association initial training and the training they received. Received over 400 replies, currently they are putting together a training program for umpiring.

Continuing Education Group; Chaired by Mike Armstrong
Their responsibility, provide materials and up dates on rules from all disciplines.

Advancement Training Group; Currently without a Chair.
Responsible for specialized training.

Out Reach Training Group; Chaired by Michael Maryott
Responsible for the foreign exchange program.

Rex informed membership of a change in times for clinics to be conducted on Saturday, December 1, 2007.

Race Walk Report: Ron Daniel discussed race walk clinic to be held at the convention.

Disable Competition Report: Given by Denise Hutchins, Denise discussed disable competitions and rules exceptions. Also informed members of meets to be conducted in 2008. Denise ended her presentation stating the Disable Group is always looking for officials to officiate.

Electronic Measurement Presentation: Linda Melzer informed membership that Justin Kuo will give a presentation to the National Federation of High School rule interpreters on electronic measurement. She also stated the National Officials Committee will absorb his expenses.

Equipment & Specification Report: Presented by George Kleeman. George stated 20 plus people attended the 2007 meeting.

IAAF Technical Officials Report: George also informed membership there was only one candidate for the ITO test given annually at the convention, so it was not held. It was also conveyed that all NTO's must re-certified in year 2008.

International Exchange Program Report: Presented by Pat Lavelle. Pat stated that he and Mark Kostek were the NOC representatives for 2007. The trip was to London, England. There Assignment, working a variety of field events. Pat ended by thanking the NOC for providing the program.

Linda Melzer stated the program would continue for year 2008. Positions for next year being considered are clerking and umpiring.

Master Referee Report: Given by Jim Skelly. Jim announced date and time for the clinic to be held later in the week.

Uniform Report: Given by Keith Mitchell. Keith announced Boathouse now has rain gear available with the new USATF wing logo.

Keith also stated the “New” officials shirt will be available the first of March 2008. It will be of dry-wick material and the new colors will be dark blue and red. It was also noted that all officials selected to work the Olympic Trials and Junior meets must wear the new shirt.

LDR Report: Presented by Barbara Palma. Barbara gave a brief talk on the “Make It Happen” Jenny Craig fund.

Meeting Recessed: Meeting recessed at 11:00 AM November 30, 2007. Meeting to reconvene on Saturday, December 1, 2007 at 5:00 PM. At the Hale Koa Hotel.

**National Officials Committee
General Meeting – Session # 2
December 1, 2007 Hale Koa Hotel
Honolulu, Hawaii**

Meeting Commenced: Meeting commenced at 5:00 PM ON Saturday, December 1, 2007 at the Hale Koa Hotel.

Linda Melzer started the meeting by announcing the agenda for the evening. Meeting attendance was in excess of 250 individuals.

First speaker was Bill Roe who congratulated the first class of inductee’s into the Hall of Fame in addition gave some brief general comments.

Linda Melzer introduced Bubba Thorton, track coach at the University of Texas. Mr., Thorton congratulated the inductee’s and also spent a moment thanking the Officials community for all their efforts in working track meets across the country.

Linda Melzer introduced Sue Polansky, Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee who presented the Hall of Fame winners. Sue stated the inductee’s have over 500 years of officiating experience and all have shown leadership ability and have officiate National and International meets. Sue thanked her committee for all their efforts in putting the program together, especially starting from scratch. The committee members are Gordon

Bocock, Chester Bradley, Ken Caouette, Dick Conors, Gene Edmonda, Ken Gibson, Dee Jensen, George Kleeman, and Pat Lavelle. Sue also thanked Ray Fitzhugh for obtaining the facility for the induction ceremony and dinner. Sue also explained the meaning of the Glass sculpture awards being presented.

Introduction ceremony conducted by Sue Polansky started with Pat Rico, Dee Jensen, Andy Bakjian, Ken Caouette, Chester Bradley, Leonello Costanzo, Horace Crow, John Davis, Fin Hnsen, Barbara Palma, Charles Ruter and Emmitt Griggs.

Hall of Fame ceremony concluded at 7:10 PM.

Kenny Morton gave the convocation before dinner.

Dinner started at 7:15 PM.

NOC annual awards presentation commenced during desert at 8:00 PM.

First presentation a bobble head doll, of his image, was presented to Charles M Ruter.

NOC Chair Awards presented by Linda Melzer were given to Shirley Conors, Pacific Association – Val Foss & Paul Morency, Maine Association – Eugene Stems, Southern California Association and Billy Walters, Southwestern Association.

John Davis Humanitarian Award winner was Ron Althoff, Ohio Association. Ron was not present, due to illness. The Award will be presented to Ron in January at an Ohio Association clinic.

James Grey Leadership Award presented by Val Foss to Charles Ruter, Kentucky Association.

Horace Crow Field Official Award presented to George Kleeman, Pacific Association.

Charles M Ruter Running Official Award presented by Charles Ruter to Sue Polansky Long Island Association.

Andy Bakjian Award presented by Mary Bakjian to Dan Reynolds, Arizona Association.

Gordon informed audience 28 individuals were nominated for the Andy Bakjian award. The 10 finalist were Fred Adler, Metropolitan Association – John Drolla, South Texas Association – Darlene Hickman, Pacific Northwest Association – Bob Marcus, Southern California Association – Kenny Morton, Kentucky Association – Dick Moss, Georgia Association – Ginger Mulanax, Ozark Association – Robert Podkaminer, Pacific Association – Dan Reynolds, Arizona Association and Fred Thomas, Ohio Association.

Award presentations concluded at 9:00 PM.

Linda Melzer announced the entertainment for the evening, "Hawaiian Review", the review did include participation by several officials trying to do the "Hula".

Entertainment ended at 10:00 PM. It was a one hour presentation.

At 10:05 the Selection Committee announced who the selected officials were to work the 2008 Championships.

With no additional new or old business before the committee, Linda Melzer called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was granted unanimously.

Point of Information:

145 individuals attended the NOC's first general session on Friday, November 30, 2007.

250 officials and guest attended the NOC second session including the awards banquet on Saturday, December 1, 2007.

20 members attended the Rules Committee subcommittee meeting on Wednesday, November 28, 2007.

38 individuals attended the Insurance subcommittee meeting on Thursday, November 29, 2007.

22 members attended the Equipment & Facilities subcommittee meeting on Thursday, November 29, 2007.

33 members attended the Certification Chairs meeting on Friday, November 30, 2007.

25 members attended the liability clinic on Saturday, December 1, 2007.

16 members attended the Physically Disabled clinic on Saturday, December 1, 2007.

37 members attended the Master Referee clinic conducted on Saturday, December 1, 2007.

33 members attended the Coordinator of Officials clinic on Saturday, December 1, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Krsak
Secretary, National Officials Committee