

USATF Officials Training Subcommittee Conference Call
Monday, July 19, 2010
Minutes

Members Present: Rob Buzaitis (Michigan) – Vice Chair – Training
Robt. O. Kern (Wisconsin) – Secretary
Janice Berkebile (Florida) – Instructional Designer
Shirley Connors (Pacific) – Chair, Championships/Convention Clinics Group
Dave Bowers (Indiana) – Chair, Initial Training Group
Mike Armstrong (Arkansas) – Chair, Continuing Education Group
Richard Schornstein (Colorado) – Chair, Advancement Training Group
Monique White (Mid-Atlantic) – Co-Chair, Outreach Training Group
Ken Yerger (Mid-Atlantic) – Co-Chair, Outreach Training Group

The teleconference was called to order at 7:03 p.m. EDT

1. Approval of Minutes from December 2, 2009 Meeting

The minutes were approved without objection. Buzaitis introduced himself as the new Vice Chair for Training. Kern was also introduced as the new Secretary and his duties beyond the normal functions of the position were delineated as follows: 1st copy editor of NFHS Pre-Meet Notes, NCAA Rule Changes, and the new Venue Inspection Checklist, that is in the process of being created by the Continuing Education Group.

2. Report from Mid-Year Officials Executive Committee Meeting

Buzaitis reported that the 2010 Convention will be one day shorter. No definitive start time has been selected as of yet. Thursday afternoon or evening seem to be the projected starting times. Sunday will still be the closing. Clinic impact will be determined as soon as the time schedule is formulated and approved. “We will have less time to get the same amount completed.” The continuation of Exchange Program will be reevaluated for return on investment after this year. A revamping of the National Master Referee Program is in the works. National Officials Chair is requesting a listing of subject matter experts to assist Associations as clinicians.

3. Group Reports

- a. *Championship/Convention Clinics Group*: Connors explained that the group is waiting on the time schedule for the shortened convention format before proposing a convention clinic schedule. A recommendation of Clinic Topics will be forwarded shortly. Weights & Measures will be high up on the list. White indicated that Lionel Leach (National Youth Chair) would like to see some sort of “Laser Measurement” Clinic for youth personnel at Convention. Buzaitis will discuss matter with Leach for more definition. Due to the USA Senior/Junior Championships Schedule, Officials Clinics were unable to be presented. Monies will be utilized for Convention Clinics. Due to the shortened Clinic Schedule at Convention, the UK Report Clinic may be left out as this is the third year of the exchange and reports, and there is not too much new material to share and decimate.
- b. *Initial Training Group*: Bowers reported that the initial modules for training new officials have been completed and are being placed in a web site format. The Umpires Module is complete and the Jumps Module is nearing completion. Throws people are being contacted to gain their input on the development of the Throws Module. Modules are being presented in a “self study”

format. Due to the long nature of the project and the labor-intensive efforts necessary, the process is beginning to slightly bog down.

- c. *Continuing Education Group*: Armstrong indicated that the group was working on a “Venue Inspection Checklist” for high school referees. This would provide a checklist for safety issues and concerns to assist the referee in ensuring that the safety and integrity of the meet and the events is not compromised. The NCAA Rule Changes for 2011-12 should be completed and presented on or about August 1. The group will then create the appropriate educational materials.
- d. *Advancement Training Group*: Schornstein reported that the group is working on a series of four instructional videos, approximately 30-minutes in length, that would utilize actual meet footage, power point presentations, voiceovers, and provide standardized conclusions. The purpose of the videos is to demonstrate the proper techniques in setting up a field event venue at a college meet. A videographer will be utilized and the “Best Practices” will be incorporated..
- e. *Outreach Training Group*: White and Yerger stated that the UK Exchange Project had completed their selections after 90 minutes of discussion. Mike Armstrong & Terry Thurber are this year’s participants. The NFHS Pre Meet Notes are presently in the 1st Draft process and will meet the mid-September target date for completion. The 2nd Draft will be completed by mid-October. Armstrong, Jo Burrows, Connors, Kern, White, and Yerger all volunteered their assistance to host the UK officials at the Masters Meet next week in Sacramento. Possible exchange program with Caribbean countries was discussed.

4. Review Budget for 2010

Budget was reviewed with no recommended changes proposed by each of the group chairs. Schornstein will look into the cost of the videographer for use at the meets.

5. Other discussed Items

Discussion ensued about providing training for LOC’s and Meet Management as they bid on and secure National Meets. Is this within the jurisdiction of this Subcommittee. Several documents concerning these matters are on the USATF Officials website.

The teleconference adjourned at 7:45 p.m. EDT.