

National Officials Training Subcommittee Meeting
Sunday, June 26, 2005
Minutes

[Note: Minutes reflect the order of the agenda. Topics were covered in a different order.]

Present: Rex Harvey (Chair), Rob Buzaitis (Secretary), Susan Petrelli, Shirley Conners, George Kleeman (Chair, USATF Officials Rules Subcommittee).

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from April 18, 2005 Conference Call

Kleeman pointed out that two references to “NTOs” should be TO and IAAF Technical Officials Committee. With those corrections, minutes were approved.

2. Evaluation of Championships Training Sessions

5-Alive: This session was attended by about 38 people. It was thought the attendees enjoyed the session and learned a lot. The subcommittee agreed that this session should be repeated at the convention clinics.

Umpire Violation Cards: This session was attended by about 21 people. It was thought there was good discussion at the session and that is maybe should be repeated at the convention. If repeated, the session should include placement of hurdles and cones.

TO/Referee/Head Judge: This session was attended by about 16 people. The subcommittee thought the session should be repeated at the convention and could include the National Master Referee classification.

3. Potential Training Topics for Convention

The following list is potential sessions discussed for the convention and possible clinicians:

- Certification Clinic #1 (Flanik)
- Certification Clinic #2 (Flanik)
- Technical Officials Interaction with Referee and Head Judges (Kleeman) – As noted above, could include information on National Master Referee classification or a separate session on National Master Referee (Skelly)
- Electronic Starting Blocks
- Umpire Positioning or Umpire Violation Cards
- 5-Alive (Underwood/Gomer)
- Mentoring – New officials, National/Master officials, referees, head officials
- NCAA Rules Update / All 2006 rule changes
- Marshalling (Sharpe) – emphasis on safety
- Fieldlynx
- Roundtable Discussions with scenarios, broken up into running, throws, horizontal and vertical jumps

4. Report on Training-Related items from USATF Officials Mid-Year Executive Board Meeting

National Master Referee classification criteria and application materials are available. The same committee will be developing criteria for being certified. At this point, there is no impact on training.

There will be new rules reviews for certification and recertification. Each review will be 50 questions or less and an official will only be required to take one review per discipline. Kleeman will have the new reviews ready by January 2006 and will recommend to the Executive Committee to start using them in January 2006.

5. Other Discussion Items

- a. *Mentoring*: It was mentioned that at the championships, some competition officials were assigned to turn the performance boards. Kleeman and Harvey suggested that allowing local officials or other officials willing to pay their way (no expense to LOC) to turn performance boards and do other non-competition official tasks could be a good way of mentoring officials.
- b. *Attendance at Convention Clinics*: Local officials are welcome to attend the convention clinics.
- c. *Budget*: Harvey reported the subcommittee budget was about \$3000.
- d. *Discussion Forum Questions*: Buzaitis distributed 6 questions he suggested be posted on the USATF Officials Discussion Forum for response. The subcommittee reviewed the questions and with one suggestion agreed.
- e. *Qualifications for Officials and Physical Limitations of Officials*: In light of the death of an official at the meet, the subcommittee discussed qualifications and physical limitation of officials. It was noted that at National Championships, the selection committee should play an increased role. Also discussed was whether officials selected should be able to do all positions of a particular event (e.g. discus). The revised evaluation form includes a section on physical ability to do the job. It was stated that the more difficult task is for Association officials committees.
- f. *Updating Training Video*: Kleeman stated that the Pacific Association applied for an USATF Association Grant to update the 1985 officials training video. The subcommittee decided it would focus its attention on event-specific videos.
- g. *USATF Officials Committee Members*: Kleeman said he would send to Harvey and Buzaitis a current roster of members of the USATF Officials Committee.
- h. *NCAA Training and Certification*: Kleeman said NCAA has talked about (in its infant stage) conducting training and certifying officials for NCAA, a designation that would be placed on certification cards.

6. Next Meetings:

- **September Conference Call** – Sunday, September 25, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. EDT (4:00 p.m. PDT). One topic will be finalizing training sessions for convention.
- **Convention Meeting** – TBD

Meeting concluded at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Buzaitis
Secretary, USATF Officials Training Subcommittee