

MEMO

To: NOC Officials Committee
From: John Bahakel, NOC L& L Committee Chair
Subject: Committee Report
Date: December 16, 2009

This is a Law & Legislation year. There is an open proposal to again change the By-Laws and Regulations of USA Track & Field. It began at the outdoor National Championships select members of the Law & Legislation Committee were called together to try to discuss changes in the By-Laws and Regulations of this organization. Several non-invited members of the Committee were able to gain access to at least some of the meeting(s). In spite of protests a proposal was presented in July to ratify changes to the By-Laws and Regulations. The L & L Chair was able to have the proposals held in abeyance until a formal meeting of the L & L Committee could convene.

At the meeting in October the CEO expressed his desire to have full authority over the decision making of each Committee of USATF (while recognizing that he answers to the Board of Directors). The reason given by the CEO was that there were two (2) or more events occurring in the recent past which he felt were a liability or embarrassment to USATF. He felt could not control the outcome and/or he would have done something differently and did not have authority to do so. He insists on authority to control all events, e.g. control over National Championship Events, Selections of Officials, Coaches, team staff, etc.

The CEO admitted that he did not have the time nor staff to handle all decision making. He was agreeable, in some instances, to reviewing the decisions (selections) made by the various Committees and either approving or rejecting the decisions. In essence, AVeto@ authority on those instances.

Of particular interest to Officials, the CEO has requested that he be provided with a list showing all positions that are proposed to be worked by Officials in National Championship meets, a list of all persons submitted as Officials to work those Championships and sixty (60) days within which to reject or accept what was submitted. He further indicated that he wanted authority to halt a Championship meet if he felt that, in his opinion, an unsafe or undesirable event may occur or existed.

There are many substantive changes in the proposals to be voted upon at the 2009 convention as well as some corrective matters. The full text of the proposals should be available at the convention.