



MINUTES

Coaches Advisory Committee Executive Committee Meeting-I

2015 USATF Annual Meeting

5:00-6:50pm Friday, December 4, Houston, TX

Present

Officers: **Cliff Rovelto (Chairman), Skip Stolley (Secretary), Pat Henry (At-Large Member)**

Absent: Kathleen Raske (Vice Chair)

Broad Event Chairs: **Kevin Reid (Multi-Events)**

Absent: Brett Halter (Throws), Fred Harvey (Sprints-Hurdles), Beth Alford-Sullivan (Endurance), Brian Brown (Jumps)

Athlete Reps: **Erik Kynard, Sharon Day-Monroe, Gwen Wentland-Mikinski**

Meet Directors' Rep: **Milan Donley**

Agents' Rep: **John Nubani**

Elite Athletes' Rep: **Bob Larsen**

USATF Liaison: **Terry Crawford (Director of Coaching)**

USATF Staff: **Lauren Gonzalez (Coaching Programs Coordinator)**

1. Call to Order –Cliff Rovelto, Chairman

- a. Cliff called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

2. Approval of the 2014 Minutes

- a. Secretary Skip Stolley asked for approval of the 2014 CAC Executive Committee minutes.
- b. Moved by Kevin Reid, seconded by Carla Coffey, unanimously approved.

3. Executive Committee Introductions

- a. Cliff introduced the members of the CAC Executive Committee. Brett Halter has resigned and will be replaced by Greg Watson, asst. coach for the throws at Kansas State.

4. Updated CAC Committee Member List & CAC Committee Representatives

- a. Secretary Skip Stolley noted that USATF is attempting to “go green” and eliminate copying and distributing paper documents whenever possible at the Annual Meeting. An updated list of the 48-member CAC Committee as a Whole, the 27 CAC representatives to USATF Standing Committees, 2014 reports from our CAC reps to USATF standing committees, and the Coaches Advisory Committee Strategic Plan are all posted in the Document Library on the Annual Meeting home page at www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2015/Annual-Meeting.aspx.
- b. Skip emphasized that anyone who is a coach is welcome to attend Coaches Advisory Committee meetings, and that anyone who is a USATF Registered Coach can be considered for being one of our 48 voting delegates or a CAC rep to the 27 USATF standing sport and administrative committees.

5. USATF Legislative Issues

- a. Eric Barron, CAC rep to the Law & Legislation Committee, reported the Committee was considering 35 legislative submissions for changes to the USATF bylaws. The Committee’s discussions have been focused mainly on two submissions: one concerning the role of the President on the Board of Directors, and one concerning the role of membership in determining the USATF nominee to the IAAF Council.

6. Coaches Advisory Committee Strategic Plan

- a. Cliff discussed the *CAC Strategic Plan* that was approved by the Committee at last year’s Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. The mission statement for the CAC is as follows:

“The USA Track & Field Coaches Advisory Committee (CAC) is committed to foster, promote and advocate for all Track & Field Coaches for the betterment of our profession, our athletes, and USA Track & Field. The CAC will provide governance, leadership, mentorship and advocacy for coaches in their quest to enhance the performances of their athletes at all levels.”

- b. The plan has three strategic goals, each of which has 3-8 strategic objectives.
- c. Cliff said he had asked Skip Stolley to put together a task force of coaches to create an action-plan and timeline to achieve those strategic objectives for “Governance”, Brett Halter to do the same for “Participation,” and Kathleen Raske to do so for “Advocacy.”
- d. Following Brett Halter’s recent resignation, Cliff asked Milan Donley to chair the task force for “Participation.” As a beginning, Milan had time to poll ten collegiate coaches about the merit of their being involved in USA Track & Field. Their over-riding opinion was that USATF has little relevance or benefit to college coaches. So we need to start from there.
- e. Skip Stolley reported the action-steps and time-lines for achieving the four (4) Coaches Advisory Committee strategic plan objectives for “Governance” that a task force that included Apryl Hampton, Jack Hazen, Linda Lanker, and John McNichols were recommending:

- Regarding the objective to establish regularly scheduled meetings with the CEO, President, and Chief of Sport Performance of USA Track & Field, it was recommended that Cliff request a yearly summer meeting with the three CAC officers at the USATF Headquarters in Indianapolis, and that that request be made by January 1, 2016. *(Note: The task force believes it would impractical to try to schedule a meeting with Max Siegel, Stephanie Hightower, and Duffy Mahoney during this upcoming Annual Meeting—or at any future convention—since we are all so over-scheduled with other meetings there. We also believe that meeting during the USA Championships is impractical as we coaches have other priorities there. We suggested that the yearly summer meeting be scheduled for approximately the same time each year so it is something all parties can plan for.)*

- Regarding the objective to increase representation for the CAC on all USATF standing committees, it was noted that this will require changes to the current USATF by-laws. Therefore it was suggested we ask Eric Barron, our CAC representative on the USATF Law & Legislation Committee, to investigate what specific bylaws would need to be amended, and that we do that by January 1, 2016. *(Note: Increasing the representation of coach voting delegates to USATF standing sport committees to the 25% level that is now enjoyed by active athletes, and 20% for non-sport committees, seems logical to us. However, we believe we should start slowly. Increasing our representation from one person per committee to 5-10% of its voting membership would be a huge first step. Unfortunately, the 2015 Annual Meeting was a law & legislation year for USATF and we long since missed the deadline (mid-August) for submitting proposed by-law changes. However, this now gives us the lead time we need to suggest and discuss proposed bylaw changes internally at this year’s annual meeting and, afterwards, to have Eric draft those proposed changes for future submittal (2017). More importantly, it gives the CAC time to start to lobby the Congress for its support—which will be critical.*

- Regarding the objective to increase representation for the CAC on USATF Coaching Staff-selection committees, this will also require changes to the current USATF by-laws, which we need to identify. *(Note: Having previously having addressed creating representation for the CAC on USATF Coaching Staff-selection committees without success, it is implicit that we will need to have support from the men’s and women’s track & field committee chairs for that to happen.)*

- Regarding the objective to increase budgetary support for the CAC, including travel support for USATF conventions and other official meetings, achieving this will require the support of the CEO and president of USATF. *(Note: Hopefully this can be proposed and discussed next summer at the yearly summer meeting we have proposed having with those principals.)*

6. USOC Mandates – Terry Crawford, Director of Coaching

a. Terry discussed the new *USOC Safe Sport Program*, a free on-line course that all USATF coaches, officials, and administrators, staff, and volunteers who have contact with athletes are required to take before December 31, 2015 to be part of the *USATF Coaches Registry* in 2016. The course can be found on-line at <http://safesport.org/take-the-training> and takes about 90-minutes to complete, but there are multiple opportunities to take the course during the Annual Meeting here in Houston in a video format, with no quizzes or final exam that is required on-line.

7. 2015 CAC Coaching Grants & Awards

- a. Terry reported that more than \$10,000 was spent on grants in 2015.
- b. Five (5) “Master Coach” program grants were awarded to bring promising young coaches to the college or club setting of a “Master Coach” for 4-days to see the inner workings of that coach’s program from the inside.
- c. Five (5) “Mentor Coach” program grants were awarded to young coaches to shadow a master coach during the 2015 USA Championships in Eugene to see how that coach interacts with his or her athletes at a major competition.

- d. Three (3) \$800 grants were awarded to coaches to attend the NACAC Clinic in October.
- e. Four (4) \$500 grants were awarded to coaches to attend the Podium Education Program in October.
- f. Three (3) \$1400 grants were awarded to send coaches to the IAAF Coaches Academy to receive USATF Level-3, and IAAF Level-5, coaching certification.
- g. \$10,000 was spent to help minority women receive USATF coaching certification.
- h. New for 2016 will be an apprenticeship grant for a coach to attend the USATF Olympic Training Camp, July 25-August 10 at Prairie View University
- i. Information on all these grants programs can be found at <http://www.usatf.org/Resources-for---/Coaches/Coaching-Education/Special-Programs.aspx>.

8. USATF Coaching Stipends- Duffy Mahoney, Chief of Sport Performance

- a. As evidence of some of the support with which USATF is providing coaches, Duffy distributed a chart of coaching stipends that have been paid to 153 coaches of tier-level athletes and world medalists over the past 4-years, which totals \$867,921.

9. 2015 Legends Coaching Award

- a. The *USATF Legend Coach Award* was presented to Joe Vigil at the 2015 USA Outdoor Championships in Eugene. Now 87, Joe was the father of USATF Coaching Education and he continues to coach podium-level athletes.
- b. Terry asked coaches to forward her and Jack Hazen the names of potential future *Legend Coach* nominees so a master list can be compiled, including those deserving posthumous recognition.

The CAC Executive Committee Meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm. Members were reminded that a 2nd Executive Committee Session, would be held Saturday, December 4, from 10:00-11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Skip Stolley
Secretary, USATF Coaches Advisory Committee