

Youth Division Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Dallas, Texas
March 26, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 am

Roll Call:

Lionel Leach – Youth Chair
Bob Flint – Vice Chair
Sam Germany – Vice Chair of Operations
Dorothy Dawson – Vice Chair of Administration
Secretary – Linda Ellis
Legal Advisor – Norine Richardson
Youth Law and Legislation Advisor: Kenneth Ferguson
Inez Finch – South Zone Representative
Chris Dallenger – Midwest Alternate Zone Representative
Bruce Long – Northeast Zone Representative
Ronald Mascarenas – West Zone Representative
Henry McCallum – Regional Coordinators Representative
Tricia Floyd – National Office Representative
Marilyn Turner – National Office Representative
Karen Krsak – Associations Representative

Welcome new board members: Lionel the new board members, Bruce Long and Ron Mascarenas who were voted in as the new zone reps for the northeast and west respectively.

Review/approve the last board minutes: October 2009 board minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.

National Office update: Tricia informed everyone the national office is working closely with the board and the youth. The youth guide will be available in April. The form used for bibs and awards has changed and associations need to be sure the number on the sanction form. There is also a new web person in place at the national office.

Chairman's update: Update will be provided further down on the agenda per Lionel.

Workshop Update: Inez gave her update on the workshop. The registration would begin at 6pm and we are going to have a good turnout based on the number of people registered.

Zonal meets updates: Inez Finch –South zone, Mark Jones – Midwest Zone (not available) Bruce Long – Northeast zone, and Ron Mascarenas – West zone, each gave a brief summary of their indoor zonal meets.

Convention wrap-up: Norine began with a brief update on Rashad Gauldin. He is the athlete from the Tennessee association who ran in the youth athletics track meet in Detroit, MI with a team from the Michigan association. He ran in violation of rule 300.1(h). The recommendation is to withdraw him from individual results and disqualify his relay team. The recommendation for the coaches from both teams is to suspend them from any USATF sanctioned events for two years.

Motion was made and properly second to disqualify and remove all events that Rashad Gauldin competed at the 2009 USATF Youth Athletics Meet in Detroit Michigan. Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made and properly second to place both coaches from both teams on a two year suspension for violation of rule 300 (1)h. in running an athlete illegally in the 2009 Youth Athletics Meet held in Detroit, MI. This suspension will include coaching, training, and participating in any USATF sponsored or sanctioned events.

Motion passed with one opposed. The opposed wanted a lifetime ban.

The wording will be revised to state the coaches (Stan Edwards and Radir Anoir) will be banned from participation in any capacity at USATF events for two years.

Reynolds appeal: Both coaches for the teams in violation of rule 300 (h) will be suspended for two years.

By-laws/Youth Regulations: Ken went over the rules that were moved over to regulations. Lionel gave a special thank you to Ken and Norine for working out the wording and allowing the youth division to keep the two thirds vote for important things as they pertain to the youth program.

Rule 300: This rule dates back to prevent the creation of all-star teams. The rule came into existence for athletes who have a legal guardian in another association and the athlete lives with the other parent during the summer months. There are still clubs out there attempting to play with the rules and create all star teams.

In 2009 there were 383 transfers, 41 athletes were unattached, 293 athletes lived within 53 miles of a border association, and 32 athletes moved from the New Jersey to the Mid-Atlantic association.

Ken read the governance manual and an athlete can only be a member of one association.

Lionel stated at the workshop we must be clear how we state the rule which will be addressed at the convention. Looking at the numbers it is basically 300 athletes in 3 states, New Jersey, Metropolitan and Mid Atlantic. The language will be cleaned up for the convention. The "just cause" in the wording needs to be addressed.

Youth Coaches Workshop: There were 3 resignations from the coaching education, the chair person and his 2 assistants. The course is being written by NCAA coaches that are also youth oriented. The level 2 Coaching Clinic will go online next week. The class will hold up to 350 for the course and 280 people for housing and meals for 5 days. You must have completed the developmental or level 1 course to attend. Matt Lydum will be the Director for the Program.

Dorothy stated she would like to see a coaching education school in the Chicago area.

Ken voiced a concern about people applying for coaching schools without USATF involvement. He would like to see the national office notify an association if someone applies for permission to host a school.

Motion made and passed to send a letter to the requesting association when an application is received requesting financial support to host a coaching education school.

JO official's applications and hotels: Bob is requesting clarification on JO official's applications. He is asking for a separate application for the youth JO meets in regards to officials.

Lionel stated in the bid contract the officials list must be approved by Lionel, Bob, Lefty and Bruce.

Karen stated some officials may back out of the meet due to a change in venue and they now have to pay a \$20/night room fee.

The venue needed to be changed due to construction going on around the stadium and they did not want small children in the area.

The new venue also wants to charge \$5.00/day for parking. The current contract states free parking.

Lionel stated rather than battle over the free parking the money can be taken out of the bid fee up to \$1000.00 and that should cover parking.

Ken stated we need to put an amendment in the contract that does not allow for changes after the contract is in place.

Bob stated no hotels were on the website 3 to 4 months out from the meet in Sacramento. Tricia stated there were actually 6 hotels currently on the website. Bob stated hotels should go up on the website at least 6 months out.

Budget: The budget for the Junior Olympics/Youth Athletics meet is \$206,665 and the total funds, \$611,665.

JO regional – 22,800

Indoor track meet – 12,000
Youth excellence grants – 50,000
Youth travel grants – 50,000
World youth Olympics – 25,000
Drug testing – 20,000

JO region meets – 22,800
Youth qualifier – 20,000
Annual meeting – 20,000
Youth workshop – 30,000

It will be required to fax Tricia reimbursement paperwork and she will get Lionel to sign it. The fax number is 800-833-1466. If someone takes a trip that does not deal with youth track and field they will not get reimbursed for it.

The regional coordinators budget covers regional meets for track and field as well as cross country. It can also be used for national meets (track and cross country) if you have the money.

The regional coordinators budget is \$1300.00
The zonal reps budget is \$800.00

Sam Germany requested to be added to the finance committee with Dorothy.

Inez asked a question regarding USATF sanctioned meets being run by AAU rules and AAU clubs. Lionel requested a flyer for proof to have evidence to proceed.

Linda Phelps questioned if you needed to submit a flyer with your sanction request and the answer, you no longer need to submit a flyer. Sanctions have been moved to the national office.

Webcast: On Monday, Stephanie Hightower, Mike McNeese and Doug Logan will get the outline for webcasting. The three meets are track and field and working on cross country. Although \$52,000 was budgeted, the final budget is \$47,000. Last year AAU webcast their meet for 5.95/day and 29.95/week. The organization reported they made \$24,000. They sold DVDs and the entire meet profit was \$42,000. For USATF the webcasting will cost \$16,000 for 6 days. There will be an announcing team that will give play by play like ESPN. The announcers will interview athletes, coaches, board members, etc. The webcast will be on the USATF website. For the future would like to add an educational component to the webcast. Lionel also mentioned would like to one day add life sized pictures of track athletes with a short biography so our young athletes can learn about the track athletes from the past.

On-line entry: Lionel stated USATF has been trying over the last year to go paperless. The computer committee, Lionel, and the national office had their first meeting to accept bids for the on-line entry system.

The following people were invited to submit bids proposals and present their packages in front of the committee: Direct athletics, Fred K., Keith Lively, and Coach O. There were only two bidders that presented to the committee that consisted of Lionel, Cindy Long, Henry McCallum,

and David Reinhart. Fred K. pulled out a couple of days before the presentation and direct athletics fees were outrageous. Each presenter did have things the other did not have. Keith Lively's bid was more expensive than Coach O. Example; Coach O had an annual fee of \$1000 and \$1.00 per athlete, Keith Lively had no annual fee and \$1.00 per event.

Lionel approached Keith and asked him to change his pricing to match Coach O so when the pilot program launched with 6 associations (each bidder would have 3 associations) it would be at the same rate.

Keith Lively came back thru Andy Martin via Tricia to Lionel and stated he would do it for free the first year if he could get the rate he requested the next year with a guaranteed contract. The proposal was deemed unethical and Coach O won the bid. We now need to decide how long we want the contract.

The on-line entry system will start at the association level. It will be paid for with the \$50,000 grant or \$1.00 per athlete which is a surcharge. The fee will be paid once the invoice is received.

Bob stated that he uses Coach O and pays \$125.00 set up fee and does not pay a transaction fee.

Coach O's gateway is \$125.00/meet and a .40/transaction.

Birth verification must be completed at the first level **before** advancement to the next level. This should be done at the preliminary round if that is the first round at the association level.

Bob requested a meeting with Coach O and the youth executive board for clarification on the payment process.

Coach O's company uses all major credit cards and it will have to be looked into as it relates to the USATF contract with VISA.

The USATF portal is cheaper than the Coach O. In terms of bank fees the Coach O bank fee is a flexible fee @ 4.41% it won't go lower than 3%. The VISA bank fee is 3%.

Over 30 associations have preliminary meets and Lionel suggested we pay the \$125.00 fee and waive the preliminary fees. Inez stated Georgia association athletes pay at the preliminary round and get the next round waived. Lionel stated that will have to change to come in line with the other associations.

Bob stated we need to have the contract for at least 2 years since it reads 3-5 years. We are going to bring all 57 associations on board at the same time.

The system will be set up so the parents can enter the athletes in the meet. The Youth chair and Regional coordinators will oversee the program and work from the back end.

Henry stated 2 years ago when the workshop started **all** associations were given hitek therefore all of the associations should have it available for use.

Youth Operating Procedures: The bylaws state that changes must go out to the general public 90 days before anything can be published.

The grievance is on hold until after the board meeting.

Individual items in the operating procedures should have been posted at least 90 days prior.

Motion was made and second to leave the election as is. The motion passed with one opposed, Chris Dallenger.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Linda E. Ellis
USATF Youth Division Secretary