

***USA TRACK & FIELD
MEN'S LONG DISTANCE RUNNING COMMITTEE***

General Session Minutes

Houston, Texas
December 4, 2015

Attendees: The following individuals attended one or more of the sessions: Edwardo Torres (Chair), Tomy Sitton (Acting Secretary), Andrew Allden, Larry Alserda, McLin Anderson, Dwight Benning, Gisela Benning, Blake Bolden, Virginia Brophy Achman, Andy Carr, Peter Ciaccia, Chad Coley, Alex Cuzzo, Jeff Darman, Leigh Davis, Mark Dennett, Darren De Reuck, Lesia Dunn, John Elliott, Gregory Evans, Kenneth Funnie, Pat Goodwin, Sam Grotewold, Sharnette Handy-Hall, Jack Hazen, Amanda Heidecker, Brian Hickey, Brian Hoover, Brian Jones, Chuck Kaminski, Morgan Kennedy, Kim Keenan-Kirkpatrick, Bob Larsen, Bob Latham, Jonathan Marcus, Bill Mckee, Julie McKinney, LeeAnn Meyer, Kristina Miner, Jon Molz, Jennifer Mortimer, Kathy Nary, Gene Newman, Meghan Peyton, Jim Peterson, Mickey Piscitelli, Tracey Russell, Joe Sarver, Ron Scardera, Scott Slade, Joy Smith, Larry Smithee, Mike Spino, Phil Stewart, Ben Teixeira, Mark Troxler, Phillip Travis, Elizabeth Webb, Mike Wickiser

SESSION 1 - December 4, 2015

Chair Edwardo Torres called the meeting to order and welcomed all the 2015 Olympic Marathon Trials representatives from Los Angeles along with distinguished guests and members of the Men's LDR Executive Committee.

Minutes from 2014: Tomy Sitton (Acting Secretary for MLDR Secretary Mark Winitz who was unable to attend) asked for the 2014 Men's LDR Committee minutes to be approved. A motion to approve was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2016 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials Update: Members from the Los Angeles Olympic Marathon Trials Committee were introduced and they gave an update on the course and a brief overview of the activities planned for the Marathon Trials. The JW Marriott hotel will be the meet headquarters and an additional hotel will serve as an overflow hotel for the athletes. The Olympic Marathon Trials is set for February 13, 2016.

Chair Torres mentioned that there were 171 male athletes who had attained the Olympic Marathon Trials qualifying standards to date. He said that Men's LDR's primary goal of raising the bar for American distance running was evident in this number.

Committee Reports:

Substance Abuse Education/Sports Science: Jim Peterson (Chair, Men's LDR Substance Abuse Subcommittee) provided a detailed report regarding the latest developments in substance abuse testing and sports science and highlighted recent activities by the Russians and Kenyans. He mentioned an increase in performance enhancing drugs, and inhalants. Mr. Peterson also talked

about the dangers of energy drinks and how they can be detrimental to the health of athletes. Mr. Peterson's written report is available on the USATF web site at:

<http://www.usatf.org/usatf/files/6f/6f9abde6-615d-4a66-8e10-96484bb5bbea.pdf>

Championships: Bob Latham (Championships Subcommittee Chair) provided a summary of the 2015 MLDR road championships and USA Running Circuit highlighting that the nine races awarded a \$301,650 prize purse to the men.

Mr. Latham mentioned that the 2016 USA Running Circuit race schedule was almost complete. He projected that the overall circuit prize money purse for athletes would be much higher due to the fact that it will be an Olympic year.

2014 Men's LDR Committee Awards: Chair Torres announced the 2015 award winners selected by MLDR:

Robert E. DeCelle, Jr. Memorial Award (Male Long Distance Runner of the Year)
Jared Ward

H. Browning Ross Long Distance Running Merit Award (National Level) Contributor)
Steve Mather and Carolyn Mather

Scott Hamilton Award (Association Level Contributor)
Don Kardong (Inland Northwest Association)

Allan Steinfeld Award (Contributor of the Year Within a Road Race Organization)
John Tope ((Bix7, Freihofer's women's race, Cleveland Marathon, and others)

A motion was made to recess the meeting and it was seconded. Chair Edwardo Torres recessed the meeting until the next session.

SESSION 2 - December 4, 2015

The committee reconvened. Edwardo Torres welcomed everyone to the afternoon session of the Men's LDR Committee.

LDR Athlete Development Program (ADP): Brian Jones provided a summary of the LDR Athlete Development Program (ADP) and the support that is available for athletes who require assistance. Mr. Jones mentioned that this information is provided on the internet and that the program continues to be successful.

Committee Reports (continued):

Records: Andy Carr (USATF LDR Road Records Keeper) reported on the men's long distance running performances (roads and track) in 2015 for which applications for U.S. records have been submitted. The committee approved the following mark as a new U.S. road record:

M open 5km 13:22 Ben True 2015 BAA 5K

Athletes Advisory Committee: Bob Larsen discussed Athlete' Advisory and mentioned that he is writing a paper that includes items such as recruiting kids, trips, and agents that will help both athletes and coaches.

Open Discussion Session:

Bob Larsen mentioned in the open forum about possibly creating an LDR Grand Prix that possibly would create more involvement.

A number of those in attendance mentioned that USA Track & Field needed to increase membership.

Jack Hazen mentioned the success of the U.S. Men at the AAU 50K World Championships in Doha, Qatar.

A motion was made to adjourn and the motion was seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:
Tomy Sitton, Acting Secretary