



MINUTES

Coaches Advisory Committee General Session

2015 USATF Annual Meeting

1:00-2:00pm Saturday, December 5, Houston, TX

Present

Officers: Cliff Rovelto (Chairman), Skip Stolley (Secretary)

Absent: Kathleen Raske (Vice Chair), Pat Henry (At-Large Member)

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

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 1:03pm.

2. Approval of the 2014 Minutes

- a. Secretary Skip Stolley asked for approval of the 2014 CAC General Session minutes.
- b. Motion by Rene Zellner, seconded by Bob Larsen, unanimously approved.

3. CAC Committee Introductions

- a. Cliff introduced the members of the CAC Executive Committee. A list of the 48-member CAC Committee as a Whole, and the 27 CAC reps to USATF standing committees are posted in the Annual Meeting Document Library. He explained that the Committee as a Whole is made up of coaches representing our constituent coaching groups within the sport as required by USATF Reg. 16, plus 10 athlete delegate members who are appointed by the Athletes Advisory Committee.
- b. Cliff emphasized that anyone who is a coach is welcome to attend CAC meetings, and anyone who is part of the USATF Coaches Registry is welcome to get involved with the work of our committee.
- c. Cliff said CAC secretary Skip Stolley will be requesting reports from the 27 CAC reps who represent us on USATF standing committees and councils. Our goals is to have these reports posted, along with our 2015 meeting minutes, on a CAC page that will be added to the USATF website.

4. Coaches Advisory Committee Strategic Plan

- a. The *CAC Strategic Plan* is posted in the Annual Meeting Document Library and it has been approved to add to our CAC bylaws and operating procedures. 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 that he has 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”, Milan Donley to do the same for “Participation,” and vice chair Kathleen Raske to do so for “Advocacy.” Those will begin to be implemented in 2016.
- d. One of the plan’s strategic objectives for “Advocacy”, recognizing all the coaches of our 2016 Olympians (including their youth, high school, and college coaches), will occur at the Olympic Trials in Eugene.

5. USOC Safe Sport Program– Terry Crawford, Director of Coaching

- a. Terry reminded everyone that the new *USOC Safe Sport Program*, a free on-line course for all USATF coaches, officials, and administrators, staff, and volunteers who have contact with athletes, is required to be completed before December 31, 2015 for coaches to be part of the *USATF Coaches Registry* in 2016.
- b. The course can be found on-line at <http://safesport.org/take-the-training> and takes about 90-minutes to complete.
- c. It is also being offered at multiple times during the Annual Meeting in a 90-minute video format that does not require quizzes or a final exam.

6. 2015 CAC Coaching Grants & Awards- Terry Crawford

- a. Terry reported that more than \$10,000 was spent 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. These will be awarded again in 2016 during the Olympic Trials in Eugene.
- 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 at the USATF Olympic Training Camp, July 25-August 10 at Prairie View University
- i. Information on all these grants programs for 2016 can be found at <http://www.usatf.org/Resources-for---/Coaches/Coaching-Education/Special-Programs.aspx>.

7. 2015 Legends Coaching Award- Terry Crawford

- 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.

8. USATF Coaches Registry Benefits Matrix

- a. Terry Crawford discussed on-going efforts to create minimum standards for the 600 member coaches of the *USATF Coaches Registry* and a matrix of benefits for USATF Level-I, II, and III certified coaches. Those benefits would include credentials at USA Championships, access to special coaching apparel items and merchandise, liability insurance, coaching webinar and P.E.P. discounts, grants, scholarships, and personal training library materials.

9. 2016 U.S. Championships- Sue Humphrey, Chair, Women’s Track & Field Committee

- a. Sue reported the *U.S. Indoor Multi-Event Championships* will be held in Albuquerque, NM February 20-21.
- b. The U.S. Junior Championships will not be contested during the Olympic Trials, but rather in Clovis, CA, June 24-26

10. 2016 Coaches Advisory Budget- Cliff Rovelto

- a. Cliff announced the 2016 budget for CAC will be \$32,677, not including grant monies—an increase of about 15%.
- b. Cliff added that Steve Miller, Chairman of the USATF Board of Directors, addressed the CAC Executive Committee earlier in the day and is excited about the progress being made by USA Track & Field and the potential we have to do great things together. Cliff noted, “When Steve Miller is excited, good things will happen.”

11. Proposed USATF Governance Changes- Eric Barron

- a. Eric Barron, our CAC rep to the Law & Legislation Committee reported the Committee considered 35 legislative submissions for changes to the USATF bylaws. The Committee’s discussions 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.
- b. After negotiations between the stakeholders, Eric reported the Committee voted to recommend these submissions as amended.

- The first amended submission mandates that, as of the 2018 Annual Meeting, the President shall be the Chairperson of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may remove the Chairperson for good cause, however that action may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

- The second amended submission mandates that the delegates shall elect the USATF candidate for positions on the IAAF Council. The Board of Directors may overturn the nomination for good cause, and that action also may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

- Also in the package that the Committee recommended for approval by Annual Meeting delegates was a submission that mandates the Coaches Advisory Committee elects (rather than nominates, as was past practice) an individual to serve on the USATF Board of Directors. (This was subsequently approved at the Sunday delegate voting session.)

12. USATF Foundation Report- Jack Wickens, Vice Chair

a. Jack Wichen spoke about the USATF Foundation grant programs. The Foundation raises \$500,000 to \$1M each year to invest in our emerging-elite athletes and help defray their training expenses. Recently, the Foundation created "AthleteBiz" to help athletes market themselves and their services. To buy great stuff at a discount AND support one of our sport's top athletes, you can visit their AthleteBiz stores at www.athletebiz.us and <https://www.athletebiz.us/pages/athlete-stores-all>.

b. USATF Foundation Grant applications for elite/emerging athletes and for youth clubs can be found at <http://usatffoundation.org/grant-info/athlete-applications/>

The 2014 USATF Coaches Advisory Committee General Session was adjourned at 2:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Skip Stolley
Secretary, USATF Coaches Advisory Committee