

**2010 USATF Annual Meeting
Virginia Beach, VA
December 2 thru 5, 2011**

Three Rivers Delegation

**Nicole Berry - Youth, Associations & Other Committees
Justin Clickett - Athletes Advisory
Marty Goldberg - Officials & Rules Committees
Mark Heckel - Officials Committee
Bruce Long - Officials, Rules & Equipment Sub Committees
Cindy Long - Youth, Regional Coordinators, Associations Committees
Linda Phelps - Youth & Member Services Committees
Frank Rodenbaugh - Associations Committee
Joe Sarver - LDR
Mark Schwartz - Masters & Open Track & Field
Oronde Sharif - Youth Committee
Liza Simmons - Youth & Other Committees**

**2010 Youth Administrators Workshop
December 1 & 2, 2010
Held prior to the Annual Meeting**

Youth Administrators Workshop Attendees

**Nicole Berry (2nd day)
Bruce Long
Cindy Long
Linda Phelps
Oronde Sharif
Liza Simmons (2nd day)**

Convention Report – Marty Goldberg Committees Covered - Officials & Rules

Thursday, Dec 2

First Timers Orientation

Bill Roe and Barbara Palm outlined for the 25 in attendance what USATF is all about. The mission, organizational structure and the differences of the composition of the membership. They went over the schedule of the convention, discussing what will happen at the meetings, who will be attendance and that everyone is welcome to observe the committees as they work. They also spoke of the general sessions and what we could expect in those meetings. It was informative to the rookies there.

Rules- General Session I

John Blackburn and Bob Podkammer conducted the general rules session. General statements were made from some of the subcommittee chairs regarding possible rule changes or changes in the wording of rules and compliance with IAAF rules. Not exactly what I was expecting, very boring.

Opening General Session

Met with the rest of the Three Rivers delegation and sat in our appropriate seats. Lots of welcoming speeches from Stephanie Hightower, Darleen Hickman, the mayor of Virginia Beach and some other speakers. Nice but long winded.

Virginia Beach Welcome Reception

Free beer and hors d'oeuvres, but after one beer, met up with group of official friends from Kentucky and went out to dinner at Rudys. Nice seafood place.

Friday, December 3

Officials General Session I

Len Krsak presided over the meeting. He introduced the executive Board who gave reports. Nominations and elections were held and the new officers took over. Mark Heckel from Three Rivers was elected as chair of the Training Committee. More reports were given.

Rules General Session II

Committee Chairs went over some submissions for rule changes from the LDC. They stayed on the same topic for more than an hour. Lots of little things, such as if an athlete lives within an association area, yet works and trains in an other association area can he/she represent that area in competition when he doesn't live there. Sharp discussion went on. They spent the better part of an hour on just that one point.

Officials Session I Safety at Meets

Very, very interesting session conducted by Shelby Sharpe, an official as well as an attorney who represents many of the meets we go to. He started out defining the various types of liability, general liability, and professional liability, accidental and medical liability. He covered Legal Standards for Liability, The Competition venue, Adjacent Competition Areas (overlapping throwing sectors), Dangers Around and Within Competition Areas, Equipment, Lighting just to name a few items

He went over When does Liability Exposure Begin, strong emphasis on Marshalling, Health Care Providers, Dealing with Media, as well as Spectators. It was a very interesting and important session. **IMPORTANT** He emphasized that every official including meet management should have copy of our liability insurance policy that USATF has provided us with. This can be down loaded from the USATF website.

Officials Session II Safety at Meets- Marshalling

Shelby continued on with much same materials and comments from the first session. I left to attend another official's session.

Officials Session II Expectations for Event Heads at Major/Championship Meets

Len Krsak, Larry Callahan, Mike Armstrong and John Murray

Sat as a panel and spoke about initially what the selection committee looks for in a head official. Spirited discussion ensued. Back to the initial topic.

- 1) The responsibilities of a Head Official
- 2) Pre event duties
- 3) Meet duties
- 4) Post Event duties

Questions raised were, what sets apart a Head Official, people skills, organizational skills and leadership skills

Officials Hall of Fame Dinner

Outstanding program, food acceptable great comradie. Worthy honorees

Saturday, December 4

Rules General Session

Very short meeting as they had little to report from previous meeting held.

Officials Session III Cross Training Officials at Major Meets

This was another outstanding sessions with Len Krsak, Mike Armstrong, Pat----, Jim Flanik and Murray Sanford as the panel. A continuation from another session regarding the workings of the Selection Committee for National Meets. The panel spoke about the application itself, what to put down, read directions, timeliness of it. They spoke about being flexible about assignments, ability to work as a team, willingness to work second or third positions, willingness to travel as well as the quality of meets worked. The panel really got to the essence of the topic and the audience understood the need for flexibility in assignments.

Officials Session IV Clerking

As this my area of expertise, I was most interested to what my two long time partners Jim Smythe of North Carolina and Dan Reynolds from Arizona would do. Hands down they covered the topic absolutely well. Having done many clerking clinics myself, I really appreciated their efforts. They dealt with:

- 1) personnel and duties
- 2) facilities, equipment and supplies
- 3) Pre-Competition duties
- 4) Competition Duties
- 5) Rules on Clerking, (IAAF, USATF, NCAA, Federation)
- 6) Forming Heats and assigning Lanes
- 7) Preventive Clerking
- 8) Resources

It was the most comprehensive session of the entire convention

I want to thank the Board for inviting me to be a part of the Three Rivers delegation.

A passing note that three members of our association were chosen to officiate either the National Indoor or Outdoor Championships. Bruce, Mark and myself.

Bruce Long - Officials Committee, Rules Committee, Equipment Sub Committee, Youth

Report from Officials Committee

National Officials Committee Election Results

Four positions on the NOC Executive Committee were up for election this year. The results are as follows:

Treasurer (4 year term): Sue Polansky – Long Island
Vice Chair – Awards (4 year term): Gordon Bocoock – Kentucky
Vice Chair – Certification (4 year term): Jimmy Stuart – Southwestern
Vice Chair – Training (2 year term): Mark Heckel – Three Rivers

Jimmy Stuart and Mark Heckel are new in these positions while Sue Polansky and Gordon Bocoock were re-elected.

Rules Changes – Significant items for TRA

Amend Rule 300.1(c) as follows:

Athletes must be at least seven (7) years of age ((on the first day of the Youth Athletics National Championship)) on or before December 31 of the current year to compete at the Youth Athletics or Junior Olympic National.

Amend Rule 300.1(i) as follows:

((Proof of date of birth may be required at Association level competition, but shall be required at all Youth Athletics competition above the Association level.)) Proof of date of birth shall be submitted to the athlete's Association immediately after becoming a USATF membership. All athletes shall be required to have "Proof of Age Verified" prior to close of registration of the first level of competition, whether it is the Association Championship or the Preliminary Qualifying Meet, and at all Youth Athletics competitions above this level. The form of proof shall be a copy of a birth certificate, passport, certified baptismal record, driver's license, or United States government identification. Where the issuing Association has validated the athlete's competition entry form or membership card with "Proof of Age Verified," or other wording to that effect, the validated entry form or membership card becomes acceptable proof of age. When using on-line registration, "Proof of Age Verified" must be downloaded from the USATF membership data base prior to close of registration of the first level of competition. Letters from school or recreation offices shall not be considered as proof. ((NOTE: Entries to Regional and National competitions shall be accompanied by proof of age.))

Amend Rule 301 as follows:

SUB BANTAM DIVISION (effective 2011) Mini Javelin (300g)

Amend Rule 301 as follows:

Young Men's/Women's Division

Delete: ((5000 Meter Run (B))) Amend: 3000 Meter Run (((G)))

Add New Rule 304.4 and renumber as follows:

Computerized transponders may be used to record the finish place of a runner in cross country. A bib transponder or two transponders per runner, one attached to each shoe or foot, must be used. With this condition, the finish place recorded by the transponder system shall be the official order of finish for the runners in the competition. The referee has the authority to rule on matters of a timing irregularity or other irregularities.

Amend Rule 305.2(d) as follows:

Track and Field shall advance ((three)) five placed individuals and ((three)) five placed relay teams from each Regional to National. These shall be the top ((three)) five finishers in each event ((, or successive event finishers who have achieved a performance standard at the Regional Championship when fewer than three declare in the event from that Region for National.)) The combined events ...

Amend Rule 305.2(f) as follows:

Athletes who tie for ((third)) fifth place at the Regional Track and Field meet shall be advanced to the National Junior Olympic Championship.

Mark Heckel - Officials Committee
Three Rivers Representative to the Committee

General Sessions

There were two (2) general sessions of the officials committee, as well as several ad hoc meetings of smaller sub-committees. All reports from the sub-committees are available on the USATF website for review.

Elections were held for four (4) National Officials Committee offices: Vice Chair – Awards, Vice Chair – Certification, Vice Chair – Training, and Treasurer. Results of those elections are as follows:

Office	Elected
Vice Chair – Awards	Gordon Bocock, Kentucky
Vice Chair – Certification	Jimmy Stuart, Southwestern
Vice Chair – Training	Mark Heckel, Three Rivers
Treasurer	Sue Polansky, Long Island

All seats are for 4 years, except the Vice Chair – Training. This was a special election to replace Rex Harvey (Iowa) who resigned the position in April 2010. Mark Heckel (Three Rivers) will serve the remainder of Rex’s term (2 years) and then be eligible for re-election.

Gordon Bocock and Sue Polansky were incumbents. Jimmy Stuart (Southwestern) replaced the term limited Jim Flanik (Lake Erie) who had served as national certification chair for 8 years. Chair Len Krsak thanked Mr. Flanik for his service, and he received a well-deserved standing ovation from the gathered officials at the first general session.

Mike Price, an insurance representative, gave a very informative presentation on officials insurance when they register with USATF. The presentation is to be available on the USATF website for members to review.

Shelby Sharpe (Southwestern) followed Mr. Price’s presentation with some brief remarks about officials liability which were well received.

Bob Podkaminer (Pacific) reviewed NCAA rules changes. While there were no significant changes, he did point out two things:

1. The entire section on cross country in the new rule book has been substantially reduced with the removal of the cross county operating procedures. This material has been moved to a different manual.
2. The change in reference to markings for the pole vault runway have changed in language only – the markings as indicated in the book appear to be different, but in fact, are the same as they have been. There was no change in their location, on in the determination of which side of the 5cm wide mark is the starting point. Any questions should be forward to Mr. Podkaminer.

Yvonne Grimes gave a brief report on Affirmative Development committee work. They are essentially looking for another project at this time.

Delores Murray gave a brief report on the appeals and selection process. She reminded officials that resumes are verified; evaluations are considered as part of the process; and that extra sheets appended to the application are discarded and not considered.

Jimmy Stuart reported on the newsletter which will be reduced from monthly to bi-monthly. Officials are encouraged to subscribe via listserv for timely delivery and to reduce costs.

Bob Springer (Pacific Northwest) reported that there was a high incidence of weight implements failing due to improper handles. He has addressed this with the manufacturers, and they are working to bring the handles into compliance. Mr. Springer and Ivars Ikstrums (Pacific Northwest) also presented a very good session on weights and measures issues, particularly markers for implements and their adhesion to various surface, and how to clean them; and on testing of hurdle pull-over weights. The overflow session was excellent, and provided great information to all weights and measures officials. If you are interested in becoming a weights and measures official, it is recommended that you subscribe to the weights and measures newsletter (edited by Mr. Ikstrum).

Murray Sanford (Georgia) urged all event head officials to complete the crew evaluations after each meet. These are a vital part of the evaluation process when it comes to meet selection. Officials who may not be known to the selection committee can increase their chance of selection by having good reviews from the meets that they work.

Win Eggers and Keith Mitchell (Indiana) discussed the current national shirt status. I was not present for a large portion of their presentation due to other discussions regarding training, but there will be a survey developed and distributed through the official’s website to gauge interest in a new, long-sleeve official’s shirt, and a uniform hat. Watch the official’s website for more information.

John Bahakel reported that this was not a law and legislation year, so there was not anything substantive for officials.

Awards

The following are the award winners for 2010:

Andy Bakjian Award (Outstanding Service)

Shirley Crowe, Gulf

Charles Ruter Award (Outstanding Running Event Official)

Gordon Bocoock, Kentucky

Fred Thomas, Ohio

Horace Crow Award - Outstanding Field Event Official

Mike Armstrong, Arkansas

James Grey Award - Outstanding Leadership

Jim Carlisle, Southwestern

John Davis Award - Outstanding Humanitarian

Dick Moss, Georgia

Chair Awards - Special awards given each year by the Officials Committee Chair

Jo Borrows, North Carolina

Richard Messenger, West Virginia

Monique White, Mid-Atlantic

Ken Yerger, Mid-Atlantic

Ivars Ikstrums, Pacific Northwest

Bob Springer, Pacific Northwest

A new award, sponsored by the race walk committee, honored Lori Maynard, a long-time friend and official of the race walk events.

The initial recipient was *Bruce MacDonald, Long Island*.

Four officials were inducted into the Officials Hall of Fame:

- Herbert "Dibol" Allen, Gulf (deceased)
- Al Minturn, Southern California (deceased)
- Rex Harvey, Iowa
- Bob Podkaminer, Pacific

Clinics

Shirley Connors (Pacific) coordinated a number of clinics at the meeting. These included:

Clinic	Presenter(s)
Safety First: Track & Field's Top 10 Safety Issues	Shelby Sharpe, Southwestern
Decision Making and Soft Skills of a Referee	Bob Podkaminer, Pacific
Marshaling for Safety	Shelby Sharpe, Southwestern
Expectations for Event Heads at Big Meets/Nationals (panel discussion)	Mike Armstrong, Arkansas; Larry Callahan, Niagara; Len Krsak, Ohio; John Murray, Pacific
The Importance of Cross-Training for National and Master Officials (panel discussion)	Jim Flanik, Lake Erie; Pat Lavelle, New England; Dennis Olafson, Oregon; Eric Smith, Florida
Clerking	Jim Smyth, North Carolina; Dan Reynolds, Arizona
Weights and Measures (2 hour hands on)	Richard Messenger, West Virginia; Jo Burrows, North Carolina

Championships Meet Selections

Three (3) Three Rivers Association officials have been selected to work at the 2011 National Championships:

Indoor Championships (Albuquerque, NM)	Outdoor Championships (Eugene, OR)
Marty Goldberg – Clerk of Course	Bruce Long – Javelin
Mark Heckel – Chief Implement Inspector	Mark Heckel – Chief Electronic Measurement

Frank Rodenbaugh (President) - Associations Committee

Region Alignment:

There will now be 7 regions for Associations. This will align with the masters regions. This will allow the association to hold Open Championships with the Masters Championship which should make a stronger meet.

An Association Manual will be completed in early 2011.

A new scanning system was used for attendance at the association meetings. This replaced the line to sign in by scanning our membership card.. It will be used for all meetings in the future. Your membership number will be on the back of your registration tag.

Andy Martin gave us an overview of 2010.

Items included:

- effective communication
- fiscal management
- success of the \$10 membership
- assoc. webpage
- online sanctions, We are getting there.
- over 100,00 members,
- over 5300 sanctions
- 27,035 clubs

Requirements for web page discussed. There are 12 requirements.

Grievance panel should be set up as per Reg 21. We should have a list of 3-5 people.

Grievance process is to be put on web page.

Finances was a big item of discussion.

Each association is responsible for completing their own annual tax return.

New numbers for filing 990 based on gross income. Pass through money is not included in the gross income.

This is why it is important to keep our finances itemized and accurate. It affect the amount of gross income and which form we need to complete.

990 MUST be filed with the state.

Failure to file 990 will cause a loss of group exemption. It could also jeopardize the status of USATF.

There must centralized control of the finances. Only one (1) person should have control of finances. No committee checking accounts or access to money. There can be more than one checking account, but signers are to be the same people.

USATF only has one (1) person who handles income and expenses for the entire organization. This includes all committees, etc.

Associations need stiffer control of their finances. Board has fiduciary responsibility.

We have a benefit over profit companies.

Monthly or no worse than quarterly reports(ledgers) should be presented by the treasurer! Also strongly suggested that copy of bank statements be sent to president for review each month. Banks will do this.

**Nicole T. Berry – 3 Rivers Secretary
Associations Committee, Youth Committee**

Association Workshop – Attended Proper Fiscal Management Workshop, A brief presentation was given by the Pacific association of their web site as a follow-up to effective communication workshop held previous day. Pacific Association has very advanced web site similar to National Site. They acknowledged having access to volunteers who build web sites as a profession with developing their web site to its current state. See attached link. <http://www.pausatf.org/>.

Presentation given on Association budgeting and proper financial oversight was insightful. Emphasis was placed on developing templates to assist with accurate tracking of expenses and revenue.

Youth Council Workshop – The main topic of discussion was the possibility of National Funding for an Obesity Awareness Campaign. The Purpose of the campaign is to get all youth involved with understanding the importance of healthy eating to prevent and decrease the prevalence of obesity. Lionel asked for interested attendees to form a sub committee to help implement the campaign. After a vote was taken I was appointed committee chair with a 6 members. I will keep the association posted of the progression for this initiative.

Coffee with CEO and Board Members – It was very interesting to hear the athletes whom labeled themselves as B Level athletes speak about their challenges with acquiring financial support to travel and compete at elite meets. These concerns are across the board for all athletes regardless of age. Board Members encouraged athletes to think outside the box when searching for funding and be creative with developing their own fundraising campaigns. Much discussion was had surrounding creating a media following for the sport of track and field. The board pointed out the increase in televised events in addition to offering live web cast for the 2010 Junior Olympics. The board agreed more media coverage is a must outside of the Olympics and are working to ensure a plan is developed to promote coverage. This was one of the few times that all USATF board members were in attendance.

Joseph Sarver – LDR Minutes

. Mark Schwartz covered some of the women's LDR topics at the meetings since there was overlap. I had a chance to meet with the women's ADP outside the meetings and spoke with the women's national LDR chair also the Twin Cities marathon director afterwards concerning some Pittsburgh issues...any questions drop me a line.

Men's LDR 12/3/10 10-12 a.m.

Discussed water & aid stations for elites and how far from the table assistance can stand

Only medical personnel can remove a distressed athlete and at an aid station.

U.S. citizenship was discussed, 2 year wait after naturalization Vote to table issue for the rest of track & field vote.

Discussed rotating world half marathon and world cross country on alternating years.

Discussed London Olympic course with on 2.2 loop & four 6 mile loops that won't end in the Olympic stadium, January 1st – 18 month qualifying window.

Gold label races will auto qualify for trials. Houston will mimic course with 3 loops & 1 2.2 loop course.

Masters LDR 12/3/10 12-2:00 p.m

Selection were voted on for all age group categories from 40-90+ age groups.

Contributor award went to Lee Ann Meyers.

Men's masters LDR 100km championships team finished 2nd, men's 24 hr finished 2nd. Reviewed the masters championships for 2010-2011

Dan Brown discussed athlete's grants for open runners. Tier 1-3 (800-1500) (5km) (Steeple) also discussed 2010 team results and 2011 championships.

LDR Division 12/3/10 5-6:00 p.m.

Discussed men's & women's commonalities, national championships

Cross country & half marathon team picks were discussed, subjective vs. objective criteria, team selection, staff selection, AADP selection and time standards.

The Olympic trials were discussed for the marathon.

The citizenship of the athlete 2 year vs. day of naturalization were discussed.

Masters LDR 12/4/10 12-2:00 p.m.

The following topics were discussed at this meeting:

Records committee topics were approved or tabled

Team championships and grand prix for teams

Trying to get more women race cross country was discussed

Rules & regulations regarding protests went from 24hrs – 1hr since most athletes & officials may not be present after & hour.

National Championships add trail & team scoring discussed, 3 for open and 5 person teams for cross country.

Mountain, ultra & trails were discussed with possible championships

The Outer Banks half & marathon and the 8km were presented as a possible masters championship

Ann Arbor Michigan 10km as a masters championship race 6/5/11

The masters circuit can be found on the USATF website

Rules & membership changes discussed.

LDR Division Men 12/4/10 2-4:00 p.m.

Cross country San Diego meet discussed

Coaching level 1 training was presented

Edinboro team grand prix (Scotland) discussed

Seattle Washington 2011 national cross country & golf course presented

The world half marathon championship world cross country alternating years.

Bill Roe described the Chinese half marathon experience

A Nike \$1 million sponsorship program was discussed, & debated.

Austin Texas Rogue club team program 10-12 athletes, sponsorship USA distance project presented

Houston marathon trial course for elites closed and debated

10 USATF Annual Meeting

Mark Schwartz - Masters

Masters Age Division Athletes of the Year

M40 Tracy Lokken,

W40 Stephanie Herbst Lucke

M45 Mbarak Hussein,

W45 Linda Somers Smith

M50 John Tuttle,

W50 Joan Samuelson

M55 Reno Stirrat, W55 Kathryn Martin

M60 Doug Winn,

W60 Sabra Harvey and Nancy Rollins

M65 Doug Goodhue,

W65 Sharon Dolan

M70 Bill Riley,

W70 Barbara Miller

M75 Ray Parella,

W75 Lois Gilmore

M80 Jerry Johncock,

W80 Margretta Lutz

M85 **Lou Lodovico**

M90 Henry Sypiewski,

W90 Evelyn Tripp

Race Walking Awards

Captain Ron Zinn Memorial Awards:

Male Athlete: **Trevor Barron**

Female Athlete: Maria Michta

Mike Riban Contributor Awards: Maryanne Daniel, Stella Cashman, USATF Minnesota Association

Henry Laskau Junior Athlete Award: **Trevor Barron**, Nicolette Sorensen

Male Race Walker of the Year: Chris Schmid

Female Athlete of the Year: Teresa VaillReno Stirrat,

Youth Chair Report – Oronde Sharif

2010 ADMINISTRATORS WORKSHOP DEC. 1-2, 2010

- **Duties & Responsibilities of Youth Chairs/Regional Coordinators**

A general overview of the role and responsibilities of the youth chair and regional coordinators were discussed. In addition, protocols concerning complaints, issues, and rules violations were addressed.

- **Hy-Tek 3.0 Presentation**

The updated version of Hy-Tek was demonstrated. There was also discussion about the cost of Hy-Tek and the use of Hy-Tek by USATF. USATF may look for another vendor if a sensible contract and agreement cannot be secured. Lionel Leach informed the attendees to hold off on purchasing the 3.0 version until further notice.

- **Coach O - Online Entry Presentation**

Coach O presented on their product and answered questions about their service.

- **Review of Youth Rules and Bylaws**

- **Microsoft 101**

An overview of how to properly use Microsoft Excel and Word was given.

2010 ANNUAL MEETING

SITE SELECTION

- 2012 J.O. Cross Country Championship – Albuquerque, NM
- 2012 Youth Athletic Championship – Arlington, TX
- 2012 J.O. Championship – Baltimore, MD

QUALIFYING ATHLETES

- The number of competitors that will move to Youth Nationals and J.O. track and field championships will change from 3 to 5

USATF/AAU SCHEDULING CALENDER

- USATF and AAU have developed a unified calendar for the outdoor track and field season from now until 2018. No championship meets are to be held outside of scheduled dates unless permitted by the National Office.

Liza Simmons

Rules

Over 100 amendments were made, below are a few that effect youth

300.1c: Sub Bantam Athletes must be at least seven on or before December 31 of the current year to compete at the Youth Athletics or Junior Olympic National.

301: Sub Bantam mini javelin (300g)

301: Youth, hammer throw (B-4kg and G-3kg)

301: Delete 5000 meter run for young man; make young male/female and intermediate male/female all 3000 meter run

305.2d: From regional to nationals top five (5) finishers. Combine events top 2 and any other that meet performance standards.

305.2: Fifth place ties both qualify for nationals

320.4: For USATF Championships eligibility is age at first day of meet.

Sport Medicine and Science

Discussion focused on the psychology of sports. Many athletes are looking at alternative / holistic approaches to their training. Many elite athletes are incorporating these forms of techniques into their traditional training routines. Demonstration focused how helping an athlete control their breathing to relax at the start of a race has helped some athletes with their overall performance.