

**USATF VIRGINIA ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2017
UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND**

The meeting was called to order at 2:05pm by President Ray Funkhouser.

Secretary's report

The minutes of the last meeting were available for review and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Holdren gave the Treasurer's Report. At this date, the Association has the following in assets:

Investments: \$383,960.38

Checking Account: \$30,555.80

President's Report

--A lot of good ideas were suggested for getting our name out there in the communities and State. As these ideas require financial input, Ray is trying to be judicious with the money that the Association has.

--Accreditation: At this time, we have not yet received the Accreditation report from National.

*** (The Association was given full accreditation soon after this meeting)

--Ray encouraged meet directors to get our Championship schedule on our website and into National website for publication as soon as possible.

Racewalking Report

Report presented by Chris English.

--Not a lot of activity has been happening with Racewalking. The Tidewater Striders had to cancel one event.

--A 1 Hour Racewalk championship will be scheduled sometime this Fall. Currently working on a date.

--Plan B suggestion: Combine Virginia 1 Hour Championship with Potomac Valley championship. This would occur the first week of October.

--Ross MacDonald suggested including a Racewalk Championship with the summer Wednesday night races here in Richmond.

Master's Report

Ross MacDonald presented the Master's Report.

The Open/Master's combined Track and Field Meet was held at UR on June 24. This was held in conjunction with the Southeast Regional. 86 competitors competed. Weather, combined with other available Master's meets that weekend may have contributed to the low turnout.

--Some outstanding performances at the USATF Masters National Championships :

Pete Gibson--5K and 10K Gold medal in his age group

Ms. Maiacchi(?) sp Gold medal in 80 Meter Hurdles in her age group.

--Upcoming Masters events:

- * Southeast Regional--Indoor--January 21, Winston-Salem NC.
Our Association "sponsors" several events here.
- * Masters Indoor National Championships: March 16-18, 2018 in Landover MD
- * Masters Outdoor meet-- June 2-3, 2018 at Birmingham AL
- * Association Masters meet--late June or early July--Date TBD; UR or Liberty
- * Masters Outdoor Championships--August, date TBD, Spokane WA
- * 1st Annual American Masters Track and Field Championship--Durham NC
This is sanctioned by USATF, but is NOT a USATF Championship event.

Youth

Maurice Hutton reporting.

--The Virginia Association Youth Track and Field Championships were held at UR.

Unfortunately, the meet was on the same dates as The State AAU Championship, but participation was still good.

--19 Youth athletes went to Regional competition

--The Association was well represented at USATF JO Nationals.

Upcoming meets:

- * Cross Country JOs: November 18--Pole Green Park
- * USATF Southeast Indoor Track and Field Regional--Feb. 18, 2018, Liberty Univ.
- * As of this date, no location has been identified for Indoor Nationals.
- * Association Outdoor JOs--June 22-24, 2018 at Massaponax High School
- * Region III SEC Outdoor JOs --July 6-9, 2018. Location possibilities include Sportsbackers, JMU, UR, Fredericksburg
- * JO Outdoor Nationals--July 23-29, 2018. Held at North Carolina A&T, Greensborough, NC

--Coaches Education--Currently all coaches must be at least Level 1 certified. USATF is trying to present more options for coaches training.

--Competitive Edge Sports Performance is interested in hosting an Indoor meet. The contact is Monte Evans II. The phone is 571-398-2813.

LDR

No report today from Long Distance Running Chair.

Men's Open Track and Field

Bob Disse reporting.

--The Association Open meet was held in conjunction with the Masters meet in June at UR. Turnout was not strong.

--Special thanks to John Molz and the facility staff at UR for an excellent set-up and accommodations.

--The Association Open Cross Country Championship was held Sept. 2 at Pole Green Park in conjunction with the U of R Spider Alumni Open. This was the 4th year for this collaboration,

and the Saturday time schedule works well logistically. The final entry field for the Open meet saw increased participation, thanks to the Richmond Track and Field Club. The meet was well managed, and a big "Thanks!" goes to Steve and Laurie Taylor and the staff at UR.

--An Ethiopian runner has relocated to the Richmond area, and contacted Bob Disse about the training and competitive opportunities. He is a former Indoor World Champion in the 1500 meters. Bob has discussed this with the National office and local coaches to be able to help this runner.

--Sam Kendricks, Olympic Bronze Medalist and recent World Champion in Pole Vault was stationed at Fort Lee earlier this year. While here, he trained at Virginia Association member club, Aim High PV Club in Mechanicsville.

--Bob Disse's contact: coachdisse@gmail.com 804 360 4773

Women's Open Track and Field

Marquita Mines reporting.

The Women's report parallels the Mens with two additions:

--The Atlantic Coast Masters meet had only one Open competitor.

--In World Championships, native Virginian Shaquilla Saunders competed in Long Jump.

--Pushing for more participation will be the focus the next few months.

Mountain, Ultra, Trail Running

Howard Nippert reporting.

--Upcoming event on October 7 in Norton VA. 2 events will be held on that day.

- * Mountain 10K Championship--this is a 5K up, with 2500 foot gain in elevation
- * 100 Mile Race--going through parts of Virginia and Kentucky--it is A championship for both states. Within this race are the following Association Championships: 25K, 50K, 100K, and 100 Mile. Men and Women, Masters and Open age groups Challenging course.

Membership

Melissa Johnson reporting.

--Coaches and individuals are encouraged to get National Memberships and birth dates checked wee before any competitions. The National office has been slow in processing these.

Officials

Chris McCann reporting for him and Bill Anderson

--Official certification count for 2016 (end of last Olympiad)

Apprentice	154,	many of whom ready to move up to Association level
Association	62	
National	37	
Master	28	TOTAL: 281

--Official count for 2017: (new Olympiad)

Apprentice	40
Association	48
National	25
Master	21
TOTAL	134

Changes since last Olympiad's certified list:

- 37 missing SafeSport or background checks
- 76 did not renew memberships (including those who retired)
- Several uncertified new officials who have not paid membership yet.
- 41 in another Association

--We are expecting to hear complaints and have discussion at the National meeting.

--Starting November 1, most officials will have to renew their membership online. Those exempt are those who have multiple year memberships.

--New officials uniform shirts have been provided to most officials. Several who have not received shirts need to turn in their size on their membership record.

--In the past, several officials have said they are not comfortable providing contact information to the meet directors or officials' coordinators. Last year, we tried something different--we sent out a list of meets needing help every 1-2 weeks to our officials. We plan to do this again this year.

--In early 2017, 5 clinics were held:

UVA, NOVA, UR, CNU, Liberty
Plans are in the works for 2018.

Old Business

--Timing system: After looking into logistics, initial cost and maintenance, it has been decided at this time not to purchase a timing system.

--Monetary recognition of Open and Masters competitors: Regarding incentives for National competition, no decision has been made yet. A committee will be put together to study this further and arrive at a plan.

--Youth Cross Country camp scholarship information: We got notice of this very late. Several athletes were nominated, and two were chosen. A criteria had to be established. It was decided to give the camp scholarships to the top finishing male and female athletes in last year's USATF CC Championships. Megan Lee and Jack Ikenberry were the two winners. 42 campers attended the first camp held at Colorado Springs. Next year's camp may be held at Colorado Springs or Lake Placid.

New Business

--Good possibility of an evening clinic for Race Walk officials.

--A request has been made for 2 volunteers to serve on a grievance committee for State USATF. Ray Funkhouser has volunteered. One more is needed.

--Sanctions: Important for our accreditation. We had only 136 all of 2016. Currently, we have 78 to date. National will give an incentive--\$1500, \$2500, \$5000 for increasing the number of sanctions by a certain percentage. Virginia Association is now in Tier 2.

--Compliance: To date, Virginia Association has 0 non-compliance issues.

--Info packet to race sponsors and directors: National is putting together an info packet detailing why it is important to sanction a race through USATF, and the benefits in doing so.

--Ross MacDonald brought up the fact that a Grant-in-Aid is available through the National office to attend the National meeting. There are some criteria to be met, however, it is certainly worth looking into. The Association's application is due November 5.

--Annual Meeting Delegates:

Held in Columbus Ohio WEdnesday, Nov. 29-Sunday, Dec. 3.

Jim Holdren	Monte Evans
Bob Disse	Bernard Comer
Maurice Hutton	Howard Nippert
Ross MacDonald	Nickie Wils
Steve Taylor	Brian Woolfolk
Chris McCann	Jon Molz
Bill Anderson	Marquita Mines

--In selecting delegates, the Association must have delegates representing all divisions named by National, including an athlete(s) and a coach.

--All representatives MUST REGISTER for the National Convention. You must register by the deadline. Ray will see who is registered, then select the delegates to fit the categories required by National.

--The 1st day of the Convention, there is an Association workshop, which must be attended by at least 1 person from each Association delegation.

--Committee Chairs: Please send Ray a list of all Championships your particular discipline has sponsored or are planning to sponsor.

--Reimbursement: Last year's convention attendees received \$1200. This year, Registration is \$195, and hotel is \$159 per night. So about \$1000 just for hotel and registration.

--A motion was made to reimburse \$1600to this years National Convention delegates. To receive this, expenses must be documented. The motion was seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

--To receive reimbursement, a delegate must submit receipts. Each delegate must also submit a short report about what he or she did while at the convention, what meetings were attended, etc.

--Reimbursement for athletes attending JO Cross Country Nationals--Tallahassee, FL:
A motion was made and seconded to allow a reimbursement of \$150 per athlete.

Motion passed.

--Before a reimbursement check can be written, Jim (Treasurer) must know who paid the initial expenses, family or club, and what those expenses were . Include documentation.

--Increasing awareness of USATF:

Suggestions were made regarding this.

- * A Speakers' Bureau from USATF
- * Banners--We have banners for Masters and Open meets, but no banner for the Association. We do have a backdrop, but a finish line banner would be more noticeable.
- * Brochure for State Association USATF--still working on this
- * Matt Walton suggested reaching out on Milestat--more of a presence on this Website might attract more high school and Open runners. A great way to Inform high school runners about upcoming meets.
- * The Association does have 2 tents with the Association logo on them.

--We were one of the top 15 Associations (Not a lot of detail on this--but it seems like a notable accomplishment.)

--USATF Cross Country camp at Colorado Springs: It is recommended that we award a scholarship of \$1000 to the highest finishing 15-18 year old runner in National JOs who will be a *returning* cross country athletes (USATF member).

A motion was made that we continue this policy with the above-mentioned stipulations.

Motion passed unanimously.

--ParaOlympics--Ross MacDonald suggested that this might be something that the Association Championships may want to include in the future. Ross has received some communication regarding this, and suggests that a Paraolympics Chair and Committee be added to promote This endeavor.

--The Association is also looking into adding a Sports Medicins componenet to our Association Committees.

**Next Meeting: Sunday, February 11
University of Richmond--Room TBD**

Officials clinic in the morning.

MEETING ADJOURNED 3:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette M. Sirica
Secretary