

**USATF VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION MEETING  
JANUARY 31, 2016  
Robins Center—Rom 245**

In attendance:

Jim Holdren, President  
Ray Funkhouser, VP  
Annette Sirica, Secretary  
Robert Disse, Mens Open Chair  
Marquita Mines, Women's Open—Chair  
Ross McDonald, Masters' Chair  
Ron Bayton, Youth Chair  
Chris McCann, Officials Chair  
William Anderson, Officials Training Chair  
Deborah Snagg  
Dave Gammon  
Brandon Howell  
Bernard Comer  
Myesha Ingram  
John Molz  
Steve Taylor, UR Coach  
Chris English

**The meeting was called to order 2:11 by President Jim Holdren**

**Approval of the minutes from the September meeting:**

Motion to approve the minutes was seconded and approved by the attending membership.

**Treasurer's Report - 2015 summary**

**Total Deposits    Checking**  
**\$41,610.48**

Memberships	\$23,622.93
Clubs	\$ 1,200.00
Sanctions	\$ 6,150.00

Officials	\$ 340.00
Transfer from Investments	\$10,000.00
Other	\$ 277.65

**Expenses**

Office (supplies, mailing, Rental, Phone) \$ 7,431.14  
**\$55,910.99**

Meet expenses	\$11,456.82
Nat. Convention & Assoc. Workshop	\$12,482.73
Athlete expense to Nat. Championships	\$15,100.00
Official's Training	\$ 2,455.00
Marketing (Exclamation Services)	\$ 5,000.00
Association Medals	\$ 628.45
Website	\$ 250.00
IRS	\$ 920.00
Misc	\$ 186.85

**Net deficit**  
**(\$14,300.51)**

**Current Balances -As of Dec. 31, 2015**

Investment Account	\$314,432.44
Checking	\$ 12,800.51

**Submitted 1/31/16 Jim Holdren - President**

Reminder:

All expenditures and deposits must go thru the state office. Officials, clinics, gate receipts. You are not to pay officials from gate receipts. The Association must be able to accurately track expenditures and revenue.

Biggest expense—reimbursement of youth for participation at JO Nationals

Treasurers report:

A motion to accept the Treasurers' Report was seconded and approved by the membership.

--Budget:

Jim Holdren Presented the 2016 budget. Our 2016 budget is **\$53,200**. It is revenue -neutral. It was accepted as written and will be posted on the website.

Bill Anderson—Officials Training Chair—inquired about the possibility of paying all registered officials in Virginia their officials dues for the year. (\$20 each—202 officials, roughly \$4000. Bill proposed using revenue generated from the clinics

To offset the cost (about a \$1500 contribution.

President was not in favor of adding any more expenditures at this time, as we came up about \$14,000 short in 2015.

Other change: Officials clinics will be revenue-neutral. Bill Boyd used to get

\$2000, which enabled him to print the clinic booklets. Any expenditures incurred must be reported in a finance report from the clinic organizers.

Ray Funkhouser inquired as to how membership fees come back to the Association. Jim gets a check and monthly report from the National Office on all categories—members, clubs, sanctions, contributions.

Jim reminded all Chairs that we overspent in 2015 by \$14,000. We cannot add new financial commitments and we are looking for ways to trim the budget.

Budget now is **\$53,200**. It is revenue-neutral. The new Youth Chair and program should help with this greatly.

## **Race Walk report—Ray Funkhouser**

In addition to his report, Ray also suggested writing a grant for training and reimbursement of Race Walk officials.

### **Race Walk Committee Report**

#### **USATF Virginia Association Meeting**

**January 31, 2016**

#### Annual Meeting Update

-Pit Lane Rule was added to the Rule Book as a "may use" rule. It will be used in International Selection Races where the Pit Lane will be used in International competition. Right now that appears to be for the World Youth Games and World Junior Games.

-Olympic Trials 20km races will be held June 30 in Salem Oregon in front of the State Capital.

#### Association Championships-

-Tidewater Striders will be hosting 2 championships again. They will be the Open, Masters, Men and Women 1500m and 1 hour Race Walk Championships. While the exact dates have not been set yet, they will most likely be held in the same time frame as previous years in Virginia Beach with the 1500m being held in August. The 1 Hour being held in November. Steve Durant had been the Race Director for both Championships for many years. He started handing off the directing of these Championships last year. We are very appreciative of all the time and effort Steve put into these events.

-Additionally, there will be Race Walks in the Open/Masters Outdoor Association Track & Field Championship as well as our Junior Olympic Outdoor Championship.

Training- The goal this year is to add officials with the Race Walk Event to their profiles. The Officials Committee has assisted by providing time on several of the training clinics to focus on the Race Walk.

Will be looking for opportunities to present Race Walking Technique Clinics to any clubs and youth teams throughout the season.

Officiating- We did have several officials move up levels in Race Walking this year.

-Will have the honor of representing our Virginia Officials this year including, the USATF Indoor Championships, World Race Walking Cup Team Selection Race,

Olympic Trials, Indoor Masters Championship. Additionally, I will be the Team Manager for the USATF Junior National Race Walk Team for the USA vs. Canada meet in August in Canada.

Ray Funkhouser

Race Walk Committee Chair

**Masters—Ross MacDonald.**

Association Indoor Championships—JDL, Winston-Salem Feb. 21. We will again this year host our Association Championships in conjunction with the Regional championship meet and have our Assoc. meet at the same time -same meet.

Indoor Nationals -March 3-5, Albuquerque, NM  
Outdoor Nationals--TBD

Virginia has had a lot of Champions at National Masters. Send results/report to Andy for publicizing on our website.

**USATF Virginia Masters Track & Field Report for 1/31/2016**

Noted that 13 Virginia Masters athletes were national winners in either the Indoor or Outdoor USATF Masters Championships during 2015.

Final preparations are underway which will allow the 2016 USATF Virginia Association Masters Indoor T&F Championship to be held concurrently with the USATF Southeast Masters T&F Championship on 2/21/2016 in Winston-Salem, NC at the JDL Fast Track facility. We are requesting Craig Longhurst of JDL to consider adding the Super Weight Throw to the event to allow last year's champions to defend their titles. Mr. Longhurst indicated that he would consider this modification, but only after 2/1/2016 due to current meet volumes and resolving matters with the recent inclement weather. Support was given in the form of USSATF Virginia potentially sponsoring the missing event if that will help Mr. Longhurst in his decision.

The 2016 USATF Virginia Association Outdoor Open and Masters T&F

Championship is currently in its planning stage. Coordination between facilities, personnel availability, and competing events is necessary. There are a few open weekends in June and July, but none are currently proving to be optimal. We plan to have our decisions made by the end of February on the exact date and format of this meet.

### **Youth—Ron Bayton**

Ron began by offering several reasons why youth runners might choose AAU over USATF. Among them:

1. Politics has interfered with growth of USATF. Infighting and refusal to cooperate regionally
2. Website very difficult to maneuver. Difficulty accessing some links. Easier access, accuracy, more user friendly would help very much

Outdoor JOs June 25-26 in Hampton

Long-range goals—AAU has 4 indoor meets. USATF currently has none. Ron is looking at offering an Indoor USATF Association meet in Hampton at the Boo Williams Center.

Virginia Association is hosting JO Regional Championships in summer, 2018.

Ron says he is working to improve the situation that he inherited.

### **Officials/Officials Training—Bill Anderson and Chris McCann**

Training:

The first hour of the Officials training clinic this morning was devoted to new officials—completing paperwork, certification materials, handbooks etc. The clinic certified 15 new people.

Desiree Friedman at the National office will take care of registering new officials.

Currently:

208 certified officials—Most are ready to move to Association level

At the officials certification meeting held in Houston, an increase in fees to be official—this would cost about \$25 for officials in the Virginia Association.

A new link on the National website gives officials access to their info so they can update their own charts, rather than go through Chris.

Recognition Award was presented to Bill Boyd for his years of service to Association training of officials.

This is the last year for red and blue uniform shirts we currently use. Officials will be given new uniforms next year. Mark Costic is the new rules book writer/interpreter.

### **Officials Training**

Clinic attendance

UVA—10-12

Richmond—50

3 more to be held

Ross McDonald -asked what guidance came from National regarding the Regional meet:

--drug testing at Master's meet—at least some of them. Will add surcharge to meet entry to cover it. Athletes are reminded to have their therapeutic med use form up to date on the National USATF website link.

--Indoor 2017-18 Nationals in Prince George. Nobody bid on Outdoor. Grand Rapids, MI. is site chosen. Athletes must have paperwork on file in National office—Websites let members know what they need and how to do it.

### **Membership—no report**

LDR- Greg Roth—not here. Working on using the Colonial Half Marathon as Association championship. No final word on that yet.

### **Mens TF—Bob Disse**

### **Women's TF—Marquita Mines**

Reiterated the point that background checks are very important for anyone in a supervisory/coaching role.

Marquita is working on cooperation with the Richmond Roadrunners to help us promote our races and programs.

Time frame for Open meet—early July.

Need to recruit more 19-29 year olds. Get the folks at the summer Wednesday meets at the University of Richmond to sign up for USATF.

Coaches education—must have at least Level 1—its now going by Olympiads.

Our Association needs a coaches education chair in USATF.

Level 1 clinic is in Alexandria. Level 1 must be renewed after 5 years without a level 2 certification. These renewal clinics can now be done online. Marquita has details.

### **Virginia Association of USATF Open Committee**

Still working on the idea of partnering with the local shoe store such as Lucky Foot, 3 Sports, and Road Runners. They are our first line in increasing numbers in the long distant races. Also another idea is to make contact with those who are in charge of organizing the road races here in the Richmond metro area.

On 1/29/16 at 11 p.m. EST, the updates will be made to the system to allow only those members who have met both criteria to remain on the Coaches Registry. If you have not completed the SafeSport course, you will be removed from the Coaches Registry until you have completed the course.

Be mindful that any club found with unlisted coaches or volunteers at their practices may face disciplinary action from their Association. Additionally, the club will not be covered by USATF insurance policies should there be an incident involving an unlisted coach or volunteer.

The planning process needs to start on the Virginia Association Open and Masters Championship. Recommended date would be June 25<sup>th</sup>. We need to secure timing, location, promotion, and other sanctions required. Main goal for this year is to get more athletes in the 19-29 age group involved in the meet.

**Old Business:  
Accreditation**



--We did not pass initial accreditation. --The Association failed to meet 3 of the 10 markers last year. The website has been corrected and is now in compliance.

--2 of those markers have been eliminated or changed. We had enough clubs, and members, but 50% of our members had to belong to a club. That rule was eliminated.

-- We were short in the number of Championships. We are short in the area of LDR. The markers were very specific as to what distances were required. This standard has been modified.

--Jim did write an improvement plan last year, which was accepted, and our status was updated in November, so the Virginia Association was able to vote at the convention.

### **New accreditation markers:**

1. 20 members / 100K Association population.
2. ½ club for 100K Assoc. population (1 club for every 200,000 residents.)
3. Minimum of 20 sanctioned races—this is not as big a problem for us.  
New Championships standard
  - 3 Outdoor: Youth, Open, Masters. Cannot count men and women separately. We have all of these.
  - 3 Racewalk Championships—Y - O - M. We have these
  - 3 Cross Country Championships— Y - O - M. We have these
  - 2 LDL—one event must be 5K+
  - 4 additional championships must be offered we currently have scheduled:
    - one additional race walk (1 hour championship)
    - Howard Nippert's Ultramarathon
    - Indoor Masters Championship
    - at least 1 more is needed

Ray Funkhouser suggested having a JUNIOR age 18-19 in addition to Master's and Open. Upper level of Youth, lower level of Open is hazy.

\*\*\*Next year, new division in USATF JOs, "high school" division—ages 15-18. i will combine the 15-16, and 17-18 age divisions.

Much discussion of IAAF renaming Junior to U-20.

4. Officials—must have minimum of 50 registered officials. We currently have 208.
5. Fiscal solvency—not a problem
6. Communication—2 newsletters per year
7. Website must have Association documents, Annual meeting minutes, tax forms, articles of incorporation , budget, contact information etc (see below)
8. Representation—8 delegates at USATF Annual meeting. We had 9 there. 14 signed up.

### **Website accreditation standards are the key—**

- Logo must be current
  - Membership info
  - Link to membership—listing of member benefits
  - Club membership info—link on bar to this tab
  - Sanction info—links to access form, get info
  - Events calendar—link to this—must include all meets.
    - Association Championships info—registration, location, info
  - Results from past meets; up-to-date results
  - Association by-laws
  - Directory with emails—contact us—all leadership
  - Coaches info
  - Officials info
  - Background check info—SafeSport information and requirements
  - Assoc. financial info—budget and 990 document.
- All of the above for **just one marker**.

Jim reminded us that we need to update our online directory.

Ron Bayton—Youth Chair

Howard Nippert— Mountain, Ultra, Trail (MUT)

CC chair—Annette will be working with Steve Taylor on presenting the Masters/Open CC meet on September 3, in conjunction with the UR Alumni meet

**Online renewals—RENEW CLUB & INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS ONLINE—DO NOT SEND TO the office for Jim. APPLY FOR SANCTIONS ONLINE.**

**SafeSport—Youth club coaches—all officials and coaches MUST pass a background check every year and pass SafeSport class on line or at a clinic, once each Olympiad.**

\*\*\*Club insurance from National invalid if coaches have not passed this SafeSport class and completed the required background check. National has link to the Safesport link.

In addition to the remaining scheduled officials clinics, two special Safesport Clinics were scheduled for Sunday April 3, one at the University of Richmond and one in Hampton, possibly at the Boo Williams Sportsplex.

### **New Business**

--All meet directors should get their meet info to Andy for the website, and Chris McCann for newsletter as soon as you have your meet ready to advertise.

--Future Stars program—partner with Hersheys USATF to encourage community groups to hold track meets, just to encourage little kids to actually join a track team. This is not meant to be another USATF meet. We are trying to promote track and field by making it available to kids who may not have had exposure before.

Hershey--Focus shifted from one big meet to Run, Jump, Throw and mid-level meets.

**Medals for Championships:** Reminder to all Championship directors: Joe Mack is the medals keeper. Let him know your medal needs for medals early—he will order for you.

**Next meeting—September 11, 2016  
2:00-UR, room 245**

Respectfully submitted,  
Annette M. Sirica  
Secretary

