

**USATF ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2016**

Attendance:

Record attendance in recent years for this meeting. Many were visitors or first time attendees. See attached attendance list.

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 2:27 pm by President Jim Holdren

Approval of Minutes of January 2016 meeting

The motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and approved by the membership in attendance

Treasurer's report:

The treasurer's report was given by Jim Holdren.

Income since January 1, 2016	\$37,482.10
Sanctions	\$ 3,390.00
Membership	\$18,004.08
Clubs	\$ 825.00
Officials	\$ 9,313.47
Investment	\$ 1,102.43
Meets	\$ 3,747.12
Misc	\$ 100.00

Expenses since January 1, 2016	\$21,478.35
Office	\$ 608.89
Meet Expense	\$ 2,610.00
Nat Conv 2015	\$ 8,501.16
Officials	\$ 3,465.49
Marketing	\$ 5,500.00
Assoc. Medals	\$ 492.88
Website Main.	\$ 150.00
Misc.	\$ 150.00

Financial reports outstanding:

 Association Master's Open T&F
 Association J.O.

Current Balances:

 Investments \$314,445.10 as of July 31, 2016
 Checking \$ 32,207.81 as of September 9, 2016

Committee Reports:

Race Walk--Ray Funkhouser

Major points:

- * We were saddened to learn of the passing of Hartley Dewey, an active member of the Tidewater Striders who helped host Association and Race Walk Championships
- * last Race Walk Championship of 2016 to be held November 5. It is a 1 Hour Championship hosted by Tidewater Striders.
- * Ray's Olympic Trials officiating assignment included being on the Judging Panel for the Men's and Women's 20km Trials Races. They were held June 30 in Salem OR, starting and finishing in front of the State Capital. The event was well received and received by the local community and newspaper. Clinics were held prior to the meet, and thousands Showed up to cheer the racers.
- * The use of a Pit Lane was added to the Race Walk rules as an option. (IAAF Rule book). A Pit Lane is used when a competitor has received 3 red cards for disqualification. The athlete is directed to Pit Lane for a specified period of time (usually 30 sec. Per 5000 meters of race. The competitor rejoins the race, but will be DQd if s/he receives another red card. It is currently used for World Juniors, and World Youth Games. The IAAF will be reviewing the use of Pit Lane .
- * There has been less than enthusiastic response to Pit Lane use by the USATF race Walk community. Ray was on the staff of the National Junior Race Walk Team that Competed against the Canadian team in Edmonton, AL. Pit Lane was used here.

Officials--Chris McCann and Bill Anderson

- * Clinics are expected to be held in the same locations as previous years
 - CNU to be held Superbowl Sunday
 - Charlottesville, Richmond, and 2 other locations TBD at winter meeting
- * A joint USATF-NCAA clinic will be offered this year
- * ***VHSL clinic will NOT be an on-line clinic this year. Coaches must attend a live Live rules clinic this year. Dates have not been finalized.
- * Clinic fees this year will include officials' Registration for this Olympiad.
- * Chris reminded officials that they may register online anytime after November 11.
- * Badge issue--This was brought up by an attending member. Bill explained that The issue of missing badges and the slowness of getting them from National has not yet been resolved. Bill has asked any official missing a badge to please get in touch with him.

Certification report

- * As of September 11, 2016, the Virginia Association has **281 USATF** certified Officials.

--Apprentice	154 (many of whom will move on to Assoc. level)
--Association	62
--National	37
--Master	28
- * Over the past year, 2 active officials have passed away:
 - Kevin Brooks
 - Hartley Dewey
- * We are about to start a new Olympiad. Except for 70 new apprentices from 2016, all remaining officials are up for recertification. This must be done **before March 31, 2017.**

- * Most USATF officials will have to renew their USATF membership soon. Starting **November 1, this can be done online.** The only exemptions are officials with unexpired multi-year memberships.
- * All final certification requirements will be finalized at the National meeting this Year.
- * USATF is getting new official's shirts. They will be provided free to all certified Officials next year. The color is Navy blue. Details provided after National USATF meeting.
- * Several newly-certified officials have asked Chris for more meet assignments. Chris will send out invites for non-USATF meets that he gets requests from. Several new officials admit to being uncomfortable working some meets due to Their lack of experience. New officials are strongly encouraged to shadow experienced officials whenever possible.
- * Email for Chris McCann--Officials contact: vatrackinfo@gmail.com

Membership--Melissa Johnson

- * Members are reminded to register ONLINE. Members should also specify at the Beginning of the transaction that they are Renewing.
- * Members are reminded to include membership numbers with birth-date verification. (If you forget your PW, click link "Forgot", and this goes right to the National database.)
- * Jim Holdren thanked Melissa for an excellent job processing so many memberships right before JOs.

Men's and Women's Track and Field--Bob Disse and Marquita Mines

- * Level I High School coaches are reminded that recertification is required every 4 years.
- * Discussion on attracting more Open (post-college) athletes to USATF. Ideas include:
 - Provide more opportunities for competition.
 - Ross McDonald suggested looking at CNU and Liberty for inclusion of Open athletes in their meets.
 - Marquita Mines spoke to the point that many college meets already include Open events, and some even Masters events. Getting the word out is essential.

Report submitted by Bob Disse for the period of February, 2016 to Sept. 11, 2016

Main points of the report:

- * The Track and Field Open Championship was held in conjunction with the Masters' Track and Field Championship on August 13, at Maggie Walker High School. Turnout in the Open division was not good, probably due to the late date and busy national 2016 schedule.
- * The Open and Master's Cross Country Championship was held September 3 at Pole Green Park in conjunction with University of Richmond Spider Alumni Open. This was the 3rd year for the collaboration, and the Saturday time schedule works well logistically. The number of entries was affected by the impending hurricane. But the meet is well managed and has a "big time" feel. The

- Association's "THANKS" goes out to Steve Taylor and staff at Univ. of Richmond.
- * Chairman concern:
The Association has excellent presence in Elite, Youth, Collegiate, and Master's but still lags at the Post-Grad (Open) level. The growth of this division will be Priority of discussion at the annual USATF meeting in Orlando.

Chair Bob Disse contact info: coachdisse@gmail.com

Old Business:

1. Accreditation

After the second round of review, President Holdren is pleased to inform the membership the Virginia Association has met ALL standards.

2. Association championships

Any club or individual hosting an Association Championship of any distance or discipline is reminded to please submit the information first to Jim Holdren, then to the website. He has to report these.

3. Safesport

Safesport, a course in concussion and health related topics is **mandated by the IOC**. The course is offered online, as well as at many clinics. Every Youth coach and official must take this course once every Olympiad. Otherwise your club does not receive accreditation or insurance.

Youth coaches are now required to do a background check every year.

To sum up: In order to be accredited and receive insurance, every club must do the following:

- * A yearly background check for ALL coaches. (Cost=\$18.00, of which \$10 is covered by the Association)

- * All coaches must complete the Safesport course once every Olympiad.

**Jim H. has list of currently accredited clubs.

4. Association website

It is up and running, and up to date. The National requirements for website accreditation are an entire page long, and the Association has met all requirements.

Andy Martin, former USATF National office employee, has a company called **Exclamation Services**. The Association pays Andy \$5,500 per year.

5. Newsletter

Chris McCann put out 3 newsletters within the past year. Included are the report from Orlando (Nationals), officials information and info regarding this meeting.

- * Chris is our publicist--please let him know about any events you may be planning. He will advertise them in our newsletter.

6. Sanctions

ALL sanctions are done ONLINE. Please do NOT send them to the Virginia Association office. Send them and payment directly to the National office. You will get your sanction almost immediately.

- * 3rd party certificates can be requested online also.
- * Beginning November 1, sanction fees will increase.
Virginia Association fees are \$50 non USATF member/\$35 USATF member
Virginia Association will not be using a graduated fee, based on number of participants, which is what National USATF does.

New Business

1. Elections

Steve Taylor, University of Richmond head Track and Field Coach served as the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

The following slate was proposed to the membership:

President--Ray Funkhouser
Vice President--Bob Disse
Secretary--Annette Sirica
Treasurer--Jim Holdren
Membership--Melissa Johnson

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations. This slate was **elected** by acclamation.

Nominations continued for Chair positions of the various committees:

Men's Track and Field--Bob Disse
Women's Track and Field--Marquita Mines
LDR--Greg Ross
Youth--Maurice Hutton
Officials--Bill Anderson and Chris McCann
Masters--Ross MacDonald
Race Walk--Chris English

**All positions were unopposed except Youth Chair. All positions except Youth Chair were elected by acclamation.

Nomination from the floor for Youth Chair--Stan Holloway**

A written election was determined to be necessary for the position of Youth Chair.

**Before the election took place, Marquita Mines asked that each candidate introduce himself and explain why he wants the position of Youth Chair and what he can bring to the organization.

Main points from Mr. Holloway:

--Founder and coach of the 057 Track Club
--father of Grant Holloway; trained Grant
--7 of the club's athletes have college scholarships
--club is in Chesapeake area, now has 120 members and 12 coaches
--USATF should have the same attention as AAU
--Histed one indoor and 2 outdoor meets--700-1000 kids
--Sprint and hurdle coach

--More interregional cooperation and competitions are needed. Different regions of the state should look for opportunities to work and compete together .

Main points from Mr. Hunton:

--Coach of the East End Lightning

--Believes membership in clubs is the way to promote growth in the Association for Youth

--Representation in competitions by members throughout the State.

--Determine why the retention rate is lower than it should be--is it the expense of meets?
What can be done about that?

--Invest in all parts of the State--develop teams in all regions. As of now, there are a few concentrated regions of activity.

Questions from the floor

1. What about Home School kids--Can USATF provide meets for them?
--A grass-roots marketing campaign is needed to get the word out to the HS Community.
--Meets and practices can be used for Physical Education hours
2. Middle School kids--how to get the word out to them
--Mr. Holloway answered that it is necessary to reach these kids, as he sees the USATF as a vehicle for helping them get college scholarships.
--Mr. Hutton said that his tactic would be to continue to offer Middle School Clinics. He has begun this by sponsoring a clinic at Competitive Edge in Woodbridge. More of this is needed.
3. What about "walk-up" kids?
Mr. Holloway answered that kids should be able to get a USATF card but without paying a membership fee, so that all kids can afford to compete.
4. What will you do to bring the State together?
--Mr. Hunton suggesting hosting meets in various existing facilities not currently used--JMU, for example.
--At USATF and Youth Committee meetings, the question of where to host meets needs to be determined.
5. How do you account for and how do we rectify the problem of low attendance at Meets?
President Holdren spoke to the fact that whoever wins has to have a plan to increase the numbers at these meets..
****We need more than 1 person to do a 10 person job.**
6. How will you promote Track and Field, as compared to AAU Basketball, for Example?
--Mr. Holloway: Introduce them to scholarship winners and tell them about the opportunities available in T&F.
--My Hunton: Cross sports--show the advantage of T&F to football, basketball Players.

****Following the discussion from the floor, members proposed and discussed having a Co-Chair position, where both candidates would share the responsibilities of the Youth Chair. Ray Funkhouser suggested a committee with representatives from all over the State.**

The focus on academic preparation and time management by athletes also came up. A member commented that it is the job of high school coaches to monitor academic progress.

Steve Taylor, Nominating Chair reminded the members that we are in the middle of a vote, therefore cannot move to have Co-Chairs at this time.

****Jim Holdren commented, as outgoing president of the Association, that this was the best discussion we have ever had on the role of Youth Chair and what should be done to promote T&F to youth. Mr. Holdren praised the fact that the discussion was not about "me", but an enlightened discussion of ideas regarding the Youth program in our Association. President Holdren hopes that all of the attendees will become involved on the Youth Committee, as some very good ideas were presented.**

Vote on the Youth Chair by the membership in attendance:

Maurice Hunton was elected to Youth Chair.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that ballots be destroyed after the election.

Jim H. hopes that both candidates will be involved in the leadership of the Youth program.

Selection of National Convention Delegates:

--Virginia Association can send **14** delegates.

--Last year, only 9 delegates attended the Convention.

--This year, Jim cannot send in the name of a person as a delegate until s/he has registered for the Convention.

--Convention is November 30-December 4, 2016.

--The voting delegation must contain members in all of the categories listed by the USATF. Jim H. also wants them to be **ACTIVE** members of the Association.

The following were selected as delegates due to them being Committee Chairs or Officers:

Jim Holdren

Bill Anderson

Ray Funkhouser

Chris McCann

Bob Disse

Maurice Hunton

Ross MacDonald

Howard Nippert

Marquita Mines

Steve Taylor

The last delegates (4) will be decided by the Executive Committee: (Motion by Steve Taylor, seconded, passed by the membership.)

Jon Mols
Tony Vaughn
Darrell Harris
Jack Wickham
Bernard Comer
Bill Boyd
Melody Hundley

**If not selected for delegates, any of these members may attend the Convention as Alternates.

**Ray F. suggested a deadline for Registration for the Convention of November 1.

New Committee proposed:

Steve Taylor moved that Howard Nippert be appointed to chair a new committee--the Mountain, Ultra, and Trail Running Committee.

Reimbursement structure for delegates attending the Convention (Orlando).

Bill Anderson first moved that delegates be reimbursed \$1000 each, but after discussion of reimbursement from previous years, amended his motion to **\$1200 per delegate. This was passed by the membership.**

Delegates must attend the final day. Delegates wishing reimbursement must submit a report of their Convention activities and receipts by DECEMBER 31, 2016.

**A motion was made and seconded to include alternates in the reimbursement. Cap at 18.

This motion was passed by the membership.

Timing System

Joe Mack presented a proposal to purchase an automatic timing system for use by member clubs at meets.

To answer the question of conflicting meets, the following was proposed:

- Association meets take precedence
- a calendar be prepared where meets directors can sign up for the timers.

A motion was made to discuss this issue further at the next meeting. All facts and figures to be presented then. Motion passed by membership.

Information will also be put on the website for member review.

See report below

Meets at JMU

The JMU Track and Field coach, Tai Bingham (sp?) presented the case for hosting meets at JMU. 9 lane track, 2 javelin runways, 2 High Jumps, 2 Discus cages, 2 Shot Put circles.

Athlete Reimbursement for JO Nationals

*****The 17-18 year old team from Richmond Track Club were National Champions!**

Motions were made for reimbursements of \$300 per athlete, then \$200 per athlete. The motion was finally amended to \$200 for track champs/\$150 for CC champs.

**This was passed by the membership.

Next Meeting:

February 12, 2:00 pm

University of Richmond

Roon TBD

ADDENDUM:

--Attendance list

--Awards report/Timing system

Attendance list:

Jim Holdren--President

Ray Funkhouser--VP/Race Walk Chair

Annette Sirica--Secretary

Marquita Mines--Women's Open Chair

Bob Disse--Men's Open Chair

Chris McCann--Official's Chair

Ross McDonald--Master's Chair

Matt Walton

Bill Boyd

Steve Taylor--Nominations Chair

Howard Nippert

Deborah Snagg

Chris McBeath

Tony Vaughn

Chris English--LDR Chair

Maurice Hunter--Youth Chair

Jack Wickens

Joe Mack

Bill Boyd

Stan Holloway

Walter Deter (?) (could not read name)

Keenan Galloway

Kenneth Jasey

Shahida Jackson

William Thombs

Malcolm Gaddy

Shaytorria Skinner
Kenneth Sweet
Tara Fuller
Milton Bunch
Ta' Frias
Karen Stowers
Michael Rose
Marsha Rose
Darrell Harris
Eugene Scott, Jr.
John L. Perrin
Anthony Calliot (?)
Desi Wynter
Vince Wilson
Stephen Durrant
Jordan Levitan
Brian Woolfolk
Eddie McCall
Monte Evans
Troy Gooden
Kerry Fisher
John Pryor
Bernard Comer
C. N. Savage
Terry Thomas
Kimberly Toms
Lakia Godfrey
Jessica Pope
Herbert lavender

AWARDS REPORT

Submitted by Joe Mack--Awards Chair

Awards have been ordered and will be available for this coming seasons. Anyone needing awards for a Championship meet must inform the Association President at least one month in advance in order to insure sufficient quantity. Information required will include:

- Event title
- Event date
- Sanction date
- Estimated number of participants
- Point of contact for the event

Award and reimbursement committee;

A committee formed to review reimbursement policies for the Association member athletes who travel to, compete in, and place (1st, 2nd, 3rd) in National Championship events.

Co-chairs of the committee are Jim Holdren and Joe Mack. Also included:

Marquita Mines	Women's Open Chair
Bob Disse	Men's Open Chair
Keith Witherspoon	Masters' representative
Tom Nadeau	Association Timing Coordinator
Youth Chair	
Distance Chair	

***Anyone else interested in being a part of this committee, please contact either Joe Mack or Jim Holdren.

Timing System Purchase

The Association would like to purchase a timing system for use in the coming season. Cost will be **\$17,500.00**. This purchase would be managed by our Timing Coordinator, Tom Nadeau, who will also have the responsibility of training a timing crew to be available as needed.