



USATF-VIRGINIA ANNUAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 2:08pm.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the February, 2022 meeting were accepted with no revisions.

Treasurer's Report--Jim Holdren

Treasurer's Report Feb. 13, 2022

2021 Summary	2021	2020
Income deposited	\$ 25,141.18	\$ 58,507.64
Sanctions, Memberships, Clubs	\$ 25,141.18	\$ 17,900.23
Awards Banquet	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,670.00
Association Grant	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,750.00
Officials	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,825.00
Meets	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,066.25
Cashed CD (Investment)	\$ 0.00	\$ 29,343.23
Misc	\$ 0.00	\$ 952.93
 Expenses paid	 \$ 36,046.97	 \$ 37,340.97
Office	\$ 1,951.63	\$ 7,527.11
Meet Exp.	\$ 3,175.28	\$ 6,370.00
Travel/Conv	\$ 970.00	\$ 1,540.00
Athlete support	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 200.00
Official's Training	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,579.00
Marketing/Communication	\$ 10,440.00	\$ 15,125.00
Assoc. Awards	\$ 0.00	\$ 993.21
Awards banquet	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,415.55
Misc.	\$ 0.00	\$ 631.10
 Income deposited since Jan 1 2022	 \$ 0.00	
Sanctions, Memberships, Clubs	\$ 0.00	
 Expenses paid since Jan 1, 2022		\$936.23
Travel Convention	\$ 936.23	

Current Balances: Jan. 31, 2022

Investments	\$ 474,005.80 as of Jan. 31, 2022
Checking	\$ 22,924.93 as of Jan. 31, 2022
Total	\$ 496,931.73 as of Jan. 31, 2022

President's Report

–Accreditation–Virginia Association is accredited this year. Ray expressed concern for the upcoming year(s), as the National office is requiring a large number of Association Championships in very specific areas. We, as an Association, need to increase our number of championships.

Although our Association does a number of things “above and beyond” the requirements for National accreditation (i.e. financial support to athletes going to Nationals, Awards banquet) these do not fit into one of the specific areas listed for accreditation. We do, however, plan to continue with these and other events, as they are advantageous to our membership.

–Our Membership Growth Grant–Membership is up 7% as of Sept. 21, 2022 compared to September last year. For comparison:

2017–2,509 members

2018–2,051 members

2020–1415 members

2021–1265 members

2022–1357 members

Although the numbers are moving in the right direction, there is still a lot of work to be done.

Activities paid for by grant money included the World Championships watch party at University of Richmond stadium. A high school meet was held earlier, and most athletes stayed to watch the meet. Wristbands and other USATF tokens were distributed to all attending. This event came in well under budget thanks to Steve Taylor arranging for the watch party to occur at UR. (Budgeted \$2000, actual cost was \$800).

We need to find ways to spend the rest of this money. Some projects include the following

–Coaching scholarships for USATF Levels 1 and !! particularly. Coaches should be Encouraged to join USATF

–A flier has been created for the Richmond Marathon Expo. Athlete pictures and Relevant contact information on the flier.

–Purchased another tent–to be used at Expos and Nationals

Annual Meeting–is in person this year. Orlando, FL Dec. 1-5, 2022

3-Tier official/coach requirements

According to the National by-laws, officers, chairs, officials, coaches must have the following:

–membership up to date

–background check by Safe Sport

–completion of SafeSport training course–the introductory course and yearly update courses

Committee Reports

Racewalking–Ray

Sunday Oct. 2–RW 1 Hour Championships on the track at Alexandria High School. Co-sponsored with Potomac Valley (Event was canceled due to storms.)

A Racewalk officiating clinic was held today prior to this meeting. This is the first in a series.

Master's

Mens and Women's Indoor Virginia Association Championships to be held February 11 at Boo Williams track in Hampton.

Youth–Maurice

Potential–Youth Virginia Association JO Cross Country Championships to be held November 19 at Pole Green Park, Hanover County.

There is a problem with this meet as Jim Holdren is unable to host the meet this year. Association will approach Neill Matthews at Atlee High School to possibly take this over.

LDR–Jonathan Wilson

Main Overall objectives:

Host/hold LDR Championship Race 2022

Talk with Ray to learn more about the races in the past years used for Championships.

Talk with others to see what distances are commonly used for Championship Races

Improve LDR participation and awareness in the running community

Work to host and have road races for 2022, 23, and 24

Collaborate with other committee chairs for races, events, marketing

Continue to talk with Ray, and the chairs for LDR Country (Bob Disse) and LDR Mountain, Trail, and Ultra (Howard Nippert) to continue to learn better understanding of my role, goals, and objectives for LDR.

Specific events/races:

Championship Race

Be sure to help/work to host 2022 LDR Championship Race

Build off the WVA Regional Completion Race (10K race in Clarksburg, WVA)

Reach out to be better prepared for 2023 race

Reach out and make contact with Karl Hadfield

Improve selection Process for VA team (2 x male, females)

What have we used in the past? Pro's and cons

Possible use this race as an Association championships?

Also a chance/opportunity to gain interest from other runners in other states

This race will include the 5 states bordering WVU

Cross Country Festival 23 and 24

How can I help

How can LDR help

Men's and Women's Track and Field

Our Association did not have a sufficient number of Championships this year.

A late Fall meet is possible.

The Indoor Championship facility needs to be booked and sanctioned very soon.

Outdoor Nationals at Pittsburgh next Summer.

Report from the Women's Commission—Marquita Mines

We hope you have an opportunity to present the incredible work of the Commission at your fall association meetings. Below is a list of talking points to support your efforts:

- WC Mission/Vision: To empower women in all aspects of track and field by identifying barriers and creating solutions to promote gender equity and diversity. We will highlight accomplishments and provide resources to further skill sets and leadership opportunities for women in track and field.
- WC has been helping to promote Coaching Matters which is a World Athletics event organized by the Global Athletics Coaching Academy, which is World Athletics dedicated Coaching Body. Earlier this month April Smith who is the Vice President of the United States Women's Track Coaches Association (USWTCA) was a presenter. I will past any of the future dates for these Coaching Academies along to Ray and Andy to share with the association.
- Success Stories that showcase Women in Athletics that are active and deserving of recognition in their association (see link below) **I am still looking for a female with in the VAUSATF Association to highlight. Please let me know of some who have made huge difference on the Association Level and National Level**
- WC produced a unique video project showcasing the history of the women's 400m hurdles. This documentary will be presented at the Annual meeting in Dec.
- WC released its current video project on Para Athletics in August 2022 (see link below). The unveiling of the final video project for 2022 will be presented at the Annual Meeting in December.

Officials—Nicky Willis

Virginia Association has 145 valid and up-to-date officials.

16 new apprentice level officials have joined just this year.

127 officials previously registered have either retired or are not up to date on screening membership or training.

9 officials have started the recertificatiion process. We could have as many as 50 new officials in the pipeline.

***In terms of our ranking within all associatiions in USATF, Virginia is #6 in number of officials, and #4 of 57 associations in Association level and new officials.

A new website is available for officials to order clothes and equipment.

A concern about Virginia Association officials: Many of the officials in the Western part of the state are more tied into West Virginia USATF than our Association. The reason can be that they

receive more communication from the WV association. WV does a good job of soliciting officials. These officials in the western part of the state say that they do not receive emails and communications from our Association.

MUT

We are still looking for someone to take over this committee chair.

Membership

Numbers have been reported in the President's report

Coaches Education—Shawn Venable

Since Covid our coaching education offerings have been online (via zoom). In April 2022, we (USATF Coaching Education Committee) decided to try a return to in-person schools on a limited, controlled basis. In summer 2022 we offered 8 in-person Level 1 courses around the country in the locations that had been most successful prior to Covid. We were able to secure one of those in person courses in Lorton, VA on August 6-7 and had 31 coaches attend the course. It was a great success thanks to the USATF-Virginia staff and specifically Maurice Hutton. Of the 8 in-person Level 1 courses USATF offered this summer, our Level 1 course in Virginia was the only to have over 25 attendees. Because of the low enrollment numbers for in-person Level 1 courses we will be returning to the Zoom format moving forward. We have 6 more Zoom Level 1's scheduled before the end of 2022.

We also hosted an in-person Level 2 on July 5-9 in Indianapolis, IN. 95 coaches attended the course and at least 3 of those coaches were from VA.

Additionally, we are offering a new online weekend Level 2 we're calling the executive format. The course time is every Sunday afternoon from 2-6pm, running from September 25- November 6, 2022 (7 weeks total).

We will not be doing the Zoom Level 2 over the Christmas break as we have for the last 4 years but will be returning in-person for the July 2023 Level 2 course.

Finally, I am hosting a "Learn-By-Do" Coaches Clinic and Track "Sprint" Camp at Liberty University on Saturday, November 5, 2022. Maurice Hutton and I are also discussing the possibility of an online format for that camp as well.

If you need any information please let me know,

Shawn Venable

Jumps & Hurdles Coach

Liberty University

USATF-VA Coaching Education Chair

918-902-2913 (Cell)

Safe Sport–Annette Sirica

The new USATF Safe Sport liason is Bailee Cecil. She is the third one in the past couple of years. She will facilitate monthly Zoom meetings beginning October 5.

Upcoming events

National Cross Country Championships will be held at Pole Green Park on January 21, 2023.

Steve Taylor has been instrumental in planning and obtaining the bid for this event. Richmond Tourism has been very helpful with logistical planning. Sportsbackers will be providing equipment, large clocks and other supplies.

This event will draw runners from all over the nation, Open and Masters Championships as well as a lot of college runners whose coaches bring them to compete. The Armed Forces Cross Country Championship will also be part of this event.

**National team selection for the World Championships will occur at this meet.

Old Business

Championships

This is a problem, and the Association definitely needs to host more of them. Our biggest challenge in the road-race championships because so many more options exist for road racing, including RRCA and local races.

Association event reporting

Andy (Exclamation Services) does an excellent job with this for our Association. The advertising and publicity are very good.

We need to utilize our top-tier athletes much more effectively, i.e Grant Holloway, Noah Lyles. The problem is that these athletes do not live or train in Virginia, and belong to Associations where they do. (i.e.Georgia, Oregon)

Event reporting requirements

If sanctioned by USATF, events will require a post-event report. (ALL events should be sanctioned by USATF)

***Every event sponsor must pass a USATF background check.

New Business

Selection of delegates to the Annual Meeting–Dec. 1-5, 2022 in Orlando FL

The following have agreed to be delegates:

Ray Funkhouser
Joe Currico
Nicky Willis
Steve Taylor
Marquita Mines
Karen Stowers
Britney James

We do have at least one more delegate slot.

Motion: \$1600 reimbursement per delegate to help cover travel, hotel and registration costs.

Motion seconded

Motion approved (unanimous vote)

Those applying for reimbursement must provide a written report on all meetings that they attended. The final voting meeting is crucial and must be attended.

Our delegation guidelines require that $\frac{1}{3}$ of the delegates must be athletes, $\frac{1}{3}$ coaches, and $\frac{1}{3}$ officers, officials and members.

Laws and Legislation update

A compromise and carve-out were agreed to by parties involved.

The Board agreed that our elected USATF president will be the Board Chair unless $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Board members vote against it.

Carve-out—Membership votes on an issue will drive policy. Fiduciary concerns will be handled by the Board.

This may cause an issue deciding where a particular item belongs— Membership or Board.

Awards Banquet

We did not have one last year, in 2022 because the pandemic seriously impacted the number of competitions and number of participants. Athletes, however, were selected.

We would like to have one in 2023 in connection with our February Membership Meeting on Feb. 12, 2023. This is also the same weekend that the Master's Indoor Championships are happening at Boo Williams Sportsplex. (Feb. 11)

Planning needs to begin—looking at venues, how many potentially will attend. This is a valuable event to recognize our athletes.

Exclamation Services (Andy)

Motion: Increase our contract to \$15,000 (from \$10,000) to cover additional responsibilities, particularly the banquet.

Motion seconded.

Motion approved (unanimous vote)

Rationale: Andy has gone above and beyond what his contract calls for in helping our Association. Exclamation Services is currently cutting back on the number of Associations that they will work for, but have indicated that they would like to keep the Virginia Association as clients. Andy could also help with membership, committees, sanctions, etc. Exclamation Services has also been very helpful in dealing with USATF branding issues.

Reimbursement for those attending JO Cross Country Championships

Jim Holdren asked about this. A reimbursement of \$200 was approved for JO Cross Country participants at the February meeting. .

Meeting adjourned 3:53pm.

Next meeting—2:00pm February 12.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette M. Sirica
Secretary—USATF Virginia Association