

USATF - New England Annual Meeting 2019

Brandeis University, Gosman Sports Center, Waltham, MA

Sunday, September 22, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm

A quorum was established by noting that 29 members had signed the sign-in sheet at that time. Within minutes another 6 members arrived. Final count attending the meeting was 36 members, 1 non-member.

President's Opening Remarks

This is Chris Pasko's last year as President due to term limits. Over the last three years, he is proud of the increase in participation specifically in Track & Field. Our social media reach is also increasing. We have had a slew of NE athletes setting records in the past few months and examples were noted. The association hopes to host at least two National Championships in 2020. We are at the 6,000 member mark (we crossed above it on the day of the meeting). We are slightly behind last year's membership numbers but holding our own as membership nationally is down by much more.

We worked hard on the SafeSport initiative this year.

Chris is spending a lot of time in his position on the USATF board. The open independent director position was recently filled with a former classmate of his, Dolf Berle, of TopGolf. USATF is hosting the T&F World Championships in 2021 (2019 was in Doha, Qatar), and this is our one shot to really grow the sport.

We have compiled historical JO Track records to go up on the website to complement the many other series of New England records already there. We will continue to work on adding other historical meet results. The year 2019 will be a record year for us in awarding prize money to clubs and individuals. We've invested a lot of money into growing the sport and our deficit is decreasing from last year. The new Treasurer, Dave Lapierre, has done a great job taking over from Stephen Peckiconis. For next year we need to focus on getting some young people involved next year.

Katie Adams has done an amazing job in recharging our Coaches Education offerings. We are now a flagship in the country and have caught up on the backlog of demand for coaching clinics. We will not bid next year for a Level 2 Coaching school. We will bid for a XC Specialist coaching clinic.

Chris thanked retiring board members. These are Alexander Engel, Sarah Thornton, Alex Ivanov, and Jeff Rockwood

Chris noted that he has submitted several Bylaw changes to the USATF Bylaw committee for voting on in December at the USATF Annual Meeting. He notes that membership dues will be increasing soon. While membership numbers are down for USATF, that is true of many other sports across the country.

Treasurer's Report – http://bit.ly/USATFNE_TreasurersReport_Sept2019

New Treasurer Dave Lapierre spoke. He took over the Treasurer's role in January after being approved in a vote by the board. A detailed printed treasurer's report is available on the table outside the room. Over the next year he hopes to get into more high-level issues as he's now more comfortable in the basics of the position. This includes putting together more reports for the board and sports chairs. He noted that sanction income has recovered somewhat from the big dip in 2018. Tax filing of the Form 990 is upcoming on his schedule. He noted that we have purchased more USATF-NE promotional materials for visibility at events as well as using higher quality NE Runner magazine ads.

Managing Director's Report – Link to report is below under Handouts.

Steve Vaitones gave an overview of last year's membership and event statistics as well as what's coming up in 2020.

Reports by Officers and Sports Committee Chairs

Printed reports from several committee chairs were available for pickup by attendees.

There was no Unfinished Business.

There was no New Business.

Elections started at 5:14pm

This is an odd-numbered year so only sports chair positions are contested. Chris Pasko read the list of candidates for sports chairs.

- Men's Long Distance Running - Scott Mindel, CMS (Incumbent)
- Women's Long Distance Running- Amanda Watters, BAA (Incumbent)
- Masters Long Distance Running - Stephen Viegas, NE 65+ RC (Incumbent)
- Masters Track & Field - Mike Travers, Unattached (Incumbent)
- Open Track & Field - NONE
- Cross Country - Chris Wargo, HFC Striders (Incumbent)
- Mountain / Ultra / Trail - Paul Kirsch, acidotic RACING (Incumbent)
- Race Walking - Justin Kuo, NE Walkers (Incumbent)
- Youth Athletics - Dave Teszler, Heartbreak Hill Striders (current Athlete Rep)

There is only one nominee for each position, except for Open Track & Field, which has no candidates. Floor was opened for additional nominations. There were none.

Motioned: To accept sports chairs nominations list as noted above, in bulk. Seconded. Approved unanimously.

Motioned: To close nominations. Seconded. Approved unanimously.

Motioned: To accept these candidates for sports committee chairs by consent of this body. Seconded. Discussion opened. None. Approved unanimously.

Voting for three (3) Athlete Representatives (Athlete Rep)

There are no nominations for Athlete Rep on the Agenda coming into the meeting. Nominations are opened. Chris Pasko states that Tommy Mazza (not in attendance) has expressed interest. He has been our marketing intern for the last 15 months, graduated college in June, and now working locally.

Justin Kuo nominates Tommy Mazza. Tommy is a member of Greater Boston Track Club. Seconded.

Mike Travers nominates John Oleski. John competes for Mass Velocity Track Club and is a former board member, including as Vice President. Seconded.

Joe Tranchita nominates Jack Wozek. Jack is not in attendance. Jack is a youth coach for Waltham Track Club and competes for Heartbreak Hill Striders.

Motioned: To close nominations. Seconded. Approved unanimously.

Motioned: To accept this slate of three nominations for three open positions. Seconded. Approved unanimously.

Special Presentations

Mike Travers gave a brief overview of our Grants program, which has three due dates during the year and awarded \$4,100 during the last 12 months. Also of note is that last year's presenter, Rebecca Breslow, MD, is in Doha, Qatar working on the USA medical team at the IAAF World Championships.

USATF Annual Meeting in Reno, NV on December 5-8

We discussed the pros and cons of having the meeting in Reno. Travel will require a good part of a day. The event hotel is not on the main strip in Reno. Will be a little more expensive than in recent years. We are working on increasing the reimbursement amount to help cover the extra costs.

USATF Annual Meeting Delegates Voting

Next step is to select voting delegates to the Annual Meeting in Reno NV. This is a working meeting. A ballot is handed out to all members in attendance which contains 14 pre-printed nominations plus blank lines for write-ins. USATF-NE has 18 slots for annual meeting delegates in 2019 based on surpassing 6,000 members today.

The following four people were nominated from the floor to be added as write-ins on your printed ballots.

John Oleski, new Athlete Rep

Jack Wozek, new Athlete Rep

Joe Bullock, NE certified official

Dennis Vienneau, NE certified official

Motion to close nominations, passes unanimously. Chris Wargo is assigned the task of counting votes.

Note that if all 18 don't attend, we have some other members attending the meeting who can vote as NE Delegates. Two are Kathy Nary and Rebecca Breslow.

Further discussion of the USATF Annual Meeting. Full reimbursement by the association requires you to be there for Sunday morning's votes. Also noted that Vin Lananna's hearing to remove his suspension as President is scheduled for October 21, so he could be presiding President at the meeting in December.

Motion to adjourn. Seconded. Motion passes. **Meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm.**

Submitted by Stephen Peckiconis, USATF-NE Association Secretary

Handouts were provided by the following people:

Steve Vaitones, Managing Director

Dave Lapierre, Treasurer

Scott Mindel, Men's LDR

Steve Viegas, Masters' LDR

Dave Teszler, Youth Chair

http://www.newengland.usatf.org/USATF_ASSOC_2/files/89/897bfa7c-a841-4819-8192-f03b546b8943.pdf

USATF Annual Meeting Delegate Voting Slate

The first 14 delegates listed are on the original ballot, the next four are write-ins. There were 34 ballots returned by voting members and every candidate received at least 28 votes.

1. Laurie Boemker - Official
2. Margaret Fox – Athlete/Coach
3. Bob Gidari - Official
4. Sydney Henthorn - Coach
5. Justin Kuo
6. Stephen Peckiconis
7. Larry Libow
8. Tommy Mazza
9. Chris Pasko – Coach
10. Jeff Rockwood -Coach
11. Dave Teszler – Coach/Athlete
12. Mike Travers - Athlete
13. Steve Vaitones
14. Stephen Viegas – Athlete

15. John Oleski - Athlete
16. Jack Wozek - Coach
17. Joe Bullock - Official
18. Dennis Vienneau - Official