

USA Track & Field - New England Board Meeting

USATF-NE Office
Monday, June 4, 2018

Board members present: Tom Derderian, Shaun Dever, Alex Engel, Maggie Fox, Alex Ivanov, Justin Kuo, Michael McGrane, Sasha Mindel, Chris Pasko, Stephen Peckiconis, Jeff Rockwood, Mike Travers.

Present via conference call: Katie Adams, Laurie Boemker, Jen Mortimer, Gordon MacFarland, Amanda Wright.

Employees Present: Sarah May & Steve Vaitones.

6:32 President's Opening Remarks - Overview of agenda. Sarah is leaving us for a full-time job. We will miss her. Her last day is June 15. We will discuss our next steps at the end of tonight's meeting.

- Motion was presented by Justin Kuo
May Meeting Minutes to be approved.
- Motion Seconded by Alex Ivanov
- **Motion Passed** with 1 No and 1 abstention.

Racewalking Championship Justin Kuo

This Sunday, June 10, at 9am at the Staples Corporate Park in Framingham. There are just under 30 people registered currently. No sponsors. There will be tech shirts. Several elite racewalkers will be competing.

Relay Meet Chris Pasko

Super sprint Medley

Eliminated the 4x800 record race and the 4xmile.

Treasurer's Report Stephen Peckiconis

Sanctions are down \$2500 in the last 2 months. The number of sections and number of members are up, but the dollar amount for sanctions and membership is down. We are still in line to receive the 2nd sanctions incentive of \$5,000. Numbers of sanctions are going down both Nationally and within our Association. Stephen is hopeful that we will stay at the same number of sanctions next year, but we may need to raise our fees.

Managing Directors' Report Steve Vaitones

See emailed report. JO's will be minimally efficient with the number of officials. We may be down a little from last year, but of the people that responded they are all good people. Steve and Laurie will reach out to some of the newly certified officials again. Master's meet will need some more Throws Officials. New contact at Holy Cross (on the job since April 18). He was unaware of our upcoming events and was concerned about the timeline that insurance paperwork was coming in. There will be an increase in fees because he has a different way of doing things. 2 calls about the Mayor's Cup, BAA's new COO is looking for new ways for sustainability and focus group on general event presentation, 1 towards youth events and high schools and the other for open events.

Discussion on how race series are insular and more concerned with their own objectives. JO's are Saturday June 16, anyone that can help out at the administration area please email Alex Ivanov.

Marketing Coordinator's Report Sarah May

See emailed report. Over 60 athletes are registered for the ATR series. Still looking for a sponsor for the Relay Meet, Project Repat fell through. Reaching out to other physical therapy companies. Promoting flyers. Nominees for May Athlete of the Month are Sam Welsh - broke 39 yr old discus record and won div III prep school record. and Gabby Thomas Harvard, qualified in NCAA finals in 100 and 200, NorthEast Runner of the Year. Sam Welsh won by majority vote.

Coaching Education Update Katie Adams

Level I at Regis this weekend. Poor attendance (34) due to late location. Waiting for Level II bid package for 2019. Discussion about how if we want to target youth and high school coaches we need to keep in mind the youth schedule. Currently the course is too close to the JO's.

Officials Committee Update Laurie Boemker

3 more officials this past month, we are at 160. Many officials are waiting to complete Safesport. Online officials Apprentice certifications are working great and making it much easier for officials chairs. they are working on the Associations level. Many new england officials are working on the National level.

Track Update Jeff Rockwood & Mike Travers

Masters East Regional Championship on July 7- entries open for several weeks, furthest entry is from FL. Still needs 2-3 people for registration and awards 9-2pm. 1 woman entered 14 events.

Jeff has contacted clubs outside New England to get entrants at Open and Relay meet. Interest from Garden State in NJ and Extreme Velocity in Albany.

Friday Night Lights - Jason Ayr has reached out and asked if we would like to pay \$400 to be an official sponsor of the meet and be able to call it the USATF-NE 10K Championship. The 1st year we waived the association portion of sanction fees (about 25% of the fee). Last year they paid for the sanction. Conflict of interest concerns about the appearance of putting \$400 into a former board members pockets. Suggestion to counter with an offer to subsidize some prize money, but still requiring sanction fee. In the past we have struggled to get our branding on race paperwork and social media presence. Maybe having a separate New England category. Decision: we would like to offer a 10K championship. SO, Chris will reach out to Jason (he will copy Shaun) and propose \$400 in New England based prize money. \$100 each for Top Open (male and female) and Top Age Graded (male and female).

ATR Update Chris Pasko

We are currently at 4 times the number of people that participated last year. Off to a good start.

USATF-NE Annual Meeting Chris Pasko

Chris will look into the Wellesley College Club. Sundays September 23 and 30 are tentative dates. We should expect 100-175 people. We will look into the Waltham Marriott again. Last year cost us \$3,600 to rent the space. Sarah Thornton will look into some locations.

National Office Update Chris Pasko & Steve Vaitones

National sent an email apologizing for the technical issues with the website to Association Presidents. Access has been difficult for many months and it has been growing worse. National knew that they were not going to do anything and that they couldn't do anything because the version of the website that we bought into is about 4 versions too old and customizations were done that are not compatible with new updates. Mention of how these issues affect our vulnerability to account information being hacked. It will be months before anything gets resolved. Coaches can't reach Safesport or background screening. This effects all aspects of the organization top to bottom. There is nothing on the website related to clubs that says anything about credentials and Safesport except with youth specific clubs. There is no 1 document with information and guidelines. A message went out last week that was supposed to go only to Youth clubs, but it went to Open clubs as well. Is sent a list of individuals who are not Safesport compliant. National says that "Volunteers" includes the officers of clubs. National promised an apology message. They then sent the apology notice late Friday afternoon. For adults, now coaches will be required to be Safesport certified, but there is no description of what a coach is. Steve sent an email to National. Youth clubs have an unrealistic timeline since members are unable to complete the certification due to technical issues. This will mean that clubs will start taking the names of their officers, except their club contact, off of their websites.

Fitchburg State students who help during the JO's are part of renting the facility. We should have a statement that they sign that says that they are aware of Safesport and what it entails. There is no plan to offer a discounted membership benefit for certification. In regards to Safesport Zone signage, National is unresponsive.

Executive Session

- Motion was presented by Mike Travers

To authorize Chris Pasko to move ahead with his search for a person to work part time until Labor Day as a fill-in position.

- Motion Seconded by Maggie Fox
- **Motion Passed** with 2 abstentions.

8:31 Meeting adjourned.