

# USA Track & Field - New England Board Meeting

USATF-NE Office  
Monday, April 2, 2018

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Board members present: Shaun Dever, Alex Engel, Maggie Fox, Alex Ivanov, Justin Kuo, Sasha Mindel, Scott Mindel, Chris Pasko, Stephen Peckiconis, Mike Travers.

Present via conference call: Katie Adams, Laurie Boemker, Jen Mortimer, Sarah Thornton, Gordon MacFarland, Michael Mcgrane, Amanda Wright

Employees Present: Sarah May & Steve Vaitones.

## **6:32 President's Opening Remarks** - Overview of agenda.

- Motion was presented by Justin Kuo  
February Meeting Minutes to be approved.
- Motion Seconded by Mike Travers
- **Motion Passed** unanimously.
  
- Motion was presented by Mike Travers  
March Meeting Minutes to be approved.
- Motion Seconded Shaun Dever
- **Motion Passed** with 2 nay.

Stephen will send Maggie comments for March Minutes.

## **Treasurer's Report** Stephen Peckiconis

Waltham Youth Track Club is single handedly adding \$2,500 to our membership revenue. Facilities rental costs have gone up this year. Balance sheet Net Equity is still at \$493,000.

## **Managing Directors' Report** Steve Vaitones

See emailed report. He has had discussions with the Associations Executive Committee pertaining to Safe Sport.

## **Marketing Coordinator's Report** Sarah May

See emailed report. She has been working on the ATR series sponsorship proposal and will start to work on the Relay Meet. ATR now has its own logo and section of the webpage. Athlete of the Month nominations: Peyton Rollins of Cambridge Jets and Jackie Gaughan of Granite State Flash. Rollins won the Youth Indoor Nationals 13-14 year old 55m hurdles with a new meet record. Gaughan broke Lynn Jennings 40 year long New England record in the 2 mile in 10:09.20. She then ran the 9th fastest high school indoor 5K time to win the National Scholastic Championships and placed 3rd in the 2 mile.

Gaughan - 8

Rollins - 4

Jackie Gaughan was voted March Athlete of the Month.

**Coaching Education Update** Katie Adams

Trying to find a new location for the Level I school in June since it can no longer be held at Wellesley College due to their Alumni Weekend being held on the same date.

**Officials Committee Update** Steve Vaitones

Steady flow of new officials being approved every week. USATF has no connection with NCAA college meets so there should be no college-specific questions on the officials exam. Laurie is currently working on this. Good job Laurie for communicating so well!

**Safe Sport Update** Steve Vaitones

All volunteers, including board members need to take Safe Sport. Congress is involved now, steps need to be taken to have safety measures taken in youth sports. Congressional and USOC requirements say that it needs to be ....

This applies to all events that the USATF-NE Association is the sole manager of. The current Safe Sport online course is not youth-specific so there are concerns with having high school volunteers and other youth members taking this course. National now wants a list of names and USATF membership numbers of all volunteers working at events. There are penalties for not complying. There are a number of Associations that have put their Youth and Open events on hold until they know exactly what the penalties are and how they are enforced. Right now we have a "hand shake agreement" with Fitchburg State University that all volunteers for the JOs will have taken Safe Sport. This is an increase of \$3,000 in meet expenses for USATF-NE to pay for USATF memberships and for volunteers to take Safe Sport. Steve will reach out to Jellison (sp?) We need to hire more officials, more student volunteers, and raise entry fees by \$2 per event at JOs.

The USATF-NE Relay Meet will be at Wellesley College.

Holy Cross Masters East Region Championship will be reducing the number of events and spreading out the events so there is less overlap. They will have to increase entry fees by ~\$5 per entry to pay the officials more. We will put the Safe Sport Exhibit A, as written by National, language in the contract. National is hiring a new employee to specifically handle Safe Sport. Alex has drafted a letter to send to the youth clubs informing them of the change.

**Vin Lananna Update** Chris Pasko

David Watkins is leading the charge for Associations to file a grievance against National in defense of Vin. Chris suggested shortening the grievance. Perhaps Oregon should be the Association leading the charge since Vin is not a member of our association. Chris will read the by-laws before next month's board meeting, but right now we have a lot on our plates. Chris suggests that the other board members read the grievance and the by laws and become more informed before we make any moves.

**Marketing Survey**

**Takeaways** Question 6 & 7 -

Suggestions to encourage people to join USATF-NE: Discounted Gear, Discounted Races, Scholarships, Grants, and Prize Money

Where do you get the news from? Older users of social media prefer Facebook to Twitter. (50-59 was the largest age group answering survey questions).

Q11 How can we improve the events we host? #1 timely results. #2 events are fine.

Increase of prize money only helps the people that are winning, whereas discounting everything else helps all the general entrants.

Holy Cross meet can be the test case for posting results online quickly. Is this an extra feature the timing company offers and how much will it cost?

Q8 50% interested in a level II coaching school, 41% interested in becoming officials.

### **LDR Update** Scott Mindel

The last 2 years have seen a drastic increase in membership participation at LDR events. He has been in contact with Adirondack, Connecticut, and a little bit with Maine about having a multi-association championship at the bridge of Flowers (now an 8K) in August. There will be All-Star Teams (5 best New England vs 5 best Connecticut vs 5 best Maine).

### **Track Update**

Outdoor Club Nationals is not taking place this year. Suggested to have it take place every 2 years, but some think that means it's dead. One less reason to have a USATF membership.

### **Relay Update**

Chris will work with Jeff to create some more "fun" races. Kill the 4xmile. Maybe add a sprint or distance medley. Open to suggestions.

### **Other Items**

2017 LDR awards were given out at Frank Nealon. More than half of recipients were there to receive their awards and only 3 awards were not picked up.

April 15th Grant deadline coming up.

New England Runner ad due April 14th. ATR will be featured in the ad as well as the upcoming track meet dates.

**7:56** Meeting adjourned.