

ASSOCIATIONS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
THURS, 11/29/2012

Richard Messenger passed out the financial report. Workshop will be in Indy next year, date to be determined – 3rd or 4th weekend in August. Plan accordingly. Workshop ratings will be sent to each member for review and future discussion. We will have a grant writing session at next year's workshop so every Association will be able to write grants that will be accepted.

Rule changes are varied this year, but nothing in general that will affect an Association.

Accreditation Task Force – Although Bill Roe was not able to set up the slide show, we went through it verbally. Bill gave the history that dictated the way we do business as a National Governing Body. Initially, our standards were to have 200 members and hold annual meetings. The original restructuring task force said that was not good enough and we approved the existing standards and award levels. We currently have 13 required and 9 additional standards, and we decided last year to review these again to be more meaningful. Bill cited the existing standards and we discussed each of them and the new proposed standards. Please see

<https://www.usatf.org/mgmt/assoc/forms/Accreditation/AccreditationTaskForce2012.pdf> for the complete presentation. The new required standards:

1. Individual members – 20 per 100k population, minimum 400;
2. Club members – 50% of membership, minimum 12 clubs;
3. Sanctions – 1.0 per 100k population, minimum 20;
4. Championships – 21 minimum in minimum 5 events;
5. Officials – minimum 50, except 30 in small Associations;
6. Fiscal solvency – a positive net worth;
7. Communications – website and email standards revised;
8. Association documents – all filed;
9. Representation – Workshop, Committee, USATF Annual Meeting;
10. Coaches Ed – one Level 1 school each Olympiad.

Willie Banks suggested that some Associations can meet the standards fairly easily, but what about an Association that is growing? Bill responded that the standards can be adjusted when need be. But Willie would like to see more specific on how that would happen.

Rene Washington, COO – presented Bill Roe with a small token as a thank you for stepping up and completing the Association Manual after Andy's departure. The outline is already on the website. We are waiting final approval from L&L. This will be a living document.

Awards were also given to members of the task force from Karen.

Max Siegel update – Max charged his staff with looking at the National Office from an operational standpoint. Max encouraged us to help us help each other. We need to frame up our expectations and understand what success looks like. Max and staff are transparent and

eager to serve and want to help us become more efficient and reach our objectives. The Board looked at whether or not to keep membership and associations together with one staff person, and they decided to split it up. They have a good mix of people in the National Office with experienced people and new people with fresh ideas.

- Question - how will we communicate to the National Office? In 2013 we will have a monthly call in time when associations can call in with questions/concerns. Max is engaged with the Board of Directors on a very regular basis.
- Question - concerning the officials insurance. We do want to ensure that our officials are covered. The decision was made that the Associations are paying for it. The reality is that we are looking at it and will put together a task force to make sure. The problem is we are insuring officials for doing meets that are not sanctioned.
- Question of concern over the National Office not responding to emails and phone calls. Rene responded that she would be the next person in line and it should flow up to her. Max said we should also feel free to contact any one of them.
- Question - have we created a Marketing committee where the Associations can get help? Max is happy to put together a marketing committee or task force to help the associations.
- Question about a program to buy in now to a travel package for the next Olympic Games so it could be paid for incrementally. Stephanie is working on this.

Nationwide Representative – explained our partnership with them. They have provided about \$45k support in 2012. We will hopefully get the link on all websites so all members can take advantage of it.

Board of Directors Report – Willie reported that the budgets were passed and all committees have taken a 5% hit. This was also taken at the National Office level, across the board. We are trying to ensure we do not have a deficit. We are now on a more fiscally conservative path than we have been on in the past.

Club Online Memberships – has been a very hot topic since no notice was given when this new feature became available. This has helped the smaller Associations, but there may be issues with the larger Associations. Karen ensured that the money flows just like it did before.

Sanctions Task Force – the Associations fee structure will not change when online sanctions start up. This is a change from what we initially said because there is a regulation that states the Associations can set their own fee structure. The paper option will still be available.

Bill talked about the new Association Manual. On the website, as you roll over the chapter title, you will see the subchapters. It will be internet based, but can be printed. Directions will be included. All available forms and documentation that are referenced in the Manual will be hotspots that you can link directly to. This will be a dynamic document and should be referred to often.

Associations Committee votes – Karen wants us to have votes in all committees who have a vote in our committee and vice versa. She will work on making this happen.

Dispute Coordinator – Scott Erwin will be the coordinator who can work with people to work on issues before they become a grievance. We are going to try to start with what we hear as disputes and handle them before they escalate. This is an example of being proactive.

General Session – Friday, Nov. 30, 2012

Accreditation Task Force Review – Bill Roe presented the results of the Task Force. See AEC minutes above for detail. Some questions from the review:

- How will communications compliance be monitored? Associations will have to notify the National Office; make sure you send a copy to the National Office on all membership communication.
- Was there any discussion on a stipend for delegates to the Annual Meeting? Everyone agreed this is an outstanding idea – some reward for reaching gold, silver or bronze levels.
- How are officials counted? You must be a member of USATF and one of the 4 levels of officials. The Officials Committee has the final word on this number.
- What if an Association cannot financially meet the delegate minimum? Yes, hardships will be reviewed every year.
- Do we know how many Associations pay the full way for their delegates? No, we do not, but it would be interesting to find out.
- Southern California is seeing a decline in club membership due to the high fees charged by some clubs. We will continually review these numbers and make adjustments as necessary.
- How do you 'force' people to join clubs? The most successful Associations are team oriented. If you look at the RRCA, their membership is by club. However, if we have to modify this mid stream, we are prepared to do so.
- Concerned that we will be required to have offices in the future. The Board has told us that we will be viewed in a more professional light if we have offices.
- What will be considered a hardship for the annual meeting delegates? We researched this and there were only 9 Associations who were not already sending 8 delegates. There are many variables that will go into looking at what the hardship is each year; room rate, etc.

Motion: That we approve the task force recommendations. Show of hands majority voted yes. Karen will notify Willie Banks that we have approved this recommendation.

Election of officers – All positions had only one nominee and there were no nominations from the floor on any position. So, the following people were elected by acclamation:

- Chair – Karen Krsak
- Vice Chair Communications – Jim McKee
- Vice Chair Regions – Marlene Atwood
- Secretary – Linda

- Treasurer – Richard Messenger.

Association Manual – has been completed but is out with the legal department awaiting review. The goal is to have the review and online by the end of the year. This is a living document and needs to grow as we grow. We have already decided to add a chapter on grant writing. There will also be a document that provides the materials necessary to print out the document with dividers.

Association Grants – we have been warned that if we do not start using our grant money that is allocated to us, we will lose it. So, we will be having a Grant Writing session here and at the 2013 Workshop, as well as a chapter in the Association Manual.

Budget – we only have \$22k in our budget and that has to pay for travel for the 7 Region Reps, as well as putting on the Workshop and other expenses.

Rules – 109 submissions. RaceWalk regions have been change to conform to the Association/Masters regions. All other rules were very sport specific.

Submitted by,
Linda Bommicino, Secretary