

**USATF National Convention
Youth Athletics
Indianapolis, Indiana
December 3rd – 5th 2009**

December 3, 2009 – General Session

The session was called to order at 1:20 by Lionel Leach.

Quorum was verified by Dorothy Dawson and Linda Phelps after the delegates were checked in upon entry into the session.

Linda requested additional items for the agenda:

- Youth training and development
- Youth Foundation
- Youth fun run
- Youth disability field events
- Extension/re-election cycle

The motion was made to accept the agenda with additions. The motion was seconded and approved.

Lionel opened the meeting welcoming first time attendees and a welcome back to the returning delegates.

Linda asked for a motion to accept the minutes from 30th Annual Meeting. Motion was made seconded and approved.

Lionel introduced the subcommittees and stated they would give their reports throughout the general sessions after they have attended their assigned meetings.

Subcommittee reports:

Associations: Cindy Long
Athletics for the Disabled:
Coaching Screening: Brenda Martin
Coaching Education: Pat Pretty
Cultural Exchange: Mary Elizabeth Aude
Equipment & Facilities: Shirley Crowe
Law and Legislation: Ken Ferguson
Medical Services Subcommittee:
Organizational Services: Barbara Smith, Carolyn Griggs
Officials: Laurie Boemaker
Women's Development: Toni Nichols
Awards: Dorothy Dawson
Calendar: Inez Finch and Linda Phelps
Combined Events: Patrick Pretty and Liza Mascarenas
Site Evaluation: Lionel Leach
Race Walking: Darlene Hickman and Char Engelhardt

Communications: Frank Davis and Matthias Wicks
Computer Info: Inez Finch, Cindy Long, Henry McCallum
Dave Reinhardt, Frosty Anderson
Cross Country: Ron Mascarenas
Field Events: Shirley Crowe, Ron Mascarenas, Bruce Long, Mark Cizek
Track Events: Harold Martin and Sam Germany
International Competition: Harold Martin and John Wissler
Men's Track and Field: Sam Germany and Tonja Stevens AmenRa
Men's Development: Harry Weaver
Women's Track and Field: Lori Thompson and Harold Martin
Parliamentary:
Records: Denise Smotherman and Brenda Martin
Referees Protest: Carol Hardeman, Kenny Emerick and Glenn Fortune
Rules: Kenny Emerick and Glenn Fortune
Standards: John Martin

Chairman's Report: Lionel

Lionel introduced the Youth Executive Board to the delegates. Lionel opened his report with an over view of the law and legislation package that Ken Ferguson the youth representative had been diligently working on behalf of the youth division. He informed everyone that Ken would give a detailed report later and it was important that everyone understood the package and how it could affect the youth division.

Rules: Glenn Fortune and Kenny Emerick

There was a rule submitted for a peewee division. The youth executive board met in October and there have been some changes put in place

We would like to change the bantam age group from 10 years and under to 9 and 10 years old. The sub-bantam will be 8 years and under. A sub-bantam must turn 7 years old by December 31st of the competition year to compete at the national championships.

The sub-bantam division events proposed:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| -Running events: | -Field events: |
| --100m | --turbo javelin |
| --200m | --shot put 6lbs |
| --400m | --long jump |
| --800m | |
| --4x100m | |
| --4x400m | |

Kenny Emerick proposed the following amendments for sub-bantam age group:

- Will not be implemented until 2011
- Removed the turbo javelin
- The shot put will be 4lbs instead of 6lbs
- The age group was changed to 7 years old before the first day of competition at the National Championships.

The motion passed to accept the proposal as amended.

Motion made to add the 1500m to the sub-bantam age group. Motion seconded and approved.

Motion made to accept rule 300.1E with changes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Patrick Pretty presented the proposal for the cross country events. He stated Associations recommended a 2k for the sub-bantam age division.

Motion made to approve rule 304.2, 2k event for sub-bantam and 3k event for bantam at the Cross Country Nationals. Motion seconded and approved.

Inez Finch requested Kenny to explain to the new delegates what happens after the approval of rule changes. Kenny gave a brief explanation of how the process works.

Glenn Fortune made a motion to accept/amend item 38, "no false start rule". The rule will only apply to the intermediate girls and boys as well as the young men and women age groups. The motion was seconded and passed.

Lionel introduced Bob Hersh from the IAAF.

Bob Hersh came to give an update on the Youth Olympic Games. The athletes will be in Singapore for 12 – 14 days. They will compete in the qualifier there for a spot on the A final or the B final. They want everyone to compete twice. There will be no more than one athlete per country per event.

The United States will hold its qualifier on April 3rd in Dallas, TX. The winner of the competition will be eligible to become a candidate. There are 32 slots and the USOC will allow 18 slots for the USA. The age group for the competition is birth years 1993 and 1994.

The IAAF has a limit and it will allocate slots based on the Americas, i.e., North and South. The number of athletes who qualify will be based on the quota and then it will be determined based on the likelihood of success at the games. The IAAF is calling it a continental phase of the competition which is the only way to become a member of the team.

Lionel covered the law and legislation package in detail. He stated if an item remains in the bylaws it will need a two thirds vote to pass. If the item moved over to the regulation it would need 50 percent plus one vote. It is in the best interest of the youth division to keep some of the items as bylaws. Our CEO, Doug Logan wants total autonomy in the decision making within the USATF organization.

Lionel made it clear that he is not saying Doug Logan or Stephanie Hightower have a plan that would be detrimental to the youth division but the concern would be the people who may be elected after their term.

If we are not able to come to some agreement and the package goes to the floor on Sunday it will need a two thirds vote. Lionel recommended that the delegates try and depart after 3pm on Sunday.

The bylaws are over 100 pages long and in an attempt to make it smaller, law and legislation wants to move them over to regulations. Ken Ferguson is working diligently with the committee and division chairs to come to a place where everyone is in agreement.

Lionel introduced Doug Logan our USATF CEO.

Doug came in to give the youth division a brief update. He began talking about taking the next steps to take USATF to another place. We are in a revolutionary year coming off of a stagnant one. There will be growing pains when an organization is trying to grow and personal feeling must be put aside for the greater good. Doug stated he and Lionel spoke this morning and planned to reach an agreement that will accommodate everyone.

Doug also stated Lionel has been fighting for webcasting for the three championship youth meets for quite some time and it will be in place this summer. They are currently working out the details.

Reports from the Site Selection Teams: Handouts were passed around for everyone to review

Ron Mascarenas – Cross Country Chair

Ron stated the team visited Lexington, Kentucky, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and Richmond, Virginia. Overall the site visits went well and all cities have met the requirements to host the championships.

Lefty Martin – Youth Athletics and Junior Olympic running events

Lefty stated the following sites were visited and rated for compliance to continue bid process:

Des Moines, Iowa – rated fine

Greensboro, North Carolina- rated fine

Wichita, Kansas – rated fine

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina – rated fine

Houston, Texas – facility not adequate to host a national championship

Lefty stated the site visit process is based on having the necessary things to host a meet. You either have it or you don't.

Bruce Long - handles the field event side of the site visits for the Youth Athletics and Junior Olympic meets.

Bruce stated during the site visits it is not what you are told it is what is observed.

Norine Richardson handled the legal side of the bid documents. She stated the same team is sent to sites with the same discipline, Cross Country, Youth Athletics, and JO Track and field. This is done so the team is consistent when looking at what they have seen at other sites.

The 2008 Bill Hargrove and Frank Sevigne plaques were presented to the award winners.

Dorothy Dawson and Linda Phelps confirmed we have a quorum. The session adjourned at 3:15pm.

December 4, 2009 – General Session

The meeting convened at 12:10 pm with roll call.

The balloting for the 2009 Youth Athletics awards (Bill Hargrove and Frank Sevigne) were handed out as delegates entered the room.

Continue with the business from the representatives that are attending other committee meetings.

Patrick Pretty spoke on coaching education. The Level 2 Youth Coaching School will take place August 1st – 5th in Sacramento, California following the JO meet. The education components will be sprints, hurdles, field events, race walk, and endurance. The course is being written with accreditation standards. The information for the school will be up on the website shortly.

Presentations for Junior Olympic Cross Country Championships:
Richmond, VA
Myrtle Beach, SC
Lexington, KY

Roll call vote and ballots counted: **Myrtle Beach won the bid for the 2011 Cross Country Championships.**

Presentations for the Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships:
Houston, TX
Des Moines, IA
Wichita, KS

Roll call vote and ballots counted: **Wichita won the bid for the 2011 Track and Field Championships.**

The motion was made to destroy the ballots for both presentations. It was properly seconded and unanimously approved.

The session ended immediately following the announcement of the bid award winners.

December 5, 2009 – General Session

The meeting convened at 9:15

Lionel announced the bid process for the Youth Athletics will start at 10:00 am.

The meeting was opened with the topic of USADA, the drug testing program. Drug testing started this year with the World Youth Team.

Lionel introduced our guest speaker from USADA Jennifer Dodd.

Jennifer is an Olympic educator. She provided an updated listing of the latest banned substances and medications. There is a drug reference line 800-233-0393 where you can speak with a pharmacist. The line is open Monday – Friday, 8am to 4pm mountain time.

USADA.org has all of the information on the website. Thatsdope.org is another website for athletes to go.

Pseudoephedrine is banned effective January 1, 2010.

Athletes are 100 percent responsible for what they put in their bodies

The winners announced for the 2009 Bill Hargrove and Frank Sevigne award:

Denise Smotherman – Frank Sevigne Award
North Carolina Association - Bill Hargrove Award

Lionel announced the names of those who are being recognized for providing outstanding service to their association.

The Presentations for the Youth Athletics Championships:

Myrtle Beach, SC
Greensboro, NC

Roll call vote and ballots counted: **Myrtle Beach won the bid for the 2011 Youth Athletics Championship.**

The motion was made and properly seconded to destroy the ballots. The motion was unanimously approved.

Brenda Martin and Denise Smotherman passed out information with the new pending records for approval. Kenny made a motion and it was properly seconded to accept the records with changes. The motion passed. John Wissler wanted to ensure the correction will be made for the 3000m time to read 9:08.13.

Florence Erickson asked a question regarding some athletes get acknowledged for records and others don't. Linda Phelps stated she will notify meet management to ensure the multi events are added.

Lefty stated during the world youth trials there were events that were not included. The race walk and the octathlon were not contested at the world youth trials. Both events will be held at the trials in 2011. Lefty also stated the next world youth trials will be held in the same format as 2009.

John Wissler stated the Youth Coaches met on Thursday afternoon and the meeting went well. There were approximately 60 members in attendance with 53 paid members. The treasurer's report stated \$500.00. The membership patches will go out in a few weeks.

The coaches of the year results for each zone are:

West: Chris Faulkner North: Major Ruth
South: Keith Combs Midwest: Kevin Fitzpatrick

The bags from the summer Junior Olympic Championships are being sent out to clubs now. The bags will also be at the Cross Country Championships.

Robin Beamon spoke about the Youth Council that met in Boston, MA for the first time. The purpose of the council is to support the USATF youth division. They addressed coaching education for youth as well as fundraising ideas for the youth division. The council wants to spearhead some ideas for grant writing. Overall they are a group working together to make our youth division better.

Brenda Martin gave an update on background screening. A handout was given with association statistics on background checks. All coaches must have completed a background screening to get into the national championships free of charge. Background screenings are done online and can be paid by visa or check. The Coaches volunteer forms will be completed each year and stored at the national office for liability coverage.

Cindy Long stated that Ed Koch will not do a site selection for the convention yet because we are ahead of schedule. She also stated that there is some new information on the 990EZ form.

If the USATF merchandise truck is in your area they will try to work it into your meet. They are two smaller trucks.

The next session will begin promptly at 2:00pm

Afternoon Session: Opened at 2:15pm

Cathy Sellers from the USOC Paralympics provided a video presentation showing the different sporting events that athletes compete in during the Paralympics. The competition is held two days after the Olympics. The organization is looking for people who are dwarfs, missing limbs, spinal cord injuries, and athletes with cerebral palsy. They are also recruiting shadow runners for the athletes. The 2012 Olympics will include intellectual disabled as well.

The update from Reno, NV on the upcoming 2009 JO Cross Country Championships was provided. The report from Hoover, AL was given regarding the 2010 JO Cross Country Championships. An update was provided from Lisle, IL LOC group regarding the 2010 Youth Athletics Championship Meet. The LOC from Sacramento, CA gave their update on the 2010 JO Track and Field Championship Meet.

Inez Finch spoke about the calendars. She stated the rotation would remain the same with the new bid winners to be added.

Henry McCallum from the computer committee gave everyone an update on the bids they are reviewing for the new online system. The committee is still working on who will get the bid and they will keep everyone informed.

Neville McCook spoke about the IAAF and its progress.

Steve Cuomo from disabled athletes presented Appreciation plaques to Lionel Leach and Dorothy Dawson for embracing the disabled athletes into the Junior Olympic program.

The Men's Track and Field will now allow disabled athletes to come and compete in the Penn Relays. They were invited by the committee.

Lefty Martin gave his report from the Women's Track and Field Executive meeting.
Lori Smith-Thompson provided an update from the Women's track and field session.
Tonja AmenRa updated everyone from the Men's Track and Field Executive meeting.

Ken Ferguson presented his most recent update on the law and legislation package. He stated the youth division was able to make some changes that would benefit us from a voting standpoint. The CEO will be required to consult with the board and the chair within a reasonable period of time.

New Business:

The standards for the Junior Olympic and the Youth Athletic Championships were reviewed.

A motion was made by John Martin and properly seconded to accept the JO standards. Motion approved.

A motion was made and properly seconded to accept the Youth Athletic standards as written. Tricia stated the Youth Athletics marks are guidelines not standards. John Wissler stated there used to be standards and now they have relaxed them. The body needs to decide on guidelines or standards for the meet.

Lionel made a motion to table the issue for the subcommittee to re-visit next year. The motion was properly seconded and approved.

Youth Foundation: The Youth Division can start a foundation by forming a 501c.3. This will allow the division to raise funds that can remain in the division. We are looking at putting on a fun run for parents, coaches, and athletes that have finished their competition. The Sacramento LOC is willing to help with this and the proceeds will be split between the LOC and the Youth Division.

Inez Finch provided information on the Youth Training and Development Program. The program was designed to keep all of the youth chairs on the same page. A survey was handed out to get feedback on the program.

Norine Richardson: There is an issue that needs to be resolved regarding the elected officers, (except the chair), the members at large and the four zonal representatives. The options are as follows:

Option 1: Run for office in two years and allow the next election to be a four year term.

Option 2: Put it on the floor for the body to vote to waive next year and give an extension until 2012.

David Greifinger from the law and legislation committee gave a briefing on the options from an L&L standpoint. The motion was put on the floor, seconded and approved for the board to be extended until 2012.

The election was held by the paper ballot and conducted by member services.

The election of the zonal representatives was held and the results are:

South Zone: Inez Finch

Alternate: Toni Nichols

Northeast Zone: Bruce Long

Alternate: John Martin

Midwest Zone: Mark Jones

Alternate: Chris Dallanger

West Zone: Ron Mascarenas

Alternate: Mary Elizabeth Aude

The motion was made and properly seconded to destroy all of the election ballots. Motion passed.

A request from Steve Cuomo was made to add 3 field events (shot put, discus, and javelin) to the disabled athlete competition at the JO Track and Field Championships.

The motion was made and properly seconded to add the shot put only. The motion passed to accept for the 2010 competition.

Linda Phelps covered the changes in the operating procedures.

Kenny Emerick requested clarification of ex-officio members that sit in on the meetings with no vote. The members to be moved to ex-officio are legal counsel, regional coordinator and immediate past chair.

A motion was made and properly seconded to add the word "divisional" to the vice chairs which is not in regulation 17. The motion passed.

The motion was made and properly seconded to pass the entire package as amended. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by,

Linda E. Ellis

Youth Division Secretary