



## Delegate Reports from the USATF Annual Meeting

December 1-4, 2022  
Orlando Florida



Front Row: David Brown, Nesi Ballew-Holt, TammyRa Jackson Back Row (L-R) Wayne Smith, Wade Lanum, Scot Rainbolt, Bonnie Cizek, Jeff Marcuzzo, Matt Scott, Dusty Jonas, Brian Pierce, Suzie Pierce, Jim Clark, Mark Kostek, Mike Maryott.

The 2022 Nebraska Association of Track and Field delegation included fifteen individuals who attended meetings throughout the weekend of December 1st through the 4th in Orlando Florida. This is the largest group of members that have represented the Nebraska Association. While we had fifteen members, we truly only had 13 voting delegates. Voting delegates attending meetings for Association officers, Youth athletics, Officials, Coaches, Open and Masters track and field and long distance athletes, para athletes. Other meetings include topics such as Sports Medicine, Safesport, Ethics and this year, the special presentation was an "Active Shooter" presentation. There were a few delegates who had breaks in their regular schedules to attend this presentation. Voting delegates this year are highlighted in the following text: the Board of Trustee members: President, **Scot Rainbolt**, Vice President, **Nesi Ballew-Holt** Treasurer, **Jim Clark**, and Secretary, **Suzie Pierce**. The Officials Chair, **Mark Kostek**, Youth Chair **Bonnie Cizek**, and Long Distance Running (LDR) Chair **Matt Scott**.. Also in attendance in roles at a higher level of USATF included **Wade Lanum**, Region 8 Assistant Director, **TammyRa Jackson**, Youth Zonal Representative and **Dusty Jonas**, 10 year Olympic Athlete. General membership attendees include **Wayne Smith**, Membership Chair, **Brian Pierce**, **Mike Maryott**, **Jeff Marcuzzo** and **David Brown**

The reader will read delegate reports in the following sections. Please note that several "Higher-Up" individuals 'stop in' to report to different groups. This 'dropping in' is simply a way for these individuals to meet with the groups, give a quick report and take questions from the various groups. The following individuals may appear in multiple reports:

Willie Banks - elected member of the World Athletics Council and has a seat on the Board of Directors of the USATF Foundation.

Vin Lananna - President USATF

Mike Armstrong - National USATF Officials Chair

Dave Schrock - National USATF Associations Chair

## DELEGATE REPORTS:

Scot Rainbolt, Association President .....	Page 2
Lanessa Ballew-Holt, Association Vice President	
Safesport Report .....	Page 3
Parathletics Report.....	Page 7
Suzie Pierce - Association Secretary .....	Page 9
Coaches Education .....	Page 10
TammyRa Jackson, Zonal Representative.....	Page 14
Bonnie Cizek.....	Page 14
Wade Lanum, Regional 8.....	Page 16
2023 Youth Performance Standards .....	Page 17
Mark Kostek, Officials Report .....	Page 20
Matt Scott, Long Distance Running Report .....	Page 23
Brian Pierce, Men's and Women's Track and Field Report .....	Page 26
Dusty Jonas, Athlete Report .....	Page 29

## Association Vice President

### Association President - Scot Rainbolt



#### 2022 National Meeting Associations Report - Scot Rainbolt

- 1 - Much discussion about the lack of timely responses when the National Office is contacted. It was brought to our attention that there are only 3 tech personnel operating all of the USATF website and electronic communications.
  - 2 - An Association Resource Tree was presented to help navigate communication within the organization.
  - 3 - Basic bylaws were reviewed
  - 4 - A review of accreditation's procedure with an announcement that all 2022 Associations had been officially accredited.
  - 5 - National and Committee grant availability
  - 6 - A primer on using Connect80 to access different kinds of reports.
  - 7 - Sanctions and Insurance updates with suggestions about how to find these on the new Connect
  - 8 - Discussion about the lack of facilities for meets and how to improve this area.
  - 9 - Best practices in governing the Association
  - 10 - Announcement about a Virtual Workshop to be held sometime in the future
  - 11 - Responsibilities for finances as a not-for-profit organization
  - 12 - An up date on use of USATF Logos
  - 13 - Discussion on marketing USATF and establishing a base of members for future growth.
  - 14 - Discussion about COVID practices of the past and how this will affect the USATF in the future
- {End of President's report}

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Lanesa Ballew-Holt the USATF NE Vice-President & Association Safe Sport Volunteer Coordinator:



Safe Sport Information Session –

Mandatory Reporting – Bobby Click Bobby.Click@SafeSport.org  
Department @ Safe Sport

Also present: Bailee Cecil – USATF Patrick Caldwell – Safe Sport

Safe Sport has trained about 3 million people. Teaching people how to recognize and report abuse and misconduct. The Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act and the Empowering Olympic and Paralympic Amateur Athletes Act. These acts laid out the requirements and authorities for the Safe Sport Center.

Mandatory Reporting:

- \*Child abuse Sexual Misconduct Emotional & Physical Misconduct.
- \*Centralized disciplinary database, almost 2,000 names of people removed or restricted from participating.
- \*Must report adult-minor and adult-adult violations.
- \*Criminal charges must be reported if you are aware of them.
- \*Report to both local authorities and Safe Sport if necessary.
- \*Misconduct does not have to happen during a sport.
- \*Reporting is an individual obligation, not an organizational obligation.
- \*High school and AAU are not covered under this movement unless someone involved is a USATF member. Safe Sport will try to coordinate with other entities if something is reported that they can't investigate.
- \*Every state has different mandatory reporting laws. Check [www.childwelfare.gov](http://www.childwelfare.gov) for state information.

Looking into ways to better identify people: Jr./Sr. Volunteer Coach Athlete, etc.

The national office gets about 100 reports a week; about 83% of the reports are valid. It may not be criminal misconduct but may be a Safe Sport violation. There are Enticement Laws. Someone could be grooming, manipulating or inappropriately gifting. Intimate communication with minors...1:1 communication without other adults included...is a violation.

Mandatory reporters can lose their job, in some instances, if they don't report something they are aware of.

Sexual misconduct adult to adult must be reported to the US Center for Safe Sport. It can be reported anonymously. If the person who engaged in the misconduct is a USATF member; report it.

Victims are not required to report being abused. If they are not ready or willing to make a report, there is nothing that would force them to make a report.

Don't conduct an investigation yourself; just report what you know. If it happened yesterday or 20 years ago; report it. It is never too late.

Misconduct examples: bullying, hazing, harassment etc....report these.

Parents can be reported as well. They may not be members but can fall under the code by being involved in other ways.

Report even if it is just 1 incident.

If you know someone has been disciplined and shouldn't participate and you allow them to anyway; you might also be disciplined (aiding and abetting).

Safe Sport training is making a huge difference. People better recognize abuse and misconduct.

Safe Sport Information Session – MAAPP Patrick Caldwell – Safe Sport Training Department

Also present: Bailee Cecil – USATF

MAAPP – Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies

Confidential Help – 1-866-200-0796 or [www.SafeSportHelpLine.org](http://www.SafeSportHelpLine.org) – staffed by professionals who do not work for Safe Sport. The staff are through R.A.I.N.N, Rape Abuse Incest National Network.

Safe Sport Focus Areas:

- Response & Resolution Department; largest department. Investigates and determines sanctions.

- Audit & Compliance Department; are rules being followed.

- Education & Training Department; help people understand what is and is not ok.

Federal Law includes provisions to prevent retaliation.

Essential Center Documents:

- Safe Sport Code – Response manual. Definitions and procedures included.

- MAAPP – Prevention handbook.

-Both are available on the Safe Sport website.

Child Sexual Abuse in Sports:

-1 out of every 8 athletes experience some form of sexual abuse or assault within their sport before age 18. Many abusers are known to the victim/survivor...family member, coach, teacher.

MAAPP – obligation under federal law. Creates consistency across all Olympic and Paralympic organizations with policies and procedures.

Abuse CAN happen virtually.

2022 MAAPP Jurisdiction: The 7 required prevention policies have three main jurisdiction buckets they fall into.

-Facility/Sanctioned events: Ex., 1:1 interaction; lodging; transportation.

-In-Program Contact: Ex., locker rooms.

-No Jurisdictional Component: Ex., electronic communication.

Examples of activities related to participating in a sport: Fundraiser, banquet, reviewing a game film, sports education, team travel.

Prevention policies are in the MAAPP and identify what is ok with areas like:

1:1 interaction Meetings Individual training sessions

Locker rooms Athletic training/massages

Transportation Lodging

Have other adults around to oversee interaction with minor athletes.

Parents should take the training session so they are educated as well. It is on the USATF website under parent resources. There is a 15-minute training for parents.

1:1 policy exceptions:

Emergencies Dual relationships-ex Uncle and Coach

Close in age, no more than 4 years. Personal Care Assistant (PCA)

Consent forms and templates are available on the website.

Is the interaction observable and interruptible? Don't go behind closed doors, even if other adults are aware. Must be observed by an adult who has been safe sport trained. Coaches should not transport athletes 1:1 unless there is written/signed consent.

Safe Sport Information Session – Your role in protecting minor athletes from abuse. Bystander Intervention. Patrick Caldwell – Safe Sport Training Department

Proactive Prevention – things we can do every day to reduce risk. Promote a culture of respect and community. Develop and communicate proactive policies; talk about them. Recognize and talk about power imbalances.

Reactive Prevention: Choices you make in response to a situation that you think might be high risk or could lead to violence. Don't set things go unaddressed.

Bystander – A person who is present during a situation that is, or could become, abusive or harmful.

Intervention – Choosing to say no or do something to make it less likely to occur.

5 steps to intervention:

Notice a concerning or harmful event occurring.

Consider whether it demands an action; do a gut check.

Do you have a responsibility to act?

Assess your options for how to intervene and determine the risks/barriers.

Understand how to carry out the chosen action.

Common barriers:

Diffusion of responsibility = people by themselves are more likely to help and less likely when more people are around. Take responsibility.

Unsure what to do.

Pluralistic Ignorance – not sure if it is an emergency and if help or intervention is needed. How are others responding? Get more information and ask others who are there.

Cause of misfortune – less likely to help if we perceive the person to be responsible for their own misfortune; victim blaming. Build a sense of community.

Time – we feel we don't have the time to get involved. Prioritize athlete well-being.

Common motivators:

Natural helpers Knowing the person Strong sense of community

Being in a position of power Seeing someone else helping

Options for action / The 5 D's:

Direct – address the concern head on in the moment.

Distract – divert people away from the concerning situation.

Delegate – instruct another bystander on how to help.

Delay – buy time before you direct, distract or delegate.

Document – be sure you are doing something helpful with the documentation. You are obligated as a mandatory reporter.

Intervention in motion:

Safety Considerations

Assess your surroundings; are others nearby.

Intervene immediately?

Make your presence known; make eye contact; move closer. Put a barrier between the perpetrator and their target.

Consider filming.

Take cues from the individual being harassed. Follow their lead.

Follow-up and report misconduct. Talk with the person about reporting.

USATF has a banned and suspended list on the website.



Para Athletics – Rich Rob / Committee Chair / Team Medical Staff RichRob@pacbell.net

4 Para events can be incorporated in the state championship meets if there are athletes who want to compete. Incorporation under the youth rules. All athletes must be classified and found eligible...intellectual, physical and visual impairments. Events are: 100, 200, 400 and shotput. Standing and seated compete against each other regardless of class.

Willie Banks – World Athletics



-Trying to get information on how to incorporate Para Athletics. Should know more by March 2023.

-He has put together a plan:

-More participation...Para Athletics.

-More people: Coaches, officials etc. There is an E-Learning module on the website.

-More fans – over a billion impressions on TV and social media and growing. He wants to build on this.

-Partnerships – provide date and programs to help win commercial, gov't and non-profit partnerships.

-It appears that world athletics will absorb Para Athletics.

NACAC = North America Central America Caribbean

Each state needs a Para Athletics Chair...must be a Para Athlete.

In the rule book: Para information in the front of the book = operational; in the back of the book = information only.

Virtus – high performance sports organization for athletes with impairments.  
<https://www.virtus.sport/>



There will be a review of the definition of an athlete by the AAC – Athlete Advisory Committee. Currently it excludes youth, masters and para.

Officials have indicated they do not have enough information on para meets. More information needs to be on the USATF website.

There are 4,276 certified officials in the US. Only about 250 of them are certified in para. The Paralympic games are coming up; may need to get officials from Europe. The para course can be taken in a few hours.

If an official is a MASTER now; they won't be a master in para initially when they pass the exam. They will start at para level 1.

The rules committee adopted the para rules.

Need a strategic plan for the para committee. Email ideas to Rich Rob; RichRob@pacbell.net.

Respectfully submitted

Nesi

## Suzie Pierce - Association Secretary

In 2023, this year was the same as years past, but in other ways very different. I've never had an Association President resign on the Saturday of the Annual Meeting, stating that he had hoped to be rejuvenated by this meeting, but failed to see the point of continuing. I've never had to sign a "conflict of interest" document. When asked "why" and "what for" I couldn't ever get an answer. We were simply told that the national office mandated that everyone who attended must sign one. As I really don't have a conflict of interest, I signed it after reading it. I do wish I would have kept a blank copy to present. Pretty much everything else was the same. I spent most days 8-5 in hotel conference rooms listening to committee reports, speakers, coaches and athletes. I fan-girled over Olympic athletes as they walked by me in the hallways.

I spent my Annual Meeting time in Associations, Association Secretary meetings, Club Council, Coaches and Coaches Education meetings. The following are my reports:

The first meeting I attended this year was the Accreditations meeting. This is the meeting where we find out where associations are either "Fully Accredited, Partially Accredited or Failed to meet Accreditation. This is the first year in the history of USATF that all associations are accredited to some degree. Because of COVID, there are still some criteria that the national office is being slack on, simply because associations haven't had time to recover yet. One of these items is that moving forward, each delegation will need to be made up of 30% active athletes. This criteria may be hard for Nebraska moving forward. In the past, Wyoming, Alaska and Hawaii have been in "Failed to meet Accreditation" status. Wyoming was disbanded as an association with its members being absorbed into the border associations. Alaska and Hawaii both sent a delegation of representatives and met all of the criteria. Nebraska has historically always been "Fully Accredited" *In this meeting I sat next to a gentleman from Hawaii. It took him 21 hours to travel to Orlando. Talk about commitment!* Vin Lananna addressed the Accreditations crew and asked if there was anything he could do to help. The accreditation board thanked him for attending the meeting and would reach out to him if there was something they thought he could do to assist. With hearing the news that Nebraska was "fully accredited" and the meeting ended, I moved on to the next meeting.

The Associations Secretaries meeting was a mixed group of 'seasoned' secretaries and new/first time secretaries. The meeting was ran as an opportunity to ask questions and to learn the roles and duties of the secretaries. One comment that struck close to home is that the meeting minutes should be a basic rundown of the events of the meeting and not a transcription of the meeting. When I first started, I transcribed the meeting. I was told to stop doing that. I've tried to find a happy medium in my reporting between reporting the events and not losing important conversations. It appears that every association secretary has different roles that are expected of them. Some associations expect their secretary to also hold other chair positions such as the communications/webmaster, sanctions, certification and membership due to people unwilling to hold those positions.

## The Coaches Education and Coaches Advisory meetings Reports

Sitting in the Coaches' Education meeting, discussion started around the rewrites for Youth, Endurance, Level II coaching classes.

Level I Hybrid - will be moving towards some online classes. There will still be some "live" sessions as a part of the training. The SCORM platform will be used which makes active involvement through the process necessary. Human Connectics is the textbook used for Coaching classes..

Level II Accreditation – field experience packet (50 hours) needs tweaking but is still considered a valuable asset. There is a disconnect between taking the educational portion and completing the field experience, so there were quite a few who completed the class, but failed to do the field experience. They were not credentialed. One comment from the floor was that some individuals taking the classes simply want the knowledge, not the credential.

Marathon Specialist Training will include 10-12 hours of athlete/coach panel plus curriculum. The training will be held twice a year.

Level III Academy – there will be one, but it is still in the works. Conversations have been held in the past of hosting a Level III during a Level II field experience. Is this still a viable option? 2019 was the last. Fall of 2023 for the blended part and in person over the holiday break.

USOPC Coaches Education AND Coaches Registry is mandating a sport safety requirement (First Aid, CPR and Concussion training) for coaches. The concern and angst is where the requirements fits and to whom it belongs. Is it a part of the coaches' education certification process or is it a part of the coaches registry process? The consensus of this Coaches Education group is that the level I coaching requirement will stay separate from the first aid training and could get a certificate, just not on the registry. The members who are interested in actively coaching would need to have the first aid training should be on the registry. USOPC requires that the training should occur at the "earliest level possible". The committee members at the meeting created a comment for their stand on the process. The following statement was then created: **"Due to the variety of education requirements within USATF the Coaches Education Executive Committee is recommending that the sport safety and USADA modules requirements stay out of Level 1 education classes as a registry requirement.**

Journey to Gold Clinic Concept – Matt Rohlf – the national office established premier professional meets as a build up to the Olympics games, creating a fan experience attached to the meets to build towards the Olympic Games. It's been asked how do we create a training clinic and who will provide the training? Register to attend so a person could capture the names to encourage them to attend certification clinics.

With time running out and another meeting walking into the room the meeting was adjourned.

Awesome verbiage heard in the meeting...

"We invest in ourselves to see what the return will be..."

"Invest intellectual capital into the process"

### Coaches Advisory meeting-

In attending the Coaches Advisory meeting, transferring to a new room, I was a bit late to the meeting but when I walked in the discussion on the floor was how many votes were allowed for coaches. (votes on what I never did figure out)...sorry.

Will Banks – World Athletics – addressed the room. He indicated there is a new discussion at the WA level to set a quota for women coaches to be equally represented on world teams. It's a new discussion. There is also a move for seeding to a ranking system rather than a season best. Collegiate competitions are undervalued in the ranking system; therefore, it would be a disadvantage to some of our best athletes. *[Scary personal thoughts...a female quota? What if there are not enough strong women coaches, will athletes actually get great coaching, or in reverse, will great women coaches be cut because there are more women than men...Keep in mind that many women coach men at a high level. Also, think about the Arabian countries where women are to be hidden away and not in the forefront...]*

After Willie left the, conversation occurred around the removal of the USATF Campus course as fulfilling the requirement. This is the shorter, less intense coaching class. From the floor, chatter included the concern of eliminating the base requirement of coaching because it would be a financial hardship and that the grassroots “mechanics and convenience store clerk” coaches couldn't afford the time commitment or the cost of the course. There is a strong pushback on this as there are literally coaching scholarships available that are going unused. If the persons who want to have the education really want to take the class, they simply need to for the scholarship.

Anti doping education – there is consideration about making this a part of the coaches registry process as well.

Club Chair general meeting started with the election of the following three positions: Club Council Chair, Co-Chair and Secretary

For the Club Chair/Co-Chair positions there were 2 nominees from the floor –

Both individuals were selected for the positions: David and Joe

For the position of Secretary there were also two nominees from the floor

David Larkins –

Ebony Thompkins Weber –

I had previously met Ebony in the Association secretaries meeting and felt comfortable voting for her. She is a cyber security specialist and head coach of a youth track team. The first round ended in a tie vote 6-6 with two abstaining. Second round was completed by a written ballot, with David Watkins being elected.

Old Business-

Demographics are available for the national meet and would appear in the Annual Meeting Documents Library.

Interestingly enough, the issue was raised that the open championship meets shouldn't allow for master athletes to compete because they already have their own championship competition. If they want to complete the club championship meets, they should compete

as an open competitor and not as a master (weighted throws/hurdles etc) meet shouldn't allow for masters in the meet.

The meeting then went on to discuss some of the competitions coming up in December and the 2023 competition year.

2022 National Club Cross Country Championships – San Francisco, CA are upcoming.

2023 USATF National Club Track and Field championships – Not defined at this time

The Elite Development Club Program

Discussion was held on how to support and promote club growth in association. Some of the comments included access to facilities, more local/regional competitions for athletes either at universities or having some open events at a youth meet. I thought this might be something we could consider in the Nebraska Association Championship.

### Association Meeting, General session II

The afternoon session started out with a quick recap of the morning session for those who were not able to attend the morning session.

There will be a February 5th Virtual Association Workshop for which there was a call for topics (Jay Miles, AEC) The meeting will be an all-day meeting with six 50-minute breakout sessions throughout the day. Some of the ideas for topics to be covered for these breakouts included the following:

Covering the bylaws and topics

Website review of the USATF template

Discussion for the afternoon session included the use of facilities how to grow relationships to access facilities. This seems to be a common topic among associations, and Nebraska has had their own issues with facilities being cancelled on us and our association meets. First and foremost, we need to remember that using community, high schools and college facilities is not a free lunch, there are fees associated with every facility, just opening the bathrooms can be a facility cost. The rental of a port-a-potty is an expense. A responsible renter/user will make sure that the insurance is in place: to protect yourself, your athletes, and the facility. If facilities are not available to practice for clubs or athletes: think outside of the box in the terms of training including the use of public parks and/or open spaces. What is available around us that we can use?

Sara Reece, financial officer for the national office came in to visit with Associations. She covered the financial responsibilities as a 501.c.3. (non-profit organization). She reminded us to make sure our treasurer is using the Accounting best practices, to establish a budget (noting that a budget is not written in stone, but it gives you an idea of how our funds are to be spent. That we must issue a form 1099 to anyone paid over \$600 including contractors. Simple practices such as having more than one person on the bank account and multiple people having access to view the bank documents. We should also have a tax accounting do an audit or book review every couple of years.

One hot topic is the cost of insurance, which has increased drastically, per member insurance costs increase from 5.55 to \$17.88. We are told that the national office has tried to absorb a large portion of these costs in the past, but to be fair isn't a viable option anymore. Membership will increase soon (2023). Sara advised that if you can update your membership for the full Olympiad, do it ASAP.

Following the lines of things getting more expensive, rather than keep increasing the costs between a few, we need to grow the association so that the expenses are spread out over many. (In Nebraska, this means we need to target central and western Nebraska youth and adult memberships). Inflation is going to get worse before it gets better, but prices rarely drop.

Logos and branding updates from Chelsey Schmenk, included that the USATF brand portfolio is moving to an inhouse server. There will only be one login per association, though it can be shared to Board of Trustee members. This will be the one-stop shop for branded assets which will include championship logos, etc. There will be both a desktop and mobile app friendly (navigation should be easier).

The bylaw changes that will be voted on in Sunday morning's session was touched again. Keeping in mind that we (USATF) failed 19 of USOPC's 47 measures. The changes to the bylaws will bring us into compliance. These changes were a compromise from the opposing parties and are deemed to be the best thing for the organization. Each side stating that they know the bylaws are not perfect but are acceptable at this time and will bring us into compliance.

Annual Meeting reports end here:

*Respectfully submitted - Suzie Pierce*

## YOUTH

TammyRa' Jackson, Youth Midwest Zonal Representative presented the following report:

Because I sit on the YEC as the Midwest Zone Representative my first job is to assist with all YOUTH meetings. Things were SUPER CRAZY in the YOUTH meetings, and I honestly don't have a full report. I spoke with Bonnie and she agreed to include my name on her report.

I did attend the Opening ceremony, EVERY Youth meeting, even those not on the schedule, Region 8 Meeting, Awards breakfast and Closing Ceremony. I spent most of my time in YOUTH meetings at the back table checking people in/keeping people out...Door duty, running errands, liaison between National office and the Youth Chair.... I made last minute ballots, and copies. I counted ballots. I'm still waiting for the official minutes from the YEC secretary to share. I have included the Youth National meet schedule for 2023.

There was an interesting Active Shooter presentation given by Jeremy Steward. I'm in communication with him to try to get the slide show presentation to share with the association.

There was big discussion about Association level medals being provided by the national office. They WILL be provided. Medals will be provided through A-1 Awards Inc. We were also informed that all old medals are not to be used any longer.

Since leaving the Annual Meeting. I have spoke with the Regional Coordinator, Josh Gerber and the Region 8 Meet date is still TBD between July 6- 9, 2023 or July 13-16, 2023, in Wisconsin because of Venue and Schedule issues. Permissions were given to hold at the later date if needed. A vote was taken and we will have a follow up call soon.

The region rotation is below:

2023: Wisconsin

2024: Dakotas

2025: Iowa

2026: Nebraska

2027: Minnesota

**Bonnie Cizek, Nebraska Youth Chair** presented the following report:

Annual Meeting-Youth Meeting – Bonnie Cizek Youth Rep from Nebraska

Youth Meetings began on Thursday, Dec 1, 2022

Jacci White, Youth Chair conducted the meetings.

Chain of Command for any issues with Youth:

Youth Chair – Regional Coordinator – Zone Rep- Youth Executive Committee – National Office

Encouraging coaches to take Level I and Level II classes. Grants are available through National Youth Coaches Association.

Noreen Richardson received the USATF Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the coaches association.

Candidate Presentation for Youth Board seat:

Lauren Primerano from the NY Association

Noreen Richardson AZ Association

Noreen was re-elected to the board as the Youth Rep.

Document Library is available on line with documents including last year's minutes and upcoming National meets for Youth.

Vin Lananna our USATF President, spoke about how important Youth is in the organization and encouraged increasing membership and working together.

We had Active Shooter training presented by Jeremy Stewart. He gave pointers on how to be prepared for a situation at a meet. We should consider having an armed police officer present at every meet.

Two candidates running for a Board seat for World Plan spoke: Willie Banks, the current Chair of USATF World Plan and Board member, spoke about growing our sport and fan base.

Stephanie Hightower running for the Board seat, explained her platform for growing our sport and the importance of the "Youth Pipeline." Willie Banks was reelected to a second term.

Robin Brown – Beamon, director of Outreach and Grass Roots program, introduced her staff. USATF Brand Portal is getting a new facelift. Login should be easier and we can upload any t-shirt, sign etc for approval. You can get information by contacting [sara.hollis@Usatf.org](mailto:sara.hollis@Usatf.org). Robin then talked about budget cuts and there would no longer be medals given for association meets. They would only give ribbons. After days of discussion and disapproval from the entire youth committee, the decision was reversed. There will be medals provided for Association, Regional, and National meets.

Grow to Impact Grants for \$5,000 are available. Our Nebraska Association is a recipient of this grant and will apply again for 2023.

Rules that were discussed are as follows:

- #40 Change Hurdle intervals for youth girls – passed
- #46 Change regions – tabled
- #25 Having single age groups in USATF – failed
- #34b Change age groups – failed
- #41 Hurdle heights 13/14 boys – failed
- #26 Exhibition events for kids under 7 – failed
- #47 Tabled – had to do with missing regionals and waivers

Mr. Aaron Lunberg reported on USATF insurance. We need to know how to protect ourselves, stay safe at meets, and educate kids and parents on policies. We must utilize Safe Sport compliance.

Randy Melcher reported on the State of the Insurance market. One key development has to do with Statutes of Limitations that has extended for youth. Liability claims are escalating due to abuse in major sports, so prevention is the best policy.

Ed Koch our rep for Youth Law and Legislation reported on the "Compromise proposal" explaining the 11 amendments that we will have to vote on at the closing session. He recommends we vote YES!

We will be implementing Para Athletics at youth meets in 2023.

There were new Youth records and all were approved. Those hosting meets this coming year are:

2023 USATF Indoor Youth Nationals will be held March 17, 18 & 19  
at Norton Sports and Learning Center Louisville, KY

Youth Outdoor Championships will be held at Spire Outdoor facility in Geneva, OH  
June 26 – July 1, 2023

National Junior Olympic Championships will be in Eugene, Oregon July 24 – 30  
at Hayward Field.



Frank Sevigne Award ( named for the former Nebraska Head Track and Field Coach) went to Toni Nichols from Texas Association 2021.

Also included with this report are the 2023 Youth Performance Guidelines (See following pages)

Respectfully Submitted

by Bonnie Cizek Youth Chair Nebraska Association

**Wade Lanum**, Region 8 Assistant Coordinator submitted the following report:

Masters Track and Field Regional Coordinators Meeting

For Master's Track and Field we are in the MidAmerican Region and our Region Coordinator is Roman Marenin. Information for Masters T&F can be found at [usatfmaster.org](http://usatfmaster.org)

The main goal of the regional coordinators is to improve participation in local, regional and national Master's events.

The Mid-American Region Track and Field Indoor Championship will be held at the Mountain Lion Fieldhouse, University of Colorado Colorado Springs, CO February 19, 2023

The USATF Masters Indoor Championship will be held in Louisville, KY March 10-12 2023

The USATF Masters Outdoor Championship will be held in North Carolina A&T, Greensboro, NC July 20-23, 2023

It was proposed that all medal winners at Association or regional meets get an invitation letting them know that they qualified for the national meet. Though you don't have to go to a regional to qualify they are using this to try to increase participation.

## 2023 Youth Outdoor Performance Guidelines

### Boys

#### 8 & under (born 2015 and later)

100m	16.16
200m	34.13
400m	1:21.58
800m	3:11.72
1500m	6:30.38
Long Jump	2.64
Shot Put (2 kg)	3.11
Mini Javelin Throw	10.17
4x100m	1:12.70
4x400m	5:54.61

#### 9-10 Boys (born 2013-2014)

100m	14.59
200m	30.3
400m	1:11.66
800m	2:50.55
1500m	5:29.39
1500m RaceWalk	12:35.90
High Jump	1.11
Long Jump	3.57
Shot Put (6 lb)	5.19
Mini Javelin	20.46
400m Relay	1:01.08
1600m Relay	5:12.90
Triathlon	356

#### 11-12 Boys born 2011-2012

100m	14.26
200m	27.83
400m	1:04.80
800m	2:32.33
1500m	5:09.24
3000m	11:12.96
1500m RaceWalk	11:18.9
80m H (30")	16.58
High Jump	1.30
Long Jump	4.22
Shot Put (6 lb)	8.05
Discus (1 kg)	16.50
Mini Javelin	25.08
400m Relay	56.40
1600m relay	4:45.89
3200m Relay	11:30.86
Pentathlon	1254

#### 13-14 Boys born 2009-2010

100m	12.3
200m	24.82
400m	56.36
800m	2:13.72
1500m	4:31.73
3000m	10:06.44
3000m Race Walk	22:06.88
100m H (33")	18.47
200m H (30")	29.7
Pole Vault	2.7
High Jump	1.53
Long Jump	4.89
Triple Jump	9.43
Shot Put (4 kg)	9.96
Discus (1 kg)	29.45
Javelin (600 g)	27.82
400m Relay	50.73
1600m Relay	4:10.10
3200m Relay	10:19.31
Pentathlon	16.45

#### 15-16 Boys (born 2007-2008)

100m	11.64
200m	23.38
400m	52.21
800m	2:08.50
1500m	4:23.38
3000m	9:49.45
3000m Race Walk	19.07
110m H (39")	18.36
400m H (36")	1:08.3
2000m SC	7:46.54
Pole Vault	3.75
High Jump	1.6
Long Jump	5.3
Triple Jump	10.61
Shot Put (12 lb)	10.21
Discus (1.6 kg)	32.1
Hammer Throw	28.27
Javelin (800 g)	32.73
400m Relay	45.82
1600m Relay	3:44.6
3200m Relay	8:58.6
Decathlon	3617

#### 17-18 Men (born 2005-2006)\*

100m	11.4
200m	22.99
400m	51
800m	2:02.49
1500m	4:16.22
3000m	10:00.07
3000m Race Walk	19:26.43
110m H (39")	15.64
400m H (36")	1:01.03
2000m SC	7:28.57
Pole Vault	4.1
High Jump	1.79
Long Jump	6.23
Triple Jump	12.12
Shot Put (12 lb)	13.18
Discus (1.6 kg)	40.74
Hammer Throw	41.04
Javelin (800 g)	38.7
400m Relay	45.64
1600m Relay	3:33.94
3200m Relay	8:30.19
Decathlon	3833

\* Athletes who are still 18 through the final day of the meet are eligible to compete in the 17-18 8 age division.

## 2023 Youth Outdoor Performance Guidelines

## Girls

<b>8 &amp; under (born 2015 and later)</b>		<b>13-14 Girls (born 2009-2010)</b>		<b>17-18 Women (born 2005-2006) *</b>	
100m	16.37	100m	13.18	100m	12.81
200m	35.42	200m	26.90	200m	25.81
400m	1:24.99	400m	1:01.87	400m	59.33
800m	3:22.18	800m	2:31.85	800m	2:31.22
1500m	7:14.54	1500m	4:59.44	1500m	5:17.41
Long Jump	2.41	3000m	11:16.55	3000m	12:17.39
Shot Put (2 kg)	3.06	3000m Race Walk	21:39.27	3000m Race Walk	20:02.57
Mini Javelin Throw	6.9	100m H (30")	17.78	100m H (33")	16.04
4x100m	1:12.87	200m H (30")	31.61	400m H (30")	1:10.75
4x400m	6:09.20	Pole Vault	2.35	2000m SC	9:32.09
<b>9-10 Girls (born 2013-2014)</b>		High Jump	1.40	Pole Vault	2.88
100m	15.19	Long Jump	4.47	High Jump	1.55
200m	31.21	Triple Jump	8.75	Long Jump	4.98
400m	1:11.25	Shot Put (6 lb)	*.48	Triple Jump	10.36
800m	2:50.13	Discus (1 kg)	22.79	Shot Put (4 kg)	9.97
1500m	5:53.77	Javelin (600 g)	20.8	Discus (1 kg)	31.89
1500m Race Walk	12:09.16	400m Relay	54.46	Hammer Throw	26.6
High Jump	1.08	1600m Relay	4:36.67	Javelin (600 g)	27.59
Long Jump	3.38	3200m Relay	11:03.57	400m Relay	50.2
Shot Put (6 lb)	4.96	Pentathlon	1597	1600m Relay	4:12.53
Mini Javelin	12.84	<b>15-16 Girls (born 2007-2008)</b>		3200m Relay	10:37.20
400m Relay	1:03.64	100m	12.72	Heptathlon	2930
1600m Relay	5:30.98	200m	26.17		
Triathlon	450	400m	1:00.4		
<b>11-12 Girls (born 2011-2012)</b>		800m	2:23.69		
100m	13.73	1500m	5:17.82		
200m	28.26	3000m	12:07.19		
400m	1:05.59	3000m Race Walk	21:27.95		
800m	2:42.40	100m H (33")	17.25		
1500m	5:18.81	400m H (30")	1:14.05		
3000m	12:09.94	2000m SC	9:09.17		
1500m Race Walk	11:06.29	Pole Vault	2.45		
80m H (30")	16.09	High Jump	1.45		
High Jump	1.27	Long Jump	4.83		
Long Jump	4.02	Triple Jump	9.77		
Shot Put (6 lb)	6.95	Shot Put (4 kg)	9.34		
Discus (1 kg)	13.39	Discus (1 kg)	28.65		
Mini Javelin	16.8	Hammer Throw	22.53		
400m Relay	58.29	Javelin (600 g)	25.75		
1600m Relay	4:47.0	400m Relay	52.97		
3200m Relay	11:35.41	1600m Relay	4:22.15		
Pentathlon	1667	3200m Relay	10:45.13		
		Heptathlon	2742		

\* Athletes who are still 18 through the final day of the meet are eligible to compete in the 17-18 age division.

*Formula current standard  
add 8<sup>th</sup> place  
÷ by 6*

**2023 Junior Olympic Combined Events Performance Standards**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Standard</b>
9-10 Boys	Triathlon	585
11-12 Boys	Pentathlon	1934
13-14 Boys	Pentathlon	2404
15-16 Boys	Decathlon	4479
17-18 Men	Decathlon	5643
9-10 Girls	Triathlon	934
11-12 Girls	Pentathlon	2259
13-14 Girls	Pentathlon	2722
15-16 Girls	Heptathlon	3672
17-18 Women	Heptathlon	4103

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## OFFICIALS

Mark Kostek, Nebraska Association Officials Chair and current NCAA Rules Committee Secretary presented the following report:

### NCAA Men's and Women's Cross Country and Track & Field Preseason Updates and Reminders

With the new season upon us, I would like to wish the entire membership the best of luck during the coming season.

The new NCAA Cross Country and Track & Field Rules Book was published on November 1, 2022. This new book will take effect on December 1, 2022, and will remain in effect until November 30, 2024. If you have not yet received your hard copy of the 2023-2024 rules book, it should arrive at your office shortly.

The items presented in this communication will provide a snapshot of the major rules changes, significant editorial changes, points of emphasis, and information that the rules committee would like to make you aware of.

#### Major NCAA Rules Changes

Rules 5-4.3 and 13-4.3: Eliminate the five alive option for administering vertical jump competitions.

Rules 1-45 and 9-45: Eliminate mixed-gender competition in any event.

Rules 5-5.7 & 13-5.7: As an option, a tie for first place in all vertical jumps is now allowed, provided all tied participants agree upon the outcome.

Rules 8-1.2 and 16-1.2: In all throwing events, horizontal jumping events, and the high jump, the time limit to initiate a trial or attempt is one minute.

Rules 8-2.3c and 16-2.3c: In the field events, a competitor shall be warned or disqualified if they make an attempt out of competition order without the official's permission.

#### Significant Editorial Changes

Rules 6-2c and 14-2c: Clarify that at the time of abandonment the athlete will receive a Did Not Finish (DNF) and zero points for the competition.

Rules 8-1.1d and 16-1.1d: Clarify that all legal trials (horizontal jump and throw) shall be measured and recorded.

Rules 8-1.4e and 16-1.4e: Clarify that chalk is not an acceptable marker.

Rules 8-4.4a and 16-4.4a: Clarify that it's a foul jump if the takeoff foot (shoe) breaks the vertical plane of the takeoff line with their foot (shoe) during the planting action of the foot.

#### Points of Emphasis

Follow the Rules as Written - NCAA

met <https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2013/11/26/cross-country-and-track-and-field-rules-of-competition.aspx> member institutions are required to conduct their contests according to these rules. Violations are subject to NCAA enforcement procedures. While the rules are intended to provide direction and be as concise as possible, they are not meant to be

comprehensive or cover all situations. Rules may not be altered unless flexibility is indicated in a rule. A rule that provides a recommendation or indicates that a provision should be followed is one for which the rules committee believes the provisions of the rule are expected to be followed except when extraordinary, normally noncontrollable, circumstances exist.

Failure to Participate (Rules 6-2 and 14-2)

Javelin Throw - Judging Throws (Rules 16-7.1 and 16-7.2)

Measuring and Recording Legal Trials (Rules 8.1.1d and 16-1.1d)

Five-Alive Procedure and Mixed Gender Competition Eliminated

A link to an electronic version of the new rules book can also be found on the NCAA website at:

<https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2013/11/26/cross-country-and-track-and-field-rules-of-competition.aspx>. Besides the rules book, this link also includes information regarding monthly rules clarifications and interpretations, how to propose a rules change, along with other pertinent competition and officials information.

I look forward to working closely with the membership to continue to improve and elevate the sports of cross country and track and field. Throughout the year, if you have questions or need to request an interpretation, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at [kostekmt@gmail.com](mailto:kostekmt@gmail.com) or by phone or text at (515) 208-8300.

Respectfully, Mark Kostek, secretary rules editor  
NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee

**Mike Maryott**, former Nebraska Association Officials Chair presented the following for submission:

I attended several officiating related seminars including; Law and legislation, training subcommittee, uniform subcommittee and all general officials sessions. Along with those, I attended the following: Officials training session; marshalls, dealing with officials, and referee scenarios,

I really enjoy the discussions with different officials and situations we can get into. One on one or small group discussions, is a great learning and training tool.

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Of note, Mike Maryott was a semi-finalist for the National Officials Committee Andy Bakjian Award, which is given annually to the official who has given outstanding service throughout a career dedicated to managing sports and helping to take officiating track and field to a higher level. The eventual winner was Kathy McLemmond Williamson of the Niagara Association. Mike's nomination entry follows:



USATF National Officials Committee  
Andy Bakjian Nominee

**Michael Maryott**

Nebraska Association

Nominated by Mark Kostek (Nebraska Association)

Nomination Seconded by Mike Armstrong (Arkansas Association)

Nomination Seconded by Terry Sudrla (Dakotas Association)



Three Year Rotation  
2020 – 2021 – 2022

It is a privilege and honor that we put forth the nomination of a great official, Mike Maryott, for the Andy Bakjian Award. Mike is the consummate professional on and off the track. His 35 years of officiating service is just one indication to his dedication to the sport. Over his career Mike has worn many hats in track and field as this brief resume will reveal. Official, officer, Mentor, athlete, and leader are just a few of the titles he carries. Mike makes people around him better.

#### Qualifications:

USATF Master Level Official Referee: 1995 – present

USATF Nebraska Association Certification Chair: 1996 – present

USATF Certified Official: 1985 – present

Officials Coordinator for University of Nebraska: 1999 – present

SEC, Big 10, Big 8, Big 12 and GPAC Field, Running and/or Combined Events Referee – 50+times

American Athletic Outdoor Field Event Referee

USATF National Junior Olympics LJ/TJ Chief – 5 times

USAATF Open Championship Combined Events Coordinator – 5 times

USAATF National Masters Combined Event Referee – 4 times

USATF Nebraska Masters Combined Event Referee – 10 times

USATF National Masters Championships Field Referee

NCAA Championships Combined Events Coordinator 2 times

NCAA D1 Regional Outdoor Throws Referee

NCAA D2 Indoor Field Event Referee

NCAA DIII National Championships Field Events Referee – 8 times

NAIA National Championships Combined Event Referee 2 times

NAIA National Championships Field Event Referee

Drake Relays Combined Event Referee – 5 times

Drake Relays College/University Field Event Referee

Over his career Mike has officiated well over 500 events nationwide.

USATF Nebraska Masters Combined Events Champion 10 times

USAATF Nebraska Masters Championship Meet Director 5 times.

## LDR DELEGATE



USATF 2022  
National Meeting Report  
By  
Matt Scott  
USATF Nebraska LDR Chair



I attended 17 sessions and had several meetings at the 2022 USATF Annual Meeting and had several meetings related to USATF Nebraska.

1. Association Workshop – Understanding USATF & Role (3 hrs)
2. First Timer Orientation (1 hr)
3. Association Workshop – (2 hrs)
4. Association Marketing Hours (2 hrs)
5. Opening General Session (2 hrs)
6. Women's LDR – General Session (1 hr)
7. Master LDR – General Session (1.5hrs)
8. Men's LDR – General Session (1 hr)
9. Men's/Women LDR – General Session (2 hrs)
10. LDR Division – General Business/Candidate Forum (1.5 hrs)
11. Cross Country Council (1 hr)
12. Youth Athletics – Bid Presentations (2 hrs)
13. Cross Country Council – Executive Session (1 hr)
14. Youth Athletics – Bid Q & A Session (1 hr)
15. Civilian Response to Active Shooter by Sargent Jeremy Steward (1 hr)
16. Closing Session and Vote (2 hrs)
17. Met with USATF IT – Nebraska Website, email, Campaign manager and Sports 80 (2 hrs)
18. Met with Lyle Clausen – Discussed Nebraska XC Championships and holding them in Beatrice, Ne
19. USATF Nebraska Team Meetings (2 hrs)
20. Updated social media (2 hrs)
21. Attended the USATF 5k walk run (1 hr)
22. General networking and meetings (3hrs)

### Key Takeaways

1. USATF would like us to upgrade our website to their new platform. There would be no cost to the Nebraska Association, and this would also eliminate our current cost for web hosting.
2. We need to prepare for an Active Shooter event. These events are dramatically on the rise and a track meet fits the profile for active shooters. See attached slides.
3. The USATF Youth Indoor Nationals will be held March 17th – March 19 in Louisville Kentucky, see attachment.
4. I have attached the USATF Resource Tree, with contact information on who to reach out to help with emails and phone numbers.
5. The 2023 Youth Track & Field Championships will be held June 26th – July 1st at the Spire Sports Complex in Geneva, Ohio. More about the location at <https://www.spireinstitute.org/>
6. The 2024 Olympic Marathon Trails will be held in Orlando. The LOC for the event gave us presentation. The course is not finalized yet. Here is more info - <https://greaterorlandosports.com/news/orlando-selected-to-host-the-2024-u-s-olympic-team-trials-marathon/>
7. Here are the 2024 Standards for the Marathon - <https://www.usatf.org/events/2024/2024-u-s-olympic-team-trials-%E2%80%94-marathon/2024-u-s-olympic-team-trials-marathon-qualificatio>



8. The Document Library on the USATF Website is great resource. Here is the library from the Annual meeting - <https://www.usatf.org/events/2022/2022-usatf-annualmeeting/document-library>
9. David Katz gave a great update on the course in Paris for the 2024 Olympic Marathon. The course is going to go from Paris, past the Palace Versailles Palace and going past almost of the historical locations in Paris according to Dave. The course is going to be very tough with lots of elevation increase throughout. Video Dave showed - <https://worldathletics.org/news/news/paris-2024-olympic-marathon-course-mass-runroute>
10. Master LDR is looking for Cities to host future Cross Country Championships. I will be research more about holding this event in Omaha. Other LDR Chairs have reached to discuss Nebraska since the annual meeting.
11. During my meeting with USATF Marketing folks, I was given access to the marketing materials they have put together for Nebraska. They have a complete marketing program all laid out for 2024 and customized for Nebraska.
12. We need to apply for Marketing Grant for \$5000
13. Ideas on Marketing from Meetings:
  - a. One idea that I have talked about with some is having a USATF booth at as many road races and events as possible. For this we would need marketing material printed, info from all of the Nebraska Association teams about their club and how to sign up, volunteers etc. I have already secured a booth at the Maverick Run in Omaha. They also have provided a \$5 discount code for USATF members. We plan to reach out to more events and do the same.
  - b. I like the Sunday Social Marketing events around the State, again we will need to print marketing material and pay for travel expenses, etc.
  - c. We should advertise social media - Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
  - d. Create a campaign to bring back past members and to help create or reactivate teams in other parts of Nebraska.
  - e. To attract adult members, I would like to discuss creating a travel fund for Open and Master runners. Also set aside funds for prize money. I am thinking about setting aside a percent of Adult Memberships for these accounts.
  - f. We should waive entry fee for USATF Members at our local meets.
  - g. Reach out to all the high school and junior highs coaches to at least let them know what we have to offer.
  - h. Reach out to the Elementary Schools telling them about our clubs that offer programs for younger kids and USATF activities like the run, jump throw program.
  - i. The Niagara Association used some of their funds to set up Coaching Clinics and they had great success doing this.
  - j. Create A Future Stars spot on youth Athletics for Social, media, newsletters and press releases.
  - k. Create an Athlete Spot on Master and Open Athletics for Social, media, newsletters and press releases.

Overall, the meeting was great. I think in the future we should limit the number of Nebraska Attendees to 4 to 6 people.

- End of report.



TammyRa, Matt and Nesi pictured on the annual meeting morning “run”

Brian Pierce, Nebraska USATF member and National Level official, spent the annual meeting in Men's Track and Field and Athlete Development. Brian presented the following information for review:



From the Men's Track and Field general session meeting

Andrew Valmon gave information concerning Teams Selections for Coaches and Managers. Encourages those interested in either area to apply for opportunity on future teams.

Team USA captured 1st ever team trophy at Eugene 22 World Champs, 33 combined medals (13 Gold, 9 Silver, 11 Bronze), men's shot put won all three medals (Crouser, Kovacs, Awotunde). Noah Lyles Gold in 200m, Teen Erriyon Knighton, youngest individual medalist ever, Bronze 200m. Grant Holloway Gold 110h and Grant Fisher set 3000m, 5000m, 10,000m American Records. The future is bright, as

U20 Team USA won 15 medals at U20 World champs, to continue our dominance in track and field.

Jim Grogan - Standards are set so approximately 50% of athletes are automatic qualifiers, standards are adjusted year to year accordingly. The event fields are then filled using a descending order list. Jim reminds the group "if you don't enter you can't get in", if an athlete does not meet the automatic standard, their entry puts them on the descending order list and they may be selected from that. Standards for events with only one round may seem a little tight, but standards can't be too soft, that would allow more entries than the field size can handle. Changes were necessary for 8 or 9 events for Sr Indoors and u20 outdoors. Standards for 2023 Sr Outdoors will not change this year, due to last year's standards being good and meeting our field size goals.

Mark Kostic - Rules

Mark begins that the Rules Committee has 74 proposals to be discussed in a video conference in October; 41 Youth, 12 Masters, 3 LDR, 3 Race Walk, 13 others pertain to; defining role of starter asst, clerk off the course, shoes, procedure to handle immediate protest of proceed false start. Other areas involve use of .22 cal use indoors, clarification on setup off Vertical Jumps, lastly talks about disallowing diving at finish. Not much traction for the last discussion. Mark continues 31 proposals recommended for approval or approval w/ amendment, 24 were rejected, 9 referred back to their committee, 5 items tabled, 3 recommended as current practices, 2 withdrawn. Full Rule Packet (Document Library)

Willie Banks - World Athletics

Willie states that WA hosted 4 events, set 354 national records that reached globally over 1 billion people. 162 events with almost 12,000 competitors from 159 countries. 2 area records were set, 118 national records and 2396 personal records were set. All this generated a total revenue of 1.7 million dollars.

2024 World Relays awarded to Bahamas April/May, these will be an Olympic qualifier for 4x1, 4x4,, mixed 4x4. Top 14 finishers plus 2 selected from world rankings will qualify for the Olympics. Willie gives info on Russian Federation doping issues, there is a review underway with expected recommendation at the next WA meeting and action will be taken by WA at that time. Previous reports from the Task Force on Russian Doping has given positive progress with changing the culture, although there has been a change in leadership at Russia Sports, back to the previous leader. Willie states he will continue to vote against reinstatement until appropriate change is shown.

Willie continues, WA making World Road Running Champs will now be an annual event starting 2025, WA is establishing a World Road Mile Record, qualifying window opens Sept 2023, required minimum performances; Men 3:50, Women 4:19. WA Integrity Unit reports the

Kenyan government has pledged \$5 million/yr over next five years to strengthen Kenya's Anti-doping program, WA felt this appropriate, and decided not to suspend the Kenyan Federation. WA is gathering info on DSD (Difference in Sexual Development) and Transgender, these will have similar guidance. More info will follow after recommendations are made, based on science. Wa is waiting on the IOC to approve the WA proposed standards for Paris 24.

#### Sue Humphries - L&L

Sue reviews the issue from last year's meeting concerning the Board and the Constituency amendments to USATF governance. Over the summer the two sides came to an agreement which now gives the President a bit more authority. Sue states the L&L package is good and can be voted (For) at Sunday closing session. Sue continues with some background on USATF Governance Manual is missing some verbiage and changes that went through L&L last year, and is being told the Manual is a living document and the Board can make Temporary Amendments that are in place until the next Annual Meeting. L&L unhappy with items being left out and will be meeting with leadership to discuss this. Sue reminds us that USATF Governance is important to know about, even if it can be confusing. Items involving committee composition, which group reports to who, some will be voting for committee reps to the board, be mindful.

#### Mike Armstrong- Officials

Mike gives info from the selection meeting; There are 4,235 USATF certified officials, that number changes regularly due to SafeSport, Background checks, and retirements. 2023 Indoor championships applications 254, 81 selected (16 alts), 33% Female, 27% minorities, 19% first time selections, ave age 58. 2023 Outdoor champs was 419 applied, 126 selected (19 alts), 33% Females, 30% minorities, 13% first time selections, ave age 59. Head officials 40% Female, 38% minorities, 38% first time heads, ave age 56. 75% of officials selected were under 45. Mike continues with info concerning grants for officials; Officials Development Grant, Young Officials Grant, Implement Inspectors Grant, Technical Managers Grant, Apprentice Referee Grant, Leadership and Diversity Grant. Two initiatives to improve the number of minorities and women becoming officials; Raymond Piere leads the Minority Groups and Terry Tutt leads the Women's Group. Their group are to report back with reports on strategies to improve numbers. Mike answered questions concerning changing the age of Young Officials grant to get more applicants, also questions about opportunities for less experienced officials getting a chance to serve in lead role if they don't get can't get opportunities. Mike reminds the group that these championships are our top athletes competing to advance to Olympic and World teams as well as earn a living, and we must have the best officials, but he is welcoming of any input to get more people involved. More detailed info on officials report (Document Library)

#### Dave Kerin - Development

Dave started his presentation with background on how he became Dev Chair (2nd term), due to the passing of John Green. He has a different perspective this time, also looking to revise Development bylaws to reflect today's operation. Dave continues; 55-70 athletes supported annually through Tiers and TPP, athletes usually assigned in late fall, early winter. Going forward, Dev will hold back some assignment funding to help capture indoors/new-on-scene athletes. In the past support for these athletes was not available, due to all funding being allotted. Dave explains; Development deals with athletes just short of National Team level, plans to redirect Event Chairs to actual Development. Looking to have Event Chair cover different areas not served in the past;

Juco, NAIA, Div 2 and Div 3, etc., to be proactive in identifying athletes outside of the D1 area. Many Dev athletes were not full-scholarship, were late bloomers, etc. The Dev budget has increased, but the number of athletes supported has risen as well, and would like to expand more if possible. Current construction of Development is not what is written in by-laws, Dave is in contact w/ L&L to rewrite by-laws to be more aligned with current operation of Development.

Mike Nussa - High Performance/ USATF Office

Mike began with 2022 is a shortened 3 year plan to Paris 24, 4 goals of Focus for HP; Achievement of 30+ medals in Budapest Worlds, by keeping programs that have worked, improving programs and innovating new programs. Improve the Gold Medal count as per USOC directive , Improve USATF/USOC communications to make athletes aware of available benefits, and Simplify logistics to access HP programs and national champs, and pursue innovation to optimize athlete performance by eliminating stress at championships. Mike continues w/ summary of two initiatives for tier and talent protection athletes(TTP) for 2023 season. First, involves funding now for 6 domestic meets up to \$1000, one of those meets could be an international opportunity(\$1500 cap). Second, 2023 all tier and TPP athletes will be fully funded to Indoor and Outdoor Champs, still a funding process for non-tiered athletes. HP would like to take stress away from Tier and TTP athletes as much as possible. Also the coaching stipend has increased to 6k per tier/ttp athlete for coaches, as well as fully fund coaches of athletes qualified to World championships. Lastly Tier/TTP athlete list released in mid October instead of Jan, to help athletes complete necessary paperwork (Jan 15) for benefits allotted to them, developed an online training portal concerning education of benefits. Mike continues with info about the Regional Medical Providers Program. Tier/TTP athletes have a personal medical provider check-in, either in person or phone weekly to provide access to any medical support needed. Beyond that, every Tier/TTP athlete is offered Elite Athlete health insurance provided by USOPC, zero premium, no deductible to meet, 10% co-pay, and max out-of-pocket \$1500/yr. Provide continuity of care training to competition. Mike gave dates for Indoor Champs Feb 16-18, Albuquerque and Outdoor Champs July 6-9, w/ U20 July 7-8 in Eugene.

The Men's and Women's Development meetings provided the following information:

The Under 20 meet this last year was one of the lowest number of athletes in a while. There is trouble finding a venue to host the meet because there is not enough athletes and spectators to break even. A large majority of the athletes attend the Nike, New Balance and Brooks meets and receive a backpack or shoes. The U20 meet does not have any swag to attract the athletes, only a chance to wear a uniform that says "USA" and travel to represent their country.

One of the associations in California is attending the high school meets to talk to the athletes and coaches about the chance to compete in the U20 meet and then possibly traveling internationally to compete in the Under 20 World Championships.

The 2023 U20 meet this year is in Eugene Oregon combined with the US Outdoor Championships on July 7-9th

Respectfully submitted by Brian Pierce



## USATF Annual Meeting Report – Dusty Jonas

Due to a flight cancellation, I arrived a day late to the USATF annual meeting from December 1st -4 th , 2022. While arriving late, I did have the chance to attend the following meetings:

- 1) Men's/Women's Development – Joint General Session
- 2) Sports Medicine & Science – General Session
- 3) Men's/Women's Development – Combined Events
- 4) High Performance – General Session

Below are my session notes (some information may be incomplete as I have misplaced my folder with meeting notes). I do feel confident in

reporting by memory.

### A) Men's/Womens Development – Joint General Session

a. Meeting was attended by all event chairs and the head of men's and women's development. (David Kerin and LaTanya Sheffield are the heads)

b. The goal of the development branch of USATF is to support the athletes that do not qualify for the Tier/TPP programs, provide competitive opportunities domestically (sometimes internationally), to provide resources to help athletes become Tier athletes in the future.

c. Working to supply medical at limited meets, or designated events, for Development

d. This committee DOES NOT

e. Financial support domestic competitive opportunities, being able to apply for 1K for 1 NACAC area meet.

f. Several athletes in the room were quite concerned that they didn't know about development or the opportunities that are available to them.

g. Athlete responsibility was a huge issue that was covered. Updating emails, communication with event chair...basically being a grown human being. In the athlete's defense, USATF doesn't do a particularly good job communicating with coaches and athletes unless they are in the Tier program or TPP.

h. One area that was covered that I found particularly important was that several opportunities that had been offered had not been taken advantage of. I.e. domestic funding for Penn Relays, Texas Relays, Drake Relays, Mt. Sac. Many athletes had made a commitment to compete and backed out. This has led to a reduction in the number of domestic opportunities offered to developmental Athletes

i. Level of quality/depth in development is increasing at this time, BECAUSE Tier has focused and reduced their numbers. This puts more high-end athletes into the development eligible pool.

j. Development has a limited budget assigned to them by USATF. This area is not funded by the USOPC. Once the budget is sent, the heads of development and event chairs decide how to send money. Selection can be subjective but objective measures are typically used. There are also no requirements on men vs. women who receive developmental monies. Selection is based on where USATF sees holes that need to be filled. I.e. womens HJ, womens TJ, etc. For

example, the men's 100m would not be a viable area to put these dollars since we are very deep in that event.

k. 2022 budget was 700 something thousand dollars...2023 budget has not been announced

l. Development is looking for ways to give athlete support in the way of mental health. Conversations are still being had about that and where the funding may come from.

. Of note: The Arkansas open chair was sitting next to me and mentioned that if elite/developmental athletes would involve themselves with their local associations, there are monies and grants that can be provided to them. I think this is something that we could look into in the future as an association.

### **B) Sports Medicine and Science – General Session**

a. I was able to attend this meeting for 45 minutes due to another meeting starting that I had to get to.

b. The agenda was as follows:

i. Updates to Medical Services, Anti-Doping, Psychological Services, Sports Science, National Office

c. The meeting started late due to technical difficulties

d. Medical services for athletes was upped to 50+ meets domestically in the past year.

e. Anti-Doping: Updates on Tramadol and Cannabis will start January 1, 2023.

f. Psychological Services: For Tier/TPP athletes, they will have unlimited access to psychological services from everything to mental health to sports psychology.

g. Dr. Robert Chapman covered all of the medical benefits to Tier/TPP athletes and developmental athletes. The benefits to Tier/TPP athletes are incredible.

Basically full coverage for no premium and almost no deductible. Encouraged people to take advantage of the coverage that USATF offers by being a member athlete at USATF sponsored events. He gave a handout of benefits but those were in the folder that I lost...

h. Sports Science: Working with new technology to turn around data analysis more quickly.

### **C) Men's/Womens Development (Combined Events)**

a. Kevin Reid (Multi-Events Chair) went over Thorpe Cup and world rankings for combined event athletes in the USA – Went way too fast to write down.

b. Discussed Thorpe Cup results this past year.

c. Discussed the dates for the USATF national championships and Thorpe Cup this year. 2024 Thorpe Cup location TBD. (TCU has requested this event – would be a good opportunity for UNL if the track gets completed in a timely fashion.

d. Left meeting to attend AAC General session

### **D) AAC General Session**

a. Was there for about 3 minutes before I was asked to leave because I didn't have credentialing for the AAC vote.

### **E) High Performance (General Session)**

a. This session was a combination of everything said in Section A and B of this report

b. Robert Chapman did go over new selection criteria for tiered athletes and Talent Protection Program athletes

i. Tier Program Criteria 22-24 Quad

1. Individual medalist at either of the two most recent outdoor world majors: 2021 Tokyo Olympics or 2022 World Championships In Eugene

2. Relay medalist (running a leg in at least one round) at the most recent outdoor world major (2022 World Championships)
3. Top 12 place finish at the most recent outdoor world championships (2022 World Championships)
4. Top 15 World Athletics world rank as of 9/30/2022
5. Tier or TPP athlete in 2022 and receiving a waiver due to Pregnancy.

ii. Talent Protection Program Criteria (TPP) 22-24 Quad

1. Be an immediate post collegian AND
2. Have a two-mark average better than the WA outdoor championships qualifying standard during the period 12/1/2021 and to the final day of the 2022 USATF Outdoor Championships AND
3. Have a performance among the top 5 in the US AND top-25 world (in the same event as number 2 above) during the period 12/1/2021 to the final day of the USATF Outdoor Championships.
4. \*\*Target = 25 athletes, one year program with USATF option to extend to the second year.

c. Robert also outlined the predictive modeling procedure used to select Tiered Athletes.

- i. Predictor Variables (World Rank, TAFN Rank, Past Medals, Past Finals, Age, Performance Profile) Model Algorithm (Weighting of predictor variables) Outcome Variable (Total Medal Count at OG/WC, Medal Expectancies Probability {yes or no})
- ii. Accuracy
  1. Does the model correctly identify the outcome variable?
  2. Do the tier criteria correctly identify medalists and non-medalists?
  3. "If you medaled, did we pick you?"
  4. Accuracy = (Tier Athletes who Medaled/Total US Athletes who Medaled)
- iii. Precision
  1. Does the model minimize errors or false positives?
  2. What % of total athletes identified by the tier criteria are medalists?
  3. "If we picked you, did you medal?"
  4. Precision = (Tier Athletes Who Medaled/Total # of Tier Athletes)
- iv. 2011-2019 Tier Accuracy = 95%
  1. Stipend \$ spent on medalists in year they medaled = \$1.202 Million
- v. 2011-2019 Tier Precision = 10%
  1. Stipend \$ spend on non-medalists = \$11.195 Million
- vi. New Tier Criteria (2020-Present\_
  1. Accuracy 94.6%
  2. Precision 19.1%

d. In short, the new Tier and TPP criteria are harder to achieve but guarantee a better return on investment by USATF and the USOPC.



Dave Brown

WAYNE SMITH-MEMBERSHIP CHAIR/SANCTIONS COORDINATOR

Attending the USATF Annual Meeting was beneficial to me, as it usually is. In addition to the opportunities to network and trade ideas with officers from other associations, there are National office staff members available to ask questions and learn procedures.

This meeting, I was able to have a one-on-one session with the person who handles sanctions in the National Office to learn more about getting information on pending sanctions in order to better understand what the event entails and the safety measures plans for the event.

I also spent time with IT personnel to learn how to better access information on the new website. It's a completely different format and it's been a struggle, but now I'm better able to get information for association officers who may need it.

In a couple of meetings, I was able to express my concerns about the concentration of members' personal information in the USATF database and servers, along with the increasing centralization of duties at the national office; specifically with the AEC Chair.

I also sat in on some meetings for the Youth and L&L committees, as well as SafeSport.

Submitted 1/7/2023  
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