

USATF Florida Masters

Convention Report

12/6/2015

The big news for Masters starting 2016 will be the USADA drug testing at all regional and National Championships Meets. It may also occur randomly at Assn. Meets. There is no distinction between Olympic Athletes and a first time Grand Father trying to sprint a 100m for the first time in 30 years. Also, testing is not isolated to the actual event. It can take place at a persons home months before a meet totally random. A medical waiver called a TUE can be obtained by a Doctor if the Athlete is using prescribed banned substances. The list of these substances can be found at the ASADA website. Many ingredients found in supplements are also banned so please be aware of what you are taking, it is the responsibility of the Athlete to know. Important for International competition; A TUE issued in the US will not always be accepted internationally and some chemicals are OK in the US and banned overseas, etc...

It was proposed, seconded and approved by the delegates to the convention that starting in 2016, in competition drug testing will take place and due to this a \$5 surcharge will be required. It is important that we add the \$5 surcharge to our Assn. Championship entry because it will be collected by the National Office.

The now former SE Regional Director Max Hamlyn retired midterm and Bill Murray was elected to serve out the remaining term until the next scheduled election for the post. After this election we discussed how Mass Media can help us reach our athletes. We discussed USATF FL Masters Facebook Page and it was decided that due to the relatively good response that the other Assns. will open pages too. We were asked to have our Assn Meet dates finalized by the National Convention in 2016 and to coordinate the dates as not to run them on the same dates to encourage intra-association participation of the Athletes. There was discussion of hosting the 2016 SE Regional Masters meet and I suggested Florida combine it with our Assn. Meet. At this point it looks like GA will get the meet, but I would like to bid for the meet for 2017.

A meeting concerning the Masters World Games in Perth next year and information on Visa's and other travel concerns can be found on the WMA web page for our Athletes planning to make the journey.

These were the highlights of the convention and this information will be put up on the USATF Florida Masters Facebook Page to help get the word out.

James Griffin

USATF FL Masters Chairman

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