

USATF Florida Association Annual meeting
Melbourne Florida
October 10, 2015

Call to order 8:53 AM

Elected Other members to the House of Delegates:

Active Athletes: Sara Alegra, Janet Johnston, Joe Johnston

Officials: Melynda Hani, Theresa Pickett, Eric Smith

Coaches and Others: Kizzie Griffin, Cheryl Washington, James Porter

Minutes were approved as posted on the Web site

Treasurer Report (James Williams): Starting Balance \$32,402.75 (October 2014) ending balance (\$30,947.49 (June 30, 2015) these amount do not include the National Championships as bills and income are still pending.

Membership Report (Pam Betz): 3,465 members, 157 Clubs (8 pending), 326 sanctions year to date.

President's report (Robin Beamon)-Robin asked people that if they accept a nomination they will agree that they will do their job to the fullest extent possible.

Florida has earned a very favorable reputation for putting on outstanding events as seen by the great success of the 2015 USA JO Track and Field and Masters Track and Field Championships.

Officials Report (Rod Larsen):

2017 is the year for all Officials to re-certify, the process should start in November or December of 2016. Officials will need to have USATF Florida membership through 2020 (4 years), a background check, and go through a "Safe Sports" course.

Rod gave an explanation of the four levels of certification.

It was decide that Florida would require an official work at the National level for two years, down from three plus all of the other requirements.

It was decide that a form would be created and posted on the web site. The purpose of the form would be to verify events officials work at a meet and the lead official would rate the officials. This would help the process of going from the National level to the Masters level.

Rod Larsen re-elected Certification Chair, Janice Thurston was re-elected as the Officials representative to the Executive Committee.

Para-athlete Report (Melinda Wheatley) Melinda was re-elected as the Chair.

Dixie Wheelchair Athletic association (which is the Regional Sports Organization that FL is in) held an IPC Officials training in November 2014 with 12 in attendance, with 9 passing the test for US Para endorsement. Many of these officials were in attendance at the Dixie Games held in May, 2015, as track and field officials. There are now 24 **USATF IPC Certified Officials in the great state of Florida!!!** Dixie Games competition for track and field had 125 adult and junior athletes compete in shot, discus, javelin, club, 60m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m. Florida will again be the host for the Dixie Games in 2016.

The Chiavaroli family provided racing wheelchairs and field throwing chairs for 14 middle and high school students wishing to participate in these sports. Dixie WAA was given the Nielsen Foundation grant in order to provide athletes with Spinal Cord related disabilities with opportunities to train and compete in track and field in order to improve their quality of life by assisting with the cost of adapted equipment. I am proposing that USATF FL provide some financial assistance in the form of mileage to the Chiavarolis, to help offset the cost of providing and fitting this adapted equipment so that more people with disabilities can compete in track and field.

Paralympic Sport Tampa Bay had 4 High School athletes that selected to the US Paralympic High School All American program. The team also went to the National Junior Disability Championships in New Jersey and won 75 medals total. They were also selected as the nation's Top Middle Size Team for the second year in a row.

An attempt was made to include athletes with disabilities in the Junior Olympics hosted by USATF FL this summer. Due to many issues including qualifying, transportation, schedule conflicts, etc., no disabled athletes competed. This issue is being addressed on a national level with USATF and will be again be discussed at the Annual Meeting in December. Many thanks to Robin, Angela and all those who were willing to "make it happen" in Jacksonville!!!

James Gardner (Coach) and Scott Danberg (US Paralympic Athlete) are working together to include athletes with disabilities in some clinics in the Miami-Dade area. They are looking for a way to reach out to more prospective athletes by accessing them through the school system. If anyone has a contact in that area, please let James know. Also, the Para-Athletic committee is working to modify the FHSAA website to reflect current and accurate information on including Para Athletes in typical school programs. If anyone has a contact with the State office, please provide the contact information.

I have been working with the National USATF Para Athletics Committee to develop a training tool for school coaches. It provides rules info, basic coaching strategies, inclusion methods and necessary equipment. We would like it to be available nationwide to all by December through the NHSAA.

Pam Chiavaroli was appointed as Vice Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Wheatley

In other business, it was noted that Clinics cannot be sanctioned (i.e. insured) unless it is put on by an Association or a National committee.

LDR combined report (McLin Anderson, Joe Monks, Doug Tillett) All three were re-elected to chair their committees.

LDR_ Men's Annual Committee Report

Three (3) **LDR Men** Association Championships were needed to satisfy compliance requirements (5K- 5miles, 10K-10miles, ½ marathon – greater distance)

Six (6) Association Championship races were actually contested within the Best Dam Race event held in Orlando, February 28th.

Divisions covered: LDR Men + LDR Women + LDR Masters M/W; competing in the 10K, and the ½ marathon.

Medals were awarded to top 3 USATF-FL finishers in each division of each race.

Prize monies were awarded weeks later.

This year's LDR Championships

2015 USATF Florida Association Men's, Women's and Master 10K Championships Feb. 28 in Orlando, Florida

2015 USATF Florida Association Men's, Women's and Master Half-marathon Championships Feb. 28 in Orlando, Florida.

2015 USATF Florida Association Men's, Women's and Master 5 Km Championships March 29 in Coconut Creek.

Respectfully submitted October 11, 2015 by: **McLin Anderson**

Race Walk Report (Dan Koch) Dan was re-elected as the Chair.

Races approved for 2016

Must follow rules or may not be selected for future events

Event	Location	Date	Club
1. <u>1500m/3000m</u>	<u>Golden HS, Naples</u>	<u>Jan 23,16</u>	<u>SFRW</u>
2. <u>15K</u>	<u>Tradewinds Park</u>	<u>Feb 20</u>	<u>USATF FL</u>
3. <u>8K</u>	<u>Tradewinds park</u>	<u>Mar 12</u>	<u>SFRW</u>
4. <u>10K</u>	<u>UCF Campus</u>	<u>TBA</u>	<u>CFW</u>

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| 5. | <u>20K</u> | <u>Tradewinds Park</u> | <u>Nov 12</u> | <u>SFRW</u> |
| 6. | <u>5k Run</u> | <u>Tradewinds Park</u> | <u>TBA</u> | <u>SFRW & Joe Monks</u> |

+All courses will need to be certified in advance of the race.

*All races must have the proper Officials for possible records

Date are not Fixed ie)track 4=5, road 6-9 and at least one must be a master Level or IAAF official

BTC-Breakaway Track Club; Sheryl Gilliland: (352) 516-2314

CFW-Central Florida Walkers; Chuck McLaughlin: cgmclaughlin@cfl.rr.com (407) 678-2323

FAC-Florida Athletic Club; Don DeNoon: noonwalk_99@yahoo.net (352) 217-3966

NTC-National Training Center; Track and Field Coordinator – (352) 241-7144 EXT. 4206

SFRW-South Florida Race Walkers; Dan Koch, Racewalk Chair: racewalker@bellsouth.net (954)970-9634

Track & Field combined report (Carmen Jackson and Joe Monks) Carman Jackson was re-elected, Jim Griffin was elected as the Masters chair and Thomas Johnson was elected as the Men’s chair.

Youth Committee and Cross Country report (Angela Harris also our Vice President of the North) Angela was re-elected as the Youth Chair

Committee Reports – Youth

Angela D. Harris - Florida Association Youth Committee Chair

Goal: To enhance our development of Youth programs and grow our Youth Division in Florida

Greetings To All USATF Florida Members,

I come to you in my second year as your elected Youth Chair. I thank all of you for this opportunity to “impact the lives of our youth”

We have thrived and labored down a long road in the past two (2) years, and this mission has only just begun. We began with little and have graduated to a new and exciting set of opportunities and challenges. We have grown our youth membership, and continue to reach out to many of our youth constituency in Florida. We have also had to step over some minor hurdles. I have reached out to many of you for assistance and with dedicated hearts and the same desire to have our youth succeed many of you “stepped” up in a great fashion. Your dedication, diligence and devotion to our Youth is what has made the difference in these two (2) years. We are on the true path to ‘success’ as long as we remain focused on our vision for our youth in Florida.

To our athletes, parents, coaches, officials and volunteers who truly make a difference, the USATF Florida Association Youth Division “applaud” you for your dedication and support for continuing to sacrifice your time, support, and finances to ensure success for the Florida USATF Youth athletes.

As of 10/9/15 there are 2033 Youth Members (1001 in 2014); 277 who have successfully passed youth background check; 306 listed on Coaches Registry.

We still must acknowledge those youth who are not USATF members, those new youth clubs who are trying to find a Track and Field home, those parents who are trying to figure out how to get involved in USATF Youth programs, the new coaches who need to learn, the athletes who are aspiring to colleges and how do they move forward on this journey academically and athletically.

Cross Country Report Angela Harris

Our 2014 Cross Country season was rewarding for the few that attended. Our continuous goal is to increase the number of developmental meets and make them fun and exciting.

The 2014 FL Association XC Junior Olympic Championship was held on November 8th at Lake Minneola High School. 27 athletes participated. Special thanks to our certified officials Rod Larsen, Reginald McCray, Phyllis Jackson, James Porter and Cathy Missick who stepped up to assist in officiating this competition. We had a great meet and a fantastic audience of spectators/volunteers. I also want to thank the Epitome team and their coaches for managing the setup and nourishment provided for the athletes at this event.

The 2014 Region 4 XC Championship was held on November 22nd in Myrtle Beach, SC.

The 2014 USATF National Junior Olympic Cross Country Championship was held on December 13 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Track and Field Season 2015

This year, since the Florida Association hosted the 2015 USATF National Junior Olympic Track and Field Championship, our Association was designated as Region 16. Our runners only had to qualify at one meet not two.

The Region 16 Championship was held at Dwyer High School. The Javelin was contested at The Benjamin School and the Hammer was contested at Florida Atlantic University. This meet had 1,101 athletes. 55 teams and 256 unattached athletes competed (19 teams and 65 unattached in 2014). The meet ran smoothly. The Florida Association in would like to thank Thomas Johnson, Behind the Athlete and Epitome for their assistance getting us through our Region 16 Championship with dedication and fantastic support.

Cross Country Gary Beswick was elected as the Chair.

MUT Report Noelle Gianuzzi was elected as the Chair.

Also, in other business, Melynda Hani volunteered to help High School and College athletes to work their way the NCAA requiring process so they will be eligible for college scholarships.

Robin gave the highest praise to Angela Harris and the team she put together for all she/they did in putting on the 2015 USA JO track and Field Championship AND the 2015 USA Masters Track and Field Championships.

Carmen Jackson was recognized as the National High School Coach of the Year,
Congratulations!

Adjourned 12:06
Respectfully submitted

Rod

Rod Larsen
Secretary
USATF Florida

Our Annual Awards Luncheon was the following the meeting. Ed Thompson the Florida High School Athletic Association's (FHSA) Director of Athletics was our guest speaker.

At the Luncheon the following people were recognized as:

**USATF Florida Association
"2015 Athletes of the Year"**

Race Walking

- Men's - Juan Moscoso Jr.
- Women's - Sandra DeNoon

LDR

- Men's – Michael MacDonald
- Women's - Heather Schulz
- Masters Men - Albert Wieringa
- Masters Women – Terri Rejimbai

Track and Field

- Masters Men – Bruce Hedendal
- Masters Women - Essie Faria
- Men – Chris Taylor
- Women – Elizabeth "Ellie" Staker

Youth

- Male - Tyrese Cooper
- Female – Symone Mason

Outstanding Officials of the Year

- Natoya Ford-Hart
- Joe Monks
- Harold Pierce