



2008 USATF Georgia Association Annual Meeting

Piedmont Baptist Church, Marietta, GA
September 20, 2008

(Approved Minutes)

I. Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. President's Welcome Address Summary:

The annual meeting was scheduled later than normal this year due to 2008 being an Olympic year.

- All committee reports are represented in the 2008 USATF Georgia Association Annual Reports book available at this meeting.
- Membership will go over 3,000 by end of year, placing the Georgia Association in the top 10 associations nationwide.

Club memberships have increased over 2007 memberships.

Sanctions events have increased and revenues doubled from last year.

Athletes in all age groups brought home medals from many national track & field competitions.

III. Acknowledgements:

- Georgia Track & Field Chair Dexter McCloud acknowledged Georgia Olympic Trials participants: Brian Derby, Danielle Caruthers, Angelo Taylor (repeat Gold Medalist), Reggie Witherspoon, Adam Nelson, Justin Oliver, Reese Hoffa, Laurie Knowles, Michelle LaFleur, Tom Kutter and many others.
- David Martin, Georgia LDR Chair was acknowledged for his role with the Sports Committee at the Beijing Olympics. Despite the heat, humidity, pollution and hills, two U.S. athletes ranked in the top 10 in the Men's Olympic Marathon.
- Dick Moss was acknowledged as one of three American officials invited as an international technical official for the Paralympics in Beijing.
- Coach Ron Williams was recognized at the Atlanta Track Club Banquet and in Wingfoot Magazine for his coaching accomplishments.
- USATF Georgia Association Secretary Angela Bowie, a major in the U.S. Army, was deployed to Iraq in February 2008. The association sends their best wishes for a safe tour of duty. Marlene Atwood was appointed interim secretary in Secretary Bowie's absence.
- Acknowledgement of members of the association who have passed: Coach Red Smith, Official Larry Nash, and Official Catcillia Chowder.
- President Sanford represented the Dekalb International Training Center at the Beijing Olympics and functioned as a host at the Olympian Reunion Center.

IV. Acceptance of minutes – August 25, 2007 Annual Meeting Minutes:

MOTION was made to accept the August 25, 2007 Annual Meeting minutes: In Favor – 46, Opposed – 0, Abstained – 0. **MOTION** passes; minutes approved without correction.

V. Treasurer's Report – Linda Bommicino reported a current bank balance of \$156,281.54.

- Question from the floor regarding the fraud line item in the report – Treasurer Bommicino advised that there were questions regarding some items.
- Question on the difference in balance this year as opposed to last year – Treasurer Bommicino advised that the difference was the expenditure for the Westlake facility in 2008.
- Question on interest bearing accounts and showing interest earned – Treasurer Bommicino advised that it was contained in the treasurer's report in the annual reports book.
- Correction to Treasurer's Report: Statement should say: January 2008 - September 2008 and not January 2008 - December 2008.
- **MOTION** to approve Treasurer's Report as corrected. In Favor – 38; Opposed – 0; Abstained – 1.

VI. Sanctions Report – Marlene Atwood

Marlene Atwood reported 81 sanctions to date and referred to her report in the Annual Reports Book for detail on the types of events being sanctioned. Sanction revenues have doubled from the previous year.

VII. Officials Committee – Murray Sanford

- Time to recertify for the Olympiad. This applies to all officials except for those who certified in 2008.
- This year you must be a current member of USATF to be a certified official. This means that membership must be renewed each year in order to maintain your official's certification.
- Officials now have liability insurance coverage at any level of competition. This is at no additional cost to the official.

VIII. Special Election of Association Secretary

The position of Association Secretary has been filled on an interim basis by Marlene Atwood since February 2008. She was appointed by the board due to the deployment of Secretary Angela Bowie to Iraq. A special election is being held to fill the remainder of the term. Marlene Atwood has indicated she would like to continue in that role. President Sanford reviewed the duties of the secretary and called for nominations from the floor. No nominations were made. **MOTION** was made to accept Marlene Atwood as Association Secretary by acclamation. MOTION passes.

- IX. Bylaws Revisions** – The President advised that last year the membership voted on a restructuring plan. The Olympic Committee rejected it. USOC asked USATF to rewrite their bylaws, and asked for a smaller board. If USATF does not comply, USCO can decertify USATF as a governing body. All USATF members should have received an orange card in the mail about the annual convention in Reno and asking members to read the bylaw revisions that will be voted on at that meeting.

The bylaw revision being voted on today is Article 15 containing revised grievance procedures. A **MOTION** was made to accept the proposed revisions. In Favor - 31, Opposed - 0, Abstained - 12.

X. General Announcements:

- Inez Finch – The National Youth Committee has asked the organization to allow them to become a separate division. If this is approved, it will allow the committee to secure new programs and sponsorship for the youth. The restructuring plan will help do this.
- Inez Finch – A national workshop was presented for youth representatives here in Georgia earlier this year. It was designed to get youth chairs together to discuss youth business and nothing else. The workshop was well attended. Surveys taken prior the workshop revealed that leaders needed training on how to conduct events. Inez is on the training development committee that is working on a new training manual for chairs. They are also working on a budget to put on another workshop in the future.
- Art Carrington, USATF Georgia Association Starter, asked attendees to consider learning to become starters. Last year's appeal for starters yielded 12 individuals. Of the original 12, only 4 remain. Art will be scheduling a starter clinic in the next few months. President Sanford acknowledged that Art was selected head starter at the Youth National Championships in Charlotte this year.
- Joyce Hodges-Hite, Masters Chair – The Masters Cross Country Championship has been changed to November 21, 2008.
- Ian Dube, 1st Vice Chair – A Level 1 Coaching School is scheduled for November 21 – 23, 2008. A second school is slated for February 2009.
- Jim Hite, Race Walk Chair – An Association Race Walk Championship is scheduled for October 14, 2008.

Committee Breakout Sessions – 10:30 a.m.

Resumption of General Session – 12:40 p.m.

- XI. Old Business** – USATF member Don Brown asked that the association change the requirements of notification of an annual meeting. The USATF Georgia Association Bylaws state that notification can be given by email or by written notice. Mr. Brown proposed a resolution that the association will agree to use at least two methods of notification of an annual meeting. So noted. The resolution will be handled as an administrative change.

XII. **Committee Reports from Breakout Sessions:**

Officials Meeting: Arthur Carrington was presented with an Outstanding Service Award by the USATF National Officials Committee. Dick Moss is a finalist for the national Andy Bakjian Award given to a worthy official. President Murray Sanford has been nominated for the national Jim Gray Award for administrative service. President Sanford has also been nominated to the Track & Field Hall of Fame. Jeff Rigdon and Duncan MacGregor were named USATF Georgia Association Officials of the Year.

Track & Field Committee: Olympic Grants – 7 athletes have applied for Association grants which will help defray costs of competing in the Olympic Trials. Georgia is the only association that provides Olympic grants.

Youth Committee: Ron Williams and Tony Carpenter have been selected to the Youth World Team as assistant managers.

Special Note: Elections were held in several committees. Results will be published after confirmation of elections.

XIII. **Meeting Adjournment:** **MOTION** was made to adjourn. **MOTION** was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 pm.

**Respectively Submitted,
Marlene Atwood
USATF Georgia Association Secretary**