

**Minutes of the Pacific Northwest Track & Field / USATF Pacific Northwest Annual Meeting
held September 21, 2015**

President Ivars Ikstrums called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Seattle Parks and Recreation Building at 100 Dexter Ave. N. in Seattle. The following were present: Ivars Ikstrums, Ed Viering, Chris Kunzelman, Doug Chandler, Carole Langenbach, Bob Springer, Patti Petesch, Neal Stoddard, Bill Roe, Bill Hickman, Bob Langenbach, Kwajalein Griffin, Darlene Hickman, Becca Peter, Holly Genest, Jim Ryan, John Patterson, Bob Sund, Paul Bodenshot, Lance Neubauer, Eddie Strickler, Eric Sach, Lawrie Robertson, Gwen Robertson, Larry Scheurer.

I MINUTES AND EXECUTIVE REPORTS

- A. Welcome: President Ivars Ikstrums welcomed the attendees.
- B. Verification of Voting Members: Ed Viering explained that with a large turnout, the voting apportionment set out in the by-laws ensures representation from athletes, coaches, officials, etc. He confirmed that all of today's attendees are eligible to vote.
- C. Secretary's Report/Minutes: Ed Viering distributed the agenda and latest schedule. He reported that minutes for the August Meeting have been emailed and posted on the website with no amendments required. The minutes were accepted.
- D. Treasurer's Report: Doug Chandler submitted his report. The report was accepted.
Overall Total as of 8/31/2015: \$142,683.58. Group breakdowns:

General Fund -	\$69,891.07	Masters -	\$13,278.83
Open -	\$22,277.08	Youth -	\$32,799.98
Officials T&C-	\$ 4,551.05	Fred Dean Youth Travel -	\$ 2,613.00
- E. Membership Report: Tracy Silva submitted her report via email [*Editor's note: this did not get announced at the meeting*].
 - 1. As of Sep 21, 2015: Youth- 1721; Open- 414; Masters- 650; Clubs- 77.
 - 2. Relative to a year ago: Youth is up 119, Open is down 10, Masters is up 34, Clubs is up 0.
- F. Sanctions Report: Carole Langenbach. We have 187 sanctions so far this year.
- G. Vice President's Report: Chris Kunzelman. As new Chairs get elected, please let us know who it is and if you are designating an alternate voter. All alternates expire at start of the October meeting. Please re-confirm any designees with the Vice President. All At-Large and Athlete reps expire at the start of the October meeting. New appointments will be made then. Please let us know if interested in filling one of these positions.
- H. President's Report- The State of Our Association: Ivars Ikstrums

We are PNTF, but what does that mean? Geographically we run from Oregon to Canada and from the Pacific Ocean to Pacific Crest. If you subtract out the National Parks and Forests, our land area is not impressive. So, why do so many notice us? It is because of our people.

At the higher echelons, Darlene Hickman has recently been selected to the Track and Field Officials Hall of Fame. Bill Roe has been voted in as an IAAF Committee Member for Cross Country. Bob Springer is a finalist for the Andy Bakjian Award. How many Associations can say this? This represents the high level of depth we have.

But we exist to bring forth Track and Field in Western Washington. This is where we have a completely different level of involvement. Our Youth involvement always impresses me. We put on a whole slate of developmental meets and a good JO meet. Our Open Chair is the closest thing we have to a human dynamo. Becca Peter makes a lot of things happen. Masters has had a changing of the guard. Lance Neubauer has taken over. He is also a competitor and we reap the benefits of that.

Historically we have had a problem filling openings for athletes, but in recent years we have had a full slate of athlete representatives. I am very interested in our new Race Walk representative, Steve Dibernardo. He

presents the sport in an interesting light. Our MUT representative, Eric Sach, is making things happen at the grass roots.

We received our preliminary accreditation in March. We have already put on one National Championship (Masters Throws) and about a month from now our compadres in Bellingham are putting on their 2nd National Trail Half Marathon. Why a second one? Because the council head, who was here and raced last year, asked us to bid for two more years. She did this right after the race was finished! How did this happen? Because a bunch of interested people made it happen. This was not micromanaged by us—it was a local committee in Bellingham.

As for the state of our association, I see us as being vibrant and healthy. Let's keep doing that.

II COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Youth Committee: Holly Genest

1. We had 25 people attend and spent 3 ½ hours at what was our best yearly meeting ever. We had reps from 12 clubs plus Officials plus PNTF.
2. Our 1st XC meet has been cancelled due to Seahawks game.
3. We are hosting Regional T&F in 2016. Looking at Mt. Tahoma. The Tacoma Sports Commission is fully supporting us.
4. Chris noted that it was exciting to see some new clubs at the meeting.
5. We had 28 athletes at Juniors and 3 at World Youth Trials.

B. Open Committee: Becca Peter.

1. Nov 1 is XC Championships. We are reluctantly using USATF registration again. Since clubs pay for their athletes here, and because we allow registration that day, and since it is Nov 1 (the start of the membership year) we are going to register, but not pay, online.
2. Club Nats is in San Francisco so a lot of teams are going down. The course can't handle the sudden explosion of popularity, so no B teams are allowed. Masters 70+ is now 8K at Nationals.

C. MUT Committee: Eric Sach.

1. National Trail Half Marathon Championship is coming up at Lake Padden in Bellingham on October 17. We are behind on entry numbers. We do have 30 competitive USATF runners. It will be a 2 loop course which is more spectator friendly and is better for trail runners vs. for road runners. Good turnout from Club NW and Seattle Running Club, although it is not at a great time relative to cross country.
2. Joe Gray was 5th in the world at World Mountain Championships in Wales.

D. Masters Committee: Lance Neubauer.

1. We held National Championship for Throws Pentathlon, Ultraweight Pentathlon and Superweight. It was the first bad weather day of the season. It was Lance's first time working a meet from the inside. The Banquet went great. Response from the athletes was spectacular. They said the flow of the meet was good and they were treated very well by the officials.
2. For the Combined Events next year, Shoreline is re-turfing and re-painting. Shorewood—about a mile away—has a new track and we may be able to shuttle between the two to get a better Javelin venue and a second Pole Vault runway. It will be nice to not have to deal with the portable wooden runway.

E. Race Walk Committee: Steve DiBernardo submitted his report via email.

1. Upcoming race on September 27 is the National One Hour Postal Walk, held at the track in Banks, Oregon this Sunday. Bob Novak is unavailable for our team effort and Stan is retired in Kona, so Mike Rehder, Rob Frank and myself will join to represent Racewalkers Northwest for this year's effort. In 2014, Stan, Bob and I finished 2nd nationally, as a Masters Team for Club Northwest.
2. The RWNW 20km Festival, held on September 13th in Beaverton, Oregon, set a new course record for men and a PNW Record for Masters Division with a time of 1:55:23, by yours truly. Also, Erin Gray, in preparation for the 2016 Olympic year, posted a new Course record for women with a 1:47:02 clocking, unofficially qualifying for the Olympic Trials, as one additional Racewalking Judge was needed in order to accept the time, officially.

3. The intrepid adventurers who traveled to Portland for the 25th Annual Portland to Coast Racewalking Relay all survived the 60 mile per hour winds at the closing stages of this race in Seaside, Oregon, with Mike Rehder's team scoring a first place, Ann Tuberg's team winning again for the 9th time, while No Fun Intended finished 8th overall, third in the Men's Masters division. NOTE: My favorite team name from this event is "Time Wounds All Heels."
- F. Athletes: Eddie Strickler. At Worlds, the Men's Marathon did not have a marked finish line. The times were correct, but the first few runners kept on going around the track inside the stadium. Local and college XC is kicking off. At Sundodger, they didn't drop the porta-potties in the right place, which was somewhat of an issue.
- G. Officials Committee: Neal Stoddard.
1. New scoreboard is on its way by boat.
 2. Banquet and Annual Meeting is Jan 23 in Tukwila.
 3. We bought an additional timing mat which allows us to do splits.
 4. Ivars stated we will have more XC meets this season than ever before. The officials are stepping up their game. We have upgraded cameras. Wait until you see the new reader board! Next meet is Oct 2 UW at Jefferson Golf Course.
- H. Officials Training & Certification: Bob Springer.
1. We are looking at two new sites for Seattle and Tacoma. Looking at the International District Chinatown Community Center.
 2. Chris will check with Coaches for putting on a demonstration on Jan 15 at their convention. We are setting up "train the trainers" with the coaches.
 3. We were contacted by the Florida counterpart of WIAA about our initiatives.
 4. We are looking at online registration. WIAA clock hours would still be collected at the door.
- I. Communications: Becca Peter. The delay on switching to the USATF common-look website has been with the National Office, not with Andy.
- J. USATF Associations Committee: Patti Petesch.
1. Biggest talk is about accreditation standards. There is still no agreement between the associations and accreditation committees. Associations wants to take off the requirement for 10 year athletes and wants number of championships to be reduced to 18. Another challenge is how to apply standards differently in large and small associations. Coaches education is coming off the list.
 2. This is first year of a two year test of Associations Workshop being the first day of Annual Meeting.
 3. RunJumpThrow/Future Stars: Hershey still wanted to have a competitive meet. Jeannette Seiler won the bid. It was relatively well attended, but not a meet for typical USATF Youth. Future Stars seems very successful so far. RunJumpThrow signed on to partner with an Indianapolis based sorority to put on RJT events.

III BUSINESS

- A. Athlete and At-Large Board Members: Chris Kunzelman. This was covered during VP report.
- B. USATF Annual Meeting – Patti Petesch.
1. Flights on Alaska to Houston are filling up.
 2. Larry and Paul want to attend. They are not tied to any one area which is a nice option to have. Patti and Becca will heavily recruit athletes.
 3. Annual Dinner Update: Chris Kunzelman for Char Engelhardt. It will be Feb 20. Details to follow. We picked the week before USAs due to last year's positive feedback.
- C. General Comments:
1. Bob Sund. Bob wants us to consider donating to the Coach Tuck Gionet Student Support Fund through the Snohomish Kiwanis Charitable Foundation. Coach Gionet, who passed away recently, was President of Washington T&F Coaches Association and Head Coach at Snohomish HS. The fund helps at risk students. Tuck always made sure that these students were given the opportunity to compete. Ivars promised an answer by next meeting. We must

verify our policy and ensure consistency. We may only be able to donate to other 501(c)3 organizations. Lawrie Robertson offered that we could always give individually on behalf of PNTF.

2. Darlene Hickman. USATF Board of Directors meets next on Oct 10.
 3. Darlene Hickman. Seattle Sports Commission Women's Leadership Breakfast is Oct 28. \$50 for an individual. \$500 for a table of 10. Darlene would like PNTF to have a table.
 4. Bill Roe. Western Washington University would welcome PNTF participation for GNAC XC Champs on Oct 24. Holly said Whatcom Tesseract was planning on having a meet that day. Bill Roe welcomed the idea of running a Youth meet right after the GNAC.
 5. Ivars Ikstrums. Doug Chandler is our outgoing Treasurer. He has served 4 years. Ivars says he understands how much work Doug has done us. He knows what the job is about since he does it for a similar organization. Ivars presented Doug with a token of appreciation.
- D. Election of Officers: Carole Langenbach.
1. Three of our Officers– Ivars Ikstrums, Chris Kunzelman and Ed Viering– all volunteered to run again for their position and were nominated.
 2. With Doug Chandler probably moving to Spokane, Gwen Robertson was nominated and has agreed to run for Treasurer. She is our former Treasurer and has since retired as Head T&F Coach at Issaquah HS.
 3. The floor was opened for additional nominations. There were none. It was moved and seconded to approve these unopposed candidates by acclamation. The motion passed.
 4. The elected officers are:
 - i. President – Ivars Ikstrums
 - ii. Vice President – Chris Kunzelman
 - iii. Treasurer – Gwen Robertson
 - iv. Secretary – Ed Viering
- E. Next Meeting. The next meeting was confirmed for October 19.

IV ADJOURNMENT

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Viering
Secretary
Pacific Northwest Track & Field / USATF Pacific Northwest