

Minutes of the Alabama Association of USATF Fall Meeting
Hampton Inn
Calera, AL
September 27, 2009

The secretary determined there was quorum after determining that the following clubs were present:

Alabama Speed and Fitness Magic City Runners
Alabama Sports Festival Magic City Track Club
Birmingham Track Club Montgomery YMCA
Club Elite Oak Mountain Runners
Community Track Club Southern Runners
Hoover Track Club Speed City
Hoover Track Foundation Sprint South
Huntsville Metro Track Club

President Brown called the meeting to order.

Officers present: Richmond Brown, Joe Henderson, and Judi Allen.

Steve Bedsole proposed that the reading of the previous meeting's minutes be dispensed. This was seconded by Lars Porter and the motion was passed.

The secretary stated that the credentials of the attendees were reviewed and were accepted.

Elections

Gini Bell, of the nominating committee reviewed the nominations for the officers as follows:

President Joe Henderson

Nominations for president were called for from the floor. Edwin Hampton made a motion that the nominations be closed and Doug Moran seconded it. The motion was passed.

Vice President Richmond Brown

Nominations for vice president were called for from the floor. Steve Bedsole made a motion that the nominations be closed and Edwin Hampton seconded it. The nation was passed.

Membership Mary Birdwell

Nomination for membership were called for from the floor. Doug Moran made a motion that the nominations be closed and Bill Murray seconded it. The nation was passed.

Secretary-Treasurer Walt Bell

Nominations for secretary-treasurer were called for from the floor. Bill Murray made a motion that the nominations be closed and Edwin Hampton seconded it. The motion was passed.

John Bahakal proposed that the slate of officers be elected by acclamation. Steve Bedsole seconded it. The motion passed.

The outgoing treasurer will see that all bank accounts will be authorized to accept signatures of the incoming treasurer, membership chair, and/or the president.

Reports:

Membership: I read the report that stated that as of 8/31/09. There were 1099 members, 31 clubs, and 14 sanctions. Sanctions are down and Rose suggested that personal

contact of the running clubs by the LDR chair could help increase the number of sanctions. The Rocket City Rollers check for dues was returned and their voting privileges should be suspended.

Racewalk:Judi Allen reported that the Azalea Trail Run had a race walk competition. She also reported that she had officiated at the association meet for the racewalk competition. She then told the coaches that it was better to not have any competitors in the meets, than to put athletes in that really did not know what they were doing. She suggested that they go to You Tube or other places on the internet for the youth to observe race walking techniques.

Officials: John Bahakal reported that they were 90 registered official plus 12 that needed to complete their certifications. There have been requests to hold officials clinics throughout the state and the date and locations will be forthcoming.

He also gave out certificates to the following for their continuing and outstanding services as officials:

Gini Bell Houston Young
Martha Moran Mary Birdwell
David Bahakal Richmond Brown
James Pugh Bill Evans
Bill Murray Ben Vail, IV

Bill DeCastro

Connie Tolbert-McClinton was awarded Official of the Year as well as/of her district from the AHSAA.

Masters Track & Field: Bill Murray stated that the number of masters athletes is up. He continues holding successful masters championships.

Mens LDR: Ryan Bourque is continuing in his efforts to hold a series of grandprix regional meets. He has contacted the Azalea Trail Run and would offer a place in line right behind the invited athletes in the race. He will continue in his efforts.

He has also contacted Blue Cross/Blue Shield in order to hold a Anti-Obesity marathon to encourage good health. The number of races appear to be down, perhaps due to the economy.

Youth Committee: Mary Birdwell reported that the Alabama Sports Festival had 600 track and field participants, 475 were youth. On June 6, the youth meet had 436 youth and 100 masters and open participants.

The state meet cleared \$1700 after expenses.

There has been a proposal to build an indoor track at Fair Park so that we can have more indoor track meets.

The state cross country meet will be held in Hoover in November. A date has not been chosen yet.

There are three new clubs incoming.

Mary, who is the regional coordinator, states that the next regional youth meet will be held in Louisiana and the nationals will be held in Sacramento, California.

Coaches Education: Paul Breuske was unable to attend, but did send in a report. The number of USATF certified coaches is increasing. Lars Porter hosted a successful Level 1 coaches school at Birmingham Southern in May with more than 30 participants.

The next Level 1 coaches school will be held in Mobile on January 8-10 at St. Luke's School. Registration information is available on the USATF.org website.

If anyone is interested in having a Level I, II, or Developmental coaching school in their area, contact me.

National Cross Country meet: Steve Bedsole, Mary Birdwell, and Joe Henderson suggested that the various youth clubs be able to earn money by volunteering to help work the national country meet next year, which will be held in Hoover. There will be some "dress rehearsals" for the national cross country meet.

President's Report: Richmond reported that our association had meet all primary standards for accreditation. This means that our delegation will be able to vote at the annual meeting.

He also gave a brief report from his attendance at the Associations meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. Attendance at the associations meeting give us credit in the secondary standards for USATF, and our association is also given back \$600 plus \$30 per participant for attending.

He praised the committee chairs and also stated that the website in a good enhancement for the association. He recognized Joe Henderson for his many years of service and excellence.

Judi Allen mentioned the Phidippides Award that the officers learned about at the association meeting. This is an award for masters who run so many miles per year in sanctioned road roads. This is for people who don't win all the time, but run our races. She had applications for those interested. Hopefully, this will encouraged the LDR clubs to sanction more races. This is free and plaques for gold, silver and bronze levels will be awarded, deepening on the age group and number of miles run during the calendar year.

Old business: There was no old business.

New business: John Bahakal reported that he is on the Law and Legislation committee and will be heading to Indianapolis soon for an L&L meeting. Apparently, the national office wants to restructure and restructuring that the body voted on in December and narrow down the board even more. He will keep us apprised of anything that comes out of the meeting.

Walt Bell introduced a proposal that, if any of our members represent us an a national committee, they be given per diem and travel expense reimbursement (amount approved by the board), if they have to travel to a meeting. The proposal was moved by Bill Murray and seconded by Steve Bedsole. The proposal was passed unanimously.

Edwin Hampton brought up a discussion of forming an Association relay team called, Team Alabama, for competing in regional and national meets. They could not be on their club's relay team, if they were on this team. There was discussion about this, but no conclusion at this time. This was to be researched for its legality and then the proposal could be brought up again for further discussion and possible vote.

Convention planning: Judi Allen made a proposal that the delegates 1) be reimbursed for the \$160 registration fee, 2) receive \$45 per diem for up to 6 days for a maximum of \$270, 3) delegate check in with an officer up arriving at the annual meeting, 4) delegate attend either the opening or closing of the meeting, 5) delegate submit a written report to the secretary-treasurer within 15 days of the close of the meeting. Reports received after that, will not be reimbursed. Bill Murray proposed an amendment that gave the raised the per diem to \$50 per day and \$300 maximum. Mary Birdwell seconded. it. There was no discussion and the proposal was passed unanimously

The association is allowed 13 delegates. All of the officers will go and these committee chairs stated they were available to go, also: John Bahakal, Bill Murray, Connie T. McClinton, Ryan Bourke, and Mary Birdwell The incoming president will contact absent committee chair and will inquire as to their availability. There are mandates on the number of coaches and athletes A

list of 10-year athletes was given to the president for possible attendance. Edwin Hampton and T.J. Williams will be alternates.

Mr. Joe Henderson gave an acceptance speech and wanted to recognize outgoing officers Rose Murphy and Judi Allen for their service.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Allen

Secretary-treasurer