

Mid-Atlantic Association Executive Committee
September 21, 2004
Carousel House, Philadelphia, PA

President Earl Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Members attending were Earl Williams, Harold Adams, Jim Adderley, Bill Brasington, Bob Delambily, Norman Green, and Bill Jackson. Ed Callahan was excused.

President: Earl reported that he had attended the Associations Workshop in Phoenix, and that it was "pretty good." He, Norm, and Ruth Thompson were the only ones from Mid-Atlantic attending. The workshop reviewed the importance of association websites. Earl believes that ours is a disgrace, carrying many obsolete "update" dates. He finds it is not user friendly. He was unable to find minutes. From his perspective the USATF national website is even worse.

Earl said that he and Norm were the only ones meeting the newsletter deadline of last Friday. He is holding the newsletter for the membership information promised by Bill Brasington. Earl has been told that the national Masters Weight Pentathlon championship held in our association was outstanding.

Vice President: Ed is in Minnesota and unable to attend our meeting.

Secretary: Norm reported that Executive Committee and Quarterly Meeting minutes have been sent to Bill Brasington for posting on the website. In keeping with the Bylaw deadline of August 31 for voting eligibility, Norm confirms that 1,462 individuals and club representatives are eligible to vote on October 19. Norm has communicated (e-mail of September 7) to Andy Martin that his proposed letter to south Jersey members about renewing for 2005 is not acceptable. On 9/8 Andy responded that he was passing the message to the Member Services Committee for review. No further word has been received.

Treasurer: Harold reported that on August 31 the association had total assets of \$42,383 and liabilities of \$337 for a net worth of \$42,046. He expressed a concern that he is not receiving all deposit slips, notably from Youth Athletics. Bill responded that deposits for YA are made along with membership receipts by Norm. Norm further noted that YA revenue in 2004 has exceeded \$13,500. Bob expressed a desire that all revenue be keyed to the appropriate budget line item (similar to how vouchers key the expense lines).

Law & Legislation: Earl said that the major issue here is the Potomac Valley Association grievance against Devon Williams (a youth athlete) and Mid-Atlantic Association, which will be discussed under Unfinished Business.

Membership: Bill reported that membership has significantly increased this year, though we are effectively "shut down" now in readiness for the November 1 start for 2005. YA membership showed a dramatic increase through the area meets and having the Youth National meet in Baltimore. Next year Mid-Atlantic hosts the JO regional meet, while the JO National event is scheduled for Indianapolis—both facts should help us maintain our higher membership.

We have not been helped by national's present style of tying the Calendar to sanctions. The result is the calendar listings are too little and too late. Mid-Atlantic maintains its own calendar. Norm noted that we currently have 99 clubs and event organizations. Bill wants to resurrect a race-walking club to give leadership to that sport (possibly PHAST).

Nominating: Harold said he had submitted the nominations to the secretary on August 18 per the bylaws. Norm notified the webmaster on August 24, so that the nominees and the process have been posted within the deadline of the bylaws. Harold read the list of nominees.

The committee agreed to the following procedure at the annual meeting:

- 1) Eligibility of voters will be confirmed by the secretary upon their arrival and sign-in;
- 2) Each will be given a prepared ballot of all nominees received by October 4 deadline—ballot to include blank lines for write-in candidates;
- 3) Harold will conduct a floor nominating opportunity on an office by office basis, closing nominations for one position before proceeding to the next;
- 4) When all offices have been closed, Harold will invite a “vote by acclamation” for any unopposed candidates;
- 5) Harold will invite eligible voters to mark their ballots, with Earl establishing a “turn in” deadline.
- 6) Earl will name a tellers panel of 3 (1 of whom must be an athlete) to count the votes.

Budget & Finance: Bob Delambily said he had received a budget request from each group. He distributed a 2005 budget summary showing revenues of \$84,847 and expenses of \$83,302. He has asked High Performance to redo its budget so that there will be an offset between revenue and expense to provide for the Administrative budget. Bob reviewed the detailed budget submissions of each committee. The Executive Committee also agreed to restore \$3,000 for travel support of Mid-Atlantic delegates to the USATF Annual Meeting in Portland if revenues are seen as adequate by our October 19 meeting.

Coaching Education: Carl absent, so Earl reported that we will have another Level I school next March. Earl also noted that some national leaders are pushing to have more coaching education handled through on-line communication rather than in-person schools and clinics.

Officials: Earl said officials have not met since June. He has received no information from national concerning recertifying officials for the new Olympiad, which has already begun. He also noted that the Mid-Atlantic timing crew is ready to serve with an equipment rental charge to outside groups, plus a \$400/day crew charge for all users.

Awards: Norm said the next awards lunch will be January 22, 2005.

Unfinished Business: Bill Brasington described the PVA vs Devon Williams/Mid-Atlantic grievance history. A couple of years ago Devon who lives in Baltimore was transferred to our association, rising to compete at the national JO event. There a protest was filed that she was competing out of association; the protest was denied. A year later PVA filed the grievance. National has named a National Athletics Board of Review (3 persons). Along the way we objected to three persons named to the panel and have now agreed to the latest 3 names. Carl Sniffen of Oregon will chair the panel.

The Executive Committee agreed that Bill Brasington will be our spokesperson for the grievance hearing. Earl will report this appointment to Ed Callahan when he speaks with him on Wednesday. We also agreed to ask Carl Sniffen that a parent or other representative approved by the family be Devon's advocate on the hearing, since she is a minor.

New Business: Bill Brasington reported that the association may have another possible grievance coming soon. Several families associated with the Philadelphia Striders claim that Malcolm Pace collected transportation fees and promised a bus to get club athletes to the meet in North Carolina earlier this year—bottom line: no bus and no refunds.

Sanction fee increase: Norm distributed a proposal for the association to adopt a schedule of graduated local sanction fees using the same size categories as national. The current \$40 local sanction fee is charged whether an event has 50 participants or more than 10,000. On motion by Harold Adams and second by Jim Adderley, the committee adopted Norm's proposal, to be effective with the 2005 membership year.

Earl sought approval to purchase a USATF-logo tent with side flaps. He has received \$500 from national toward this purchase and estimated the further expense to Mid-Atlantic could be as much as \$300. On motion by Bob Delambily and second by Harold Adams, the committee approved the purchase.

The Annual Meeting will be **Tuesday**, October 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the Carousel House auditorium.

The committee adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Norman Green, secretary