

## West Virginia USATF Association Minutes

October 10, 2015

The annual meeting of the West Virginia USATF Association was called to order by President Paul Gilmer at 1:00 PM, October 10, 2015, in the Green Room at the University of Charleston Stadium Laidley Field, Charleston, WV. There were twelve members present. Richard Messenger, secretary, announced that according to the by-laws there was a quorum present to conduct business.

The minutes of the 2014 meeting were presented and accepted as written.

Richard Messenger, Treasurer, reported a balance of \$7169.74 in the association account. The report was approved as presented. He also stated that a budget would be posted on the website.

Youth report was very interesting. It was reported that site selection for the national meets seems to be a major issue. It also seems that it depends on what portion of the country that the meets are conducted as to the size of the meet. The association had several athletes qualify for the USATF Junior Olympics in Jacksonville, FL and had some good results with those that actually participated. The involvement of Hershey was also discussed.

During committee reports, it was learned that we have 24 sanctions, 285 members, 6 clubs and 36 officials. Mr. Gilmer stated that that Bobbi Jo Chapman has agreed to be the Race Walk Chair and that she wants to promote race walk within the association.

Richard Messenger reviewed the Plan for Improvement that has been updated. It was moved, seconded and approved.

Richard Messenger then asked the group for some input into how to increase membership. It was agreed that we need to try and get other areas of the state to participate in our summer programs. It was suggested that we continue to provide the state middle school and high school coaches with information about USATF and to encourage that to share the information with their athletes. It was also discussed that we offer to provide our USATF officials for their meets and have the officials have brochures available to share the benefits package of USATF. It was suggested that two of our current members who have had success at the national level be approached and asked to possibly use their picture and get some quotes from them for the flyer. The President will check to see if he can get a couple of those athletes to give statements that can be used in the flyer. It was suggested that the association do more to get the Run, Jump, Throw program information out to the schools to try and increase our numbers.

Paul also discussed meeting with Marshall University and West Virginia University to encourage them to sanction their all comer's meets and to look into hosting an indoor championship for the association. Paul announced that he had two members who are involved in the road racing community who have volunteered to serve as LDR chairs and that hopefully we would be able to receive some sanctions of additional road races. It was suggested that perhaps that they could put together a road race circuit which would produce more members for the association.

After some discussion of the annual meeting, it was moved, seconded and approved that those attending the annual USATF meeting in Houston, TX would get \$250 each upon presenting the Treasurer with a written report on the meetings that they attended. The following were approved as delegates: William "Chip" Ferrell, Paul Gilmer, Richard Messenger and Donna Messenger. Richard suggested that other members really need to try and attend the annual USATF meetings and provided the dates for the next three years.

Richard requested that the annual meeting continue to be held in either September or early October so that it would be easier to get all the materials ready for the national office and the annual meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Richard Messenger

Secretary