

PRESIDENT REPORT  
USATFNE ANNUAL MEETING  
OMAHA NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL - OMAHA, NE  
September 9, 2018

This report could be just change the date and print from last year. Track and Field in Nebraska, in the USA and the world is **STILL** not looking very good. Our sport **CONTINUES TO BE** plagued with athletes cheating on the international level, sports federation leaders participating in corrupted and sometimes illegal activities and other sports at least locally taking many of our athletes away from track. **And turn our back on the safety of the athletes who want to do the sport. We have not solved on a national and international level how to provide volunteers, coaches and others to conduct the practices, meets, training etc. and ensure it will be safe and rewarding physically and emotionally for the athletes. Winning medals and being an Olympian is so important but not at the risk of the athletes.**

The divide between East and West in Nebraska has to be solved...we have to utilize, recognize and reward the entire state of track and field athletes. We have a couple of Ad Hoc teams working to begin some of that process.

I am confident that the talent level and the interest and support is here to make this happen.

Financially, we are about the same and have begun to comply with the national in documentations and process and procedures. We are showing a little more funds as you will hear in the treasurer's report. Membership remains consistent and clubs and officials as well. LDR and Masters and Race Walk have some challenges but should be able to resolve in upcoming year.

Finally, I am going to repeat something I have said again and again as the Cross Country and indoor and outdoor track season, I am asking all of us to become more cooperative and supportive of all involved especially the athletes and coaches

As many of you know I will not seek re-election to the President position. I remind all who are elected or appointed they must be current USATF members, have a background check completed and also complete the SafeSport.

To the new President and other officers elected or re-elected I wish you the best of Luck. You and the Chairs, Clubs, Coaches and Athletes have represented Nebraska well. To all of them and all of you I want to thank you for what you do for all in Track and Field in Nebraska and the country.

Respectfully submitted

Rubin Carter

## 2018 Nebraska Association of USATF Financial Report

9-9-2018

Current cash deposited in Gothenburg State Bank as of 9-9-2018	\$84,365.43
Less Outstanding Checks (Primarily Club Stipends issued today)	\$3,358.63
Current running balance Gothenburg State Bank as of 9-9-2018	\$81,006.80

Certification Chair Reported to me on 9-4-2018 That she has been Holding deposits of I believe \$5,245.00 I'm unclear on if that is total for the year or of that is additional deposits today.

Youth Chair has reported that the Treasure will be handed deposits from the 2018 Association Youth Championships today. I have no information on what that amount is? Obviously, the late information will need to be reviewed.

I asked our accountant to file an extension until the association has signed documentation in regards to the 2017 Association Youth Championship Meet. A Portion of that documentation was emailed to myself and Rubin Carter at 8:30 PM 9-8-2018. Additional documentation Is to be handed over today.

Jim Clark  
Treasurer  
Nebraska Association USATF

## **USATF LDR Proposals/Ideas/Report**

### **LDR Chair vs. Committee**

With some shorter LDR Chair stints over the past several years, it might be in the best interest of the Association to consider a committee-based approach. This could be led by a Chair that then nominates (or solicits volunteers for) a committee that could then oversee various aspects of the responsibilities.

### **Re-engagement/Incentives for Clubs**

After speaking with Club leaders, I feel it is in our best interest to define initiatives that can work not only in the best interest of the everyday runner, but also work to the Clubs' benefit. We have lost membership amongst the Club ranks for several reasons and finding ways to re-engage with them (see some ideas below) could be ways to do that.

### **Championship Designation**

To avoid a situation where we do not have a full championships calendar in a given year, I would recommend that we determine the championship schedule in December for the following year's calendar.

The proposal would require that races who wish to be considered for Association championship designation submit a formal submission to the LDR Chair for consideration no later than 11/30. Once this form is submitted, then it will be reviewed by the LDR Chair to determine that event's consideration. The LDR Chair will have the sole discretion to determine an event's eligibility as the Association championship.

Furthermore, it be recommended that Championship races for the following distances at a minimum be awarded or, at least, in negotiation prior to the end of the year:

- 1 mile
- 5k
- 5 mile
- 10k
- 10 mile
- Half marathon
- Marathon
- Trail

Races outside of those distances can be awarded or discussed if no one steps forward to express interest in hosting them.

Races that have declared/requested for 2019 championships are:

- The Valley 7 Lakes Marathon (has requested to serve as the Association championship for the marathon relay)
  - Requested to LDR Chair on June 5, 2018 at which time LDR Chair reported that the Valley 7 Lakes Marathon be awarded the Relay Championship designation for 2019

By developing the majority of our Association championship schedule in December, we will ensure that we meet the minimum requirement for the number of championship races in a calendar year.

### **Travel Stipend**

I propose that LDR utilize a set amount of funds, which have been approved by the Association Trustees, to be used for USATF member clubs as a travel stipend. These stipends would only be eligible for national championship events, and be capped at a designated amount per Member and Club. Additionally, a member may not receive more than one (1) travel stipend award in a calendar year.

### **Prize Money**

Many member organizations in other states provide prize money for championship races. Therefore, I feel it is best if we look for ways to provide some type of purse for our Association championship, to be approved by the Association Trustees. In Minnesota, for example, the Association gives \$250 in prize money per championship race. The championship race then commits at least \$500 to the prize purse for the race. While this is not necessarily being suggested, it is an option to evaluate.

### **Master Race Directory**

I've been working on a master race directory with all Nebraska-based races that I could find. I think it would be beneficial if we could market sanctioning to these events in an effort to drive additional revenue to the Association to help cover the aforementioned expenses. The race directory includes race name, contact name and phone number/email (when available).

The purpose of the race directory would be to create an ever-evolving list of races that we can market to for both race sanctioning and discounts for our Association members. By utilizing our membership data, we can show race organizers that we have a captive audience that we can market to about their races. The goal would be to get the race organizers to provide a small discount to USATF members. The benefit for the races is that they get a larger target audience. The benefit for the members (or prospective members) is that it gives them an additional incentive to sign up for membership.

### **Race Sanction Fees**

To keep in line with national standards, I recommend that the Association increase the Nebraska race sanction fees. Currently, all sanctioning fees, regardless of distance or size of the race, that go back to the Association are set at a flat \$15. I propose that we implement a sliding scale (for both member and non-member organizations) based upon number of participants that gradually increases. This would be a graduating increase over the next five years so that we don't hit race organizers with a steep increase the first year. Following is a suggested guideline as an example:

#### **Member organizations**

- 1-100 participants
  - Year 1 (2019): \$18
  - 2020: \$20
  - 2021: \$23
  - 2022: \$25
- 100-250 participants
  - Year 1 (2019): \$20
  - 2020: \$25
  - 2021: \$30
  - 2022: \$25
  - 2023: \$45

- 251-500 participants
  - Year 1 (2019): \$25
  - 2020: \$30
  - 2021: \$35
  - 2022: \$40
  - 2023: \$45
- 501-1,000 participants
  - Year 1 (2019): \$35
  - 2020: \$45
  - 2021: \$55
  - 2022: \$65
  - 2023: \$75
- 1,001-2,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$45
  - 2020: \$55
  - 2021: \$65
  - 2022: \$75
  - 2023: \$85
- 2,001-4,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$60
  - 2020: \$70
  - 2021: \$80
  - 2022: \$90
  - 2023: \$100
- 4,001-6,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$70
  - 2020: \$80
  - 2021: \$90
  - 2022: \$100
  - 2023: \$110
- 6,001-10,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$80
  - 2020: \$90
  - 2021: \$100
  - 2022: \$110
  - 2023: \$120
- 10,001-15,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$95
  - 2020: \$105
  - 2021: \$115
  - 2022: \$125
  - 2023: \$135
- 15,001-25,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$115
  - 2020: \$125
  - 2021: \$135
  - 2022: \$150
  - 2023: \$175
- 25,000-35,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$125
  - 2020: \$150

- 2021: \$175
- 2022: \$200
- 2023: \$225
- 35,000+
  - Year 1 (2019): \$150
  - 2020: \$200
  - 2021: \$250
  - 2022: \$375
  - 2023: \$500

#### Non-member Organizations

- 1-100 participants
  - Year 1 (2019): \$105
  - 2020: \$110
  - 2021: \$115
  - 2022: \$120
  - 2023: \$125
- 100-250 participants
  - Year 1 (2019): \$110
  - 2020: \$115
  - 2021: \$120
  - 2022: \$125
  - 2023: \$130
- 251-500 participants
  - Year 1 (2019): \$115
  - 2020: \$120
  - 2021: \$125
  - 2022: \$130
  - 2023: \$135
- 501-1,000 participants
  - Year 1 (2019): \$125
  - 2020: \$140
  - 2021: \$150
  - 2022: \$160
  - 2023: \$175
- 1,001-2,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$140
  - 2020: \$155
  - 2021: \$170
  - 2022: \$185
  - 2023: \$200
- 2,001-4,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$150
  - 2020: \$165
  - 2021: \$180
  - 2022: \$195
  - 2023: \$210
- 4,001-6,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$160
  - 2020: \$175
  - 2021: \$190

- 2022: \$210
  - 2023: \$230
- 6,001-10,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$175
  - 2020: \$195
  - 2021: \$215
  - 2022: \$235
  - 2023: \$260
- 10,001-15,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$200
  - 2020: \$215
  - 2021: \$235
  - 2022: \$260
  - 2023: \$285
- 15,001-25,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$235
  - 2020: \$260
  - 2021: \$285
  - 2022: \$310
  - 2023: \$335
- 25,000-35,000
  - Year 1 (2019): \$275
  - 2020: \$305
  - 2021: \$335
  - 2022: \$365
  - 2023: \$395
- 35,000+
  - Year 1 (2019): \$305
  - 2020: \$335
  - 2021: \$365
  - 2022: \$395
  - 2023: \$430

Again, these numbers are purely proposals, but if we can ensure that the monies raised from sanction fees can be put back into the program for the benefit of the athletes and the clubs, then we should see the sport flourish at the elite levels and hopefully avoid membership decreases at the elite and club level.

Ultimately, the goal is to not only attract new members, but retain existing members. If we can show a significant value prop for both new and existing members, then we can see the financial side improve to where we can get back to investing in the non-youth side of the sport at a statewide level.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2018**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Due to the reports section of the National website being unavailable, I am unable to provide membership numbers at this time. I will, when able, provide an updated report to the secretary at a later date.

### **ADDENDUM 9/14/2018**

Current membership numbers are as follows: 1667 total, 1208 youth athletes, 459 adult members of which 27 have registered as officials.

This compares to last year's totals of 1783 total, 1274 youth athletes, 509 adult members of which 56 were registered as officials.

As an aside, here are the total membership numbers for the past 4 years -

Total	Youth	Officials
2018- 1667 to date	1208 to date	27
2017- 1783	1274	56
2016- 1605	1109	85
2015- 1539	1053	96

### **CLUBS**

There are currently 32 registered clubs or organizations, a decrease of 2 from this time last year.

25 mainly youth clubs, 7 LDR clubs or organizations.

We are seeing some regular turnover in different youth clubs coming in and leaving after a couple of years.

In 2018, we did have 2 LDR organizers not renew, Pink Gorilla Events and Women Run Nebraska

### **SANCTIONS**

There are currently 47 sanctioned events on the calendar for 2018, compared to 41 at this point last year and a 2017 total of 46.

Sanctioned so far for 2018 are 12 youth meets (11 at this time last year), 3 open track and/or field events (2 at this time last year), and 32 LDR events (28 at this time last year).

## Webmaster/Records/Communications Committee report

Darwin Gushard

Sunday, September 9, 2018

### **Webmaster**

- The association site is hosted GoDaddy. The site had a few malware incidents in March, but GoDaddy removed the malware and started doing monthly monitoring/cleaning. I now get monthly updates of any malware incidents/removals and most months there haven't been any.
- As always, if any officer or committee chair has something (news, pictures, whatever) to post, please let me know.

### **Records**

New records for youth outdoor track & field have been compiled, after looking through meet results from the 2018 season. The list of tentative record marks will be e-mailed to the clubs in the coming days for their review in case I missed any, so they can be approved at the October youth committee meeting.

### **Communications**

- I've sent more e-mails out to association members this past year, simply because I've been asked to – especially by LDR. Again, I can pretty easily send out e-mails targeted to specific disciplines, if so desired, besides just e-mailing every association member.
- When I do e-mail the association, some e-mails bounce back because of incorrect e-mail addresses. From the latest e-mail announcing the annual meeting, I received 38 delivery failure notifications because of inactive or incorrect e-mail addresses. If your e-mail address changes, notify association membership coordinator Cindy DeSantiago and she can update it. (Sorry for the extra work, Cindy! ☺)