

# **INDIANA ASSOCIATION MEETING**

In-Person - Launch Fishers  
September 29, 2024  
12:00 PM

## **Welcome**

- Meeting started at 12:13 PM. Today's meeting focused on the below agenda items:

**Attendees: Open to all Indiana Association Members**

**Mike Trego motioned to start the meeting, Dick Boyd 2nd. All in favor.**

## **Attendance**

- Verification of those members active (as of July 31, 2024)
- Members that are not active, not in attendance and/or under 18 years old, are not eligible to vote

## **Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting**

## **Executive Reports**

- State of Indiana USATF (Chris Buckler)
  - o In the past 12 years, the association is in the 'best financial situation'
  - o Membership is back up, and is reflective of our active Indiana athletes
  - o Indiana hosted XC, JO, and Regional Track this year. Now shifted the ship out of the COVID bubble, and growing even farther as we move into 2024-25.
  - o We are already credentialed for the upcoming 2024 Annual Meeting.
    - Every year, the annual meeting becomes complicated.
    - Great situation right now - we're hosting events, Mike Trego has helped make opportunities available for Para-athletes.
- Vice President Report (Dick Boyd)
  - o Monthly meetings were successful in 2023-24. Dick encourages that the meetings are opened to all board members for active participation.
  - o Bylaws & Elections
    - Can't find anywhere in our current bylaws that you must be present to be elected onto the Board of Directors.
    - Nominations are not allowed from the floor for Officers.
    - Nominations for the Board can be taken from the floor.
    - Proposes for changes to bylaws:
      - Page 7 - A | Recommend to strike "nominations for officers will be accepted by mail or electronically" - duplicate. Should be removed.
      - Page 8 - A1 | Changing "and" to "or" between "President and the nomination chair..."
  - o Safe Sport Audits - USATF National Office is shifting a focus to more audits and up-to-date protocols. Board needs to be in the loop on SafeSport procedures and ensuring our events meet the bar.
  - o Hotel Booking - Should have one individual that handles booking rooms for officials and board members. Primary focus is efficiency and eliminating double booking, extra costs, etc.

- o Emeritus Award - Keith Mitchell was awarded last year. **Has the award been ordered?** Awards banquet is currently scheduled for early January - TBD on details.
- Treasurer Report (Robert Thomas)
  - o Have \$118,000 in the bank as of today. Up to \$50,000 compared to YTD.
  - o Most was recovered from the events we hosted:
    - Indoor Masters Meet (~\$7,500)
    - Outdoor Meet - broke even
    - Both Youth (JO & Region) Meets - made money on athlete fees & gate

### *Committee Chair Updates/Reports*

- Men & Women Open Track (Chris Buckler)
  - o Meet is not sustainable to run as a standalone meet. Has been combined with Masters meet.
  - o Participation is just not quite where Chris would like it - it's the in-between range of collegiate athletes vs post-college elites. No competition equals little to no participation.
  - o Big questions: How do we get more athletes involved at the college level?
- Masters (Robert Thomas)
  - o Wants to connect with NIRCA to increase participation year round - so they know Masters Track & Field exist for 25+ year olds.
  - o Chris is meeting with Notre Dame facilities contact to place a bid for future Masters National Championships.
- Youth (Denzil Crooke)
  - o Great year in 2024 - definitely more opportunities on the association side.
    - Whether it's changing dates or shifting the schedule, there could be more participation across multiple date meets.
- Para Athletics (Mike Trego)
  - o The coverage of the 2024 Paralympics was amazing.
  - o Many of our officials are working para-meets in preparation for 2028.
  - o 125 certified para-officials in the country -> now it's nearing 300!
  - o We may be one of 5 associations across the country that has opened our meets up to para-athletes. Mike is working with Touchstone to ensure athletes have the proper classification and will see more participation in the near future.
- LDR (Rick Hammer)
  - o Wants to expand the LDR championships beyond Indianapolis.
  - o Hosting Open 5K Championships at Joseph Maley 5K on Sun. Oct 6 - prize purse for top 3 men's and women's \$150/\$100/\$50
  - o Beyond Monumental has partnered with Indiana Sports Corp to host the Masters National Half Marathon Championships at the Indy Half Marathon on Sat. Oct 5. Masters athletes will be competing for an \$8,000 prize purse.
- Membership (Stu Goble)
  - o Clubs are up YTD, membership is healthy.
  - o Saw increase in participation across youth meets this past summer.
- Budget & Finance (Robert Thomas)
  - o Were in the hole post-COVID, and we dug ourselves out.
- Coaches Education (Paul Sargent - not present)
  - o Used to be held on-site, but so much of Coaches Education has gone online.
  - o To be on the Coaches Registry - one pathway is to apply through USATF, be safe sport certified, and attend Coaches Education to get Level 1 Certified.

- Could be a good way to increase participation by promoting coaches registry and free entry to association, regional, and national youth meets.
- Officials (Mike Trego)
  - Have about 100 certified officials that are three-step compliant.
  - Certification chair is turning over to Stu Goble.

### *New Business*

### *Elections*

- Nomination Committee to present slate
  - Stu Goble to Check Roll
  - Nominations from the floor
    - Stu nominated Denzil Crooke, Brittany seconded.
    - Brittany nominated Bob Flott, Mitch Good seconded.
  - Each Candidate (2-3 minutes to introduce themselves)
  - Election to Board of Directors (6 total)
    - Rick Hammer
    - Mitch Goon
    - Paul Sargent
    - Sydney Meyers
    - CJ Robertson
    - Denzil Crooke

### *Adjourn General Meeting*

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

In-Person - Launch Fishers  
September 29, 2024  
Following Association Meeting

### *Welcome*

- Meeting started at 1:42 PM. Today's meeting focused on the below agenda items:

### *New & Returning BOD Members*

- Sizes to President for BOD item

### *Election of Officers*

- Nomination Committee to present slate (Secretary, Treasurer, VP, President)
  - Stu Goble to Check Roll
  - Each Candidate (3-5 minutes to introduce themselves)
    - Brittany Wright is unanimously approved to Secretary
    - Mitch Goon is unanimously approved to Treasurer
    - Robert Thomas is voted in as Vice President
    - Sydney Meyers is voted in as President

### *Executive Board Members – Officers +3*

- Nominations and Election for 3 Open Executive Positions to the Board
- Nominations from the Floor

- Elected for 2024-25:
  - Richard Boyd
  - Stu Goble
  - Rich Leonard

### **Updates from the National Office**

- Chris met with Youth Contact at the National Office around Shelbyville Meet
  - Louisville notified the National Office a few weeks ago that they are not hosting this year.
  - The National Office agreed to pay for SafeSport certification for volunteers, etc.
  - Chris states that he made it clear that under no circumstances is our association going to be financially responsible for this JO Cross Country meet.
  - Athletes can request an exemption from the Regional Coordinator to move on if you are participating in a sanctioned, recognized event that is within 24 hours of the regional xc meet - as long as you don't displace someone else. You still have to pay the fee for the regional meet. We have such high participation that we have no spots to offer a waiver.
  - The National Office did not reply on how many spots we have for qualifying from the Regional Meet.
- Region 7 Track Meet: Indiana State's Coach Jeff Martin ran over an Illinois athlete's wrist with a golf cart.
  - Association, National Office, and Indiana State were sued on Friday, September 27. Waiver doesn't prevent lawsuits from being filed.
  - Association is going to be fine - accident paperwork was filed to the National Office. The EMT arrived to check out the athlete. No board members were involved.
  - Chris called Robin to ensure all processes were followed. Athlete was waived on to the next level.

### **Review of Goals from 2023-24**

- Hold JO Assoc/Regional, Continue Grand Prix, Hold Open/Master Indoor and Outdoor, Year 2 of Combined Event, Award Show - **Accomplished**
- Have a profitably JO Assoc Meet - **Accomplished**
- Set Record for Profit and Athletes at JO Regional Meet - **Accomplished**
- Increase the Cash on Hand by 10% from Current - **Accomplished**
- Fully Accredited for Annual Meeting - **Accomplished**

### **Annual Meeting 2024 - Orlando Dec. 5-8**

- Motion for Budget
  - \$65 per day per-diem
  - Budgeted \$1,400 per person for the meeting (Robert estimates \$2,000 now).
- Attendees
  - Officers Required
  - Suggestion – Youth Chair, Followed by Executive Board, Credential Needs
  - 8-9 realistic – 3 Coaches, 3 Active Athletes (33.3%), 14 is possible but need to increase coaches and active athletes
    - Robert has paid for:
      - Chris (Athlete & Coach), Robert (Gets \$1,000 from Masters Committee to put towards hotel), Dick, Stu (Athlete & Coach), and Mike, Brittany, Dave Fry, Sydney

- Paul and Rick need to get certified as coaches.
- Rich has already bought and registered himself (will be reimbursed).
- Board suggesting Mitch should go if the schedule works.
- Robert & Chris have to submit delegates in the next couple weeks.
- Motion to Approve Delegates
  - Chris (Athlete & Coach), Robert (?), Dick, Stu (Athlete & Coach), Mike, Brittany, Dave, Sydney (Athlete), Paul (Coach - Need to finalize), Rick (Coach - Need to finalize), Rich (Coach & Athlete), Mitch, and Liz Evans (High Jumper) - 13

### *President Goals for 2024-2025*

#### *1st Executive Board Meeting – TBA*

- October/November - Sydney to share out a scheduling poll, and set up the next meeting.

#### *Full Board Winter Meeting – TBA (In-Person)*

- February President's Weekend? Ask to come with schedules to the next meeting and schedule accordingly.

#### **New Business - Add Both to Winter Board Meeting**

- More officials jumping up to the major meets. Historically, had a pot of \$3,000 to help defray the cost of travel. Discussion to add World Major Championships to be added to the list of approved meets.
  - Mike wants to propose to re-establish the official stipend to offset costs for the 2025 calendar year.
  - Chris suggested that Mike puts together the list of approved meets for the Winter Board Meeting to be voted on.
- Rick asks about the succession plan for the Officers. Chris and Robert suggested a staggered voting for officers (President and Treasurer for bank account, etc. details).
  - Discussion about making terms for 4 years. Pairing President & Secretary and Vice President & Treasurer in terms to vote every 2.
  - Dick to write something up for proposed bylaws.
  - Randy suggested 4 year terms for Board of Director seats.
- Rick asks about bringing back LDR 3-event series – suggests focusing on \$1,500 prize money for Masters/Open for Men & Women.
  - Wants to spread out championships from Indy to Fort Wayne, etc.

\*Tentative agreement with Wabash College for JO Association.

**Adjourned at 4:13 pm - moved to adjourn by Mike Trego, seconded by Stu Goble, all in favor.**