

USATF Oregon Annual Meeting Minutes  
September 26, 2021  
Zoom

Breakout sessions:

- 12:00 - 12:45 Racewalking (Marie/Roger)
- 1:00 - 1:45 LDR/Master (Mike)
- 2:00 - 2:45 Officials (Jerry/Scott)
- 3:00 - 3:45 Youth (Executive Board)
- 4:00 - 4:45 General session (election if needed) (Jay)

Approval of 2020 minutes

State of the Association

- USATF Oregon is still online and moving forward. This year we brought on Phil Sutton as our new Communications Chair and webmaster.
- We had a productive year. Hosted Olympic Trials – Showcased the new Hayward field. 2 new world records.
- MUT National Championships GNAR-GNAR
- Youth Track and Field Season approximately 7 meets with a Youth championship meet that had been condensed into a 1-day meet.
- Masters Championship Meet – first time in a while that the Oregon Association hosted the meet.
- Supported Youth Clubs with a COVID Grant program hosted by Sport Oregon that offered funds for clubs.

Going Forward

- National Office is still on board with hosting meets as they are able. We are currently on track to host a TF meets in 2022.
- Oregon Association came through COVID in the top 5% compared to other Associations.
- Membership numbers and Club numbers are expected to be down, but that is within reason due to COVID concerns.

Election of Board Positions

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Currently held by Scott Jones) Scott Jones will remain in position by acclamation Motion made by Jay, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marie
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Vacant) Current nominations include Pete Breczynski and Debi Hanson.
- Treasurer (Currently held by Pete Castro) Pete Castro will remain in position by acclamation motion made by Jay, 2<sup>nd</sup> Matt Lydum
- Secretary (Currently held by Lynn Brown) Lynn Brown will remain in position by acclamation motion made by Jay, 2<sup>nd</sup> Eric Johnson

Introduction of committee chairs and roles

What the future looks like for USATF Oregon

5:00 Board Meeting

Championship Meet updates

- XC
- JO Association
- LDR/Masters
- JO Regionals

- RW

Board Roll Call: Jerry Westfall, Lynn Brown, Phil Sutton, Jay Miles, Mike Blackmore, Scott Jones, Roger Hall, Matthew Lydum, Carol McLatchie, Marie VerMeer, Tom Millbrooke  
Annual Meeting Information  
Reimbursement Policy  
New Business

## Annual Meeting Election Results

USATF Oregon Association held its annual meeting today. One highlight of the virtual meeting was an election to fill four (4) Association officer positions.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President **Scott Jones**, Treasurer **Pete Castro**, and Secretary **Lynn Brown** (all incumbents) ran unopposed for their positions and were elected by acclimation to serve another term.

The vacant 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President position had two candidates vying for the office: **Pete Brefczynski** and **Debi Hanson**. Brefczynski won the race. He will serve a one-year term.

*Congratulations Scott, Pete, Lynn, and Pete!*

Tom made a motion to adjourn, Jerry 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted by Lynn Brown*

**USATF OREGON ASSOCIATION RACE WALK COMMITTEE**

**ANNUAL MEETING BREAKOUT – SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**

**12:00-12:45 PM**

**VIRTUAL**

**1. Call to Order (Marie)**

**2. 2020 Highlights – Marie (5 minutes)**

- All USATF Oregon Association events were canceled for 2021. Hopeful for a better 2022!
- Zoom in to Race Walk Officiating: Excellent virtual clinic hosted by Jeff Salvage and Gary Westerfield on May 23, 2021.
- Olympic Trials 20K: Congratulations to Stephanie Casey, who finished 4<sup>th</sup>!
- The passing of Jim Bean (Race Walk Committee Chair from 1975-2019 (on June 3, 2021 was a huge loss to the national (and international) Race Walk community. Our condolences to his family – he will truly be missed.
- Racewalkers Northwest club disbanded: officers made the difficult decision to disband the club. The USATF Oregon Race Walk Committee is grateful and thankful that they chose to donate the remainder of their treasury (approximately \$1500) to the Committee. The funds will be used to fund an event and/or scholarships in memory of Jim Bean. Discussion under New Business.

**3. New Business (35 minutes)**

- 2022 5K/10K/20K tentative schedule – Marie/Roger
  1. 5K – April 3
  2. 10K – May 1
  3. 20K – June 5
  4. One Hour – September (date TBD – depending on 2022 Oregon Association Annual Meeting)
- Race Walk Officials Clinic
  1. Race Walk Officials Clinic – plan one for 2022 – and we desperately need RW officials. In the meantime, feel free to review the recording from the Zoom In to Race Walk Officiating (will provide link in minutes)
  2. Race Walk Officials Apprentice Program
- Quarterly Meetings (via Zoom) – January – recap activities from USATF National Annual Meeting
- Jim Bean Memorial Event – ideas and timing (possibilities: clinic plus developmental race, Youth Scholarship – others?)
- USATF Oregon Web Site and Race Walk Page – will be posting race schedule and race results (once we have races!) Other suggestions for content?
- Other items for New Business?

**4. Adjourn**

## Membership Report

There are currently 1889 active members in the Oregon Association and 50 active clubs.

**Age Verification:** For individual memberships that need to complete age verification, a document needs to be uploaded into the member profile in USATF Connect. The National Office will then complete verification. If verification is needed to participate in an upcoming event, member should upload document no later than 5 business days prior to close of registration of the event. If document is not uploaded within the specified timeframe, exceptions will not be allowed, and the member will not be able to compete in that event.

**Clubs:** All renewal requests should be submitted via USATF Connect. If any person listed on a club roster for administration/coaches is not 3-step compliant (Current membership, background check, and SafeSport requirement), the club will not be approved. Membership chair does not have access to remove any individuals from a club roster. The club Super Admin will be required to make all needed staff roster updates.

**SafeSport:** Yearly requirement that is required for anyone ages 18 and older that is coaching or an athlete as part of a club with minor (younger than 18) athletes. The SafeSport Handbook can be located [here](#). SafeSport Code for the US Olympic & Paralympic Movement can be located [here](#).

If you need assistance in accessing the correct SafeSport refresher course, please email [membership@oregon.usatf.org](mailto:membership@oregon.usatf.org)

## **Certification**

The past twelve months have been very busy in the world of certification. Officials have done a great job in adapting to the particular demands of the current cycle. I have heard quite a bit about how convoluted the process is and about how hard it is to navigate the new site. I do believe some of this feeling is due to the natural process that occurs whenever there is something different to navigate. I pass on complaints that people have so that national knows of how local officials feel.

I am very grateful for the generous and competent help from the three individuals –assisted me with the Basic and National and Master Level Reviews Zooms that we held in September and November - Patrick Duffy, Phil Sutton, and Eric Johnson. They provided suggestions and gave personal time for preparation so that we could divide the review questions among us. I also wish to thank officials I contacted to help me in improving my ability to go assess answers to the National and Master-level Review. I received very detailed answers to how each of them would approach the particular situations in the questions they answered, and that gave me a solid basis upon which to go through each person's responses.

Not every association has required its National and Master-level officials to answer questions from this review. One was concerned about overloading its officials, but the officials in the Oregon Association I inquired about this very thing responded that we adamant that we require more of our upper-level officials. It was a pleasure for me as certification chair to review what people had to write. While there were many fine answers, I wish to acknowledge the effort that went into answers by Jeanne Kofranek, Carol McLatchie, and Roger Hall. They were simply remarkable. We as an association have strong officials who officiate with distinction on the national stage.

We took in about 10 new officials this year. As of now, we have 174 whose certifications are valid – i.e. who have taken care of all aspects of certification/recertification.

**Cards** – USATF needed to locate a new outfit to produce our officiating cards and that outfit was not able to be located for a disappointingly long time. The first cluster we received was June 7, in time for distribution at the NCAA D1 Championships but only for those whose cards had come in. Needless to say, we had some understandably disappointed officials. The next shipment arrived July 6, but still there were over 16 officials who had not received theirs with that one. The last shipment received arrived Aug. 18, and so I was able to finally get those into the hands of those very patient officials. Various people indicated deficiencies on their cards and I have taken corrective action immediately upon hearing about these errors and shortcomings. I included some recruitment cards that Phil Sutton had urged we get and that he designed. I hope people have been giving those out to prospective officials.

**Zoom meetings** – In addition to group study sessions for the two reviews, the Oregon Association presented three series of Zooms – two that consisted of four sessions and one that covered all aspects of officiating plus EDM/R measuring in 13 parts. The Best Practices 4-part Zoom targeted basic level officials; each of the four Zooming in on Officiating series was hosted by a nationally known individual – Mike Armstrong, chair of the National Officials Committee, Mark Heckel, Vice-chair Training, Mike Trego, head of the Young Officials Program, and Mark Kostek, who heads the NCAA Rule Book Editor. The 12-part Zoom on One series was each headed by a group of nationally-known officials from around the country. It was an intense, 4-week effort of three Zooms per week. Two of them were in conjunction with the Pacific Association (California). I have heard much favorable and enthusiastic feedback from officials about these Zooms.

## **National Awards**

USATF has various award categories to recognize the efforts of officials serving the sport of track and field. Some are national ones – the Andy Bakjian (outstanding service); Charles Ruter (outstanding track official); Horace Crow (outstanding field official); James Grey (leadership & setting an example); John Davis (humanitarian & developmental leadership). We have had Oregon officials in all but the John Davis recently. I challenge you to submit names to me of people you feel would be great candidates for these awards. Oregon Association has put up eight officials for these awards. Only Kentucky and Potomac Valley have submitted more (9). Ohio is tied with us.

We also have an Oregon Association member – Dennis Olafson - who fairly recently was elected to the Hall of Fame. For those of us at that banquet, a time that the 1968 Olympic Team was honored, too, that was a night to remember. We have a candidate for the Hall of Fame again – Bill Kelly. Bill was nominated by Rich

Schornstein of Colorado. That might seem strange for a person of another association to be the nominator, but it really is in Bill's favor that Rich is the person who has nominated him because he is far more nationally known than I am and name recognition counts a great deal in this process.

These also are awards for individuals whose work has been salutary and who have worked hard for the good of the association. These are known as Association Awards. As certification chair, one of my jobs is to be in charge of these awards. I look for those who 1) either have not won this award or have not received it in many years and 2) who are willing to help where help is needed. We have a great group of people up this year to receive this prestigious award. Here they are in alphabetical order with one notable exception.

**John Ball** – John is a coach for Forest Grove HS and has helped us stage pole vault competitions in an efficient manner in an event of great need. He has a very solicitous manner that puts competitors at ease.

**Carla Beyer** - Carla cheerfully helps in a variety of capacities. She has made herself into one of the most versatile officials we have, and she is ever-ready to help out.

**Richard Burnett** – Richard is also a very versatile official whose calm and steadying presence makes a meet go more smoothly. Richard sets a good example for all of us to follow.

**Pete Castro** – Pete as an unbelievably unflappable manner. He is a hard-working starter who works hard at anything he does. He also provides food for our association annual meeting (when it's in person) and other social events.

**Patrick Duffy** – Patrick defies the aging process. In addition to his myriad ways of helping with track meets, he is the state of Oregon Schools Activity Association Rules Interpreter for soccer. He and two other officials provided great assistance to me during the recertification period by providing valuable input and helping to conduct study sessions of the two major reviews. He is the epitome of the busy person.

**Brian Glanville** – Brian is a starter who also is willing to work in a variety of capacities, something starters are not necessarily known for. Example - he was the sole umpire at the 6A Showcase in Oregon City (until we were able to locate another person).

**Bill Kelly** – Bill is a nationally known and respected official who has been very helpful in lead the high jump portion of training clinics. I appreciate his steadfastness in the presence of complications that can deter others. With no pun intended, Bill sets the bar high for officiating.

**Marilyn Koenig** – Marilyn was a faithful participant in all the Zooms we had in our association. She also is one of the first to submit documentation whenever it's required and so is never someone people wait around on for a response. Her pleasant disposition is another wonderful characteristic.

**Jim Moyer** – Jim is also a person who unfailingly attends to details requiring that. He is extraordinarily conscientious. His speciality is pole vault, and he is one of the nation's best at officiating this complex event.

**Maureen Pollock** – Maureen seems to be everywhere a person is needed. She continued on into the summer to help with our building-block component, Junior O's. She is a valuable person for field events because she has involved herself with implement inspection, something we very much need more people involved in.

**Jim Redmond** – Jim stepped in this year to assist at a meet where we were left short-handed and ran it with distinction and aplomb. He does not complain and goes about his work in a quiet manner, but he will let you know if something is in need of attention.

**Rick Stucky** – Rick is one of our younger officials who has chosen to become versatile and is ready to help out when he can. Rick is one of those people you go to because you know that he will not complain about the job he is asked to do.

**Gibby Reynolds** – Gibby has been instrumental in helping officials obtain the NFHS Rule Book for a less expensive amount. This is where S&H are more expensive than the book, so keep Gibby in mind for your next

book! He also is willing to work far afield, helping at meets from the Willamette Valley through areas in southern Washington.

**Marie VerMeer** – Marie is our head of Race Walking and is a passionate proponent of this difficult discipline. She is a joy to work with and can be relied upon to come through in the manner she says she will.

**Jerry Westfall** – Because Jerry has been involved in the distribution of awards, his name is conspicuously absent from the list of those who have received this particular one. One understands the reason why, but we hope this award goes a little way toward correcting that yawning deficiency.

**Bob Wunsch** – Bob is a mid-Valley official who helps at a variety of events and who is a good ambassador for the sport. He is active in community affairs that assist people in need, and his actions and activities are appreciated.

**Dennis Olafson** – Sometimes we assume that something has surely already occurred and that there is no need to act upon something because it already has been acted upon, but then we realize to our great surprise that the assumption was in error. In an supreme example of inadvertent oversight, Dennis has never been given the Association Award. It is not that people either are dismissive of his ubiquitous presence and importance, or that we just don't see what's in front of us. It just happened. We are correcting this gross oversight this year.

**Special Recognition** – I'd like to recognize the decades-long dedication to officiating of **Dale Settje**, Molalla. Dale has been selected for many national meets for Implement Inspection and has thought nothing of the travel involved as those who are serious about this aspect of the throws carry their own equipment.

A second person to recognize is **Scott Jones** for his volunteering to serve as the Oregon Association's representative for the Young Officials Program run by Mike Trego. There has been a tremendous amount of preparatory work for this, but there has not been much going on recently with it. The point of the program is to attract youth ages 14-17 to officiating, so it's very worthwhile and I will work w/ Scott and others to help communicate with schools anything having to do with it.

Another individual is **Phil Sutton**, who in addition to his duties as Associate Head of Horizontal Jumps at Hayward, is the editor of two USATF newsletters, one our superb Association-Oregon Track Club newsletter Tracking 27, and the other is the national USATF newsletter. Mike Armstrong had asked Phil to take the place of Scott Rose, whose untimely death in Dec. 2019 left a huge hole to fill, so maybe it was fore-ordained that a person named Phil would fill that hole. His newsletters have been top-notch. We are very fortunate to have Phil in the Oregon Association.