

MTF Exec. Committee Meeting USATF Annual Meeting November 2018



Agenda items

Phys. Therapists for WMA Poland
WMA Delegate Selections
Elections Overview
Major Rule Proposals
Allowing those that represent US internationally to win US champ. & score for US teams
Relay Selection Procedures

Attendees

Rex Harvey – MTF Chair
Jerry Bookin-Weiner – MTF Vice-Chair
Amanda Scotti – MTF Secretary
Carroll DeWeese – MTF Treasurer
Sandy Triolo – Communications Chair
Latashia Key – Active Athlete Representative
George Mathews – Northwest Region MTF Chair
Bill Murray – Southeast MTF Region Chair
Mark Cleary – West Region MTF Chair
Robert Thomas – Midwest Region MTF Chair
Mike Travers – East Region MTF Chair
Jim Weed – MidAmerica Region MTF Chair
Lester Mount – Southwest Region MTF Chair
Sue Hallen – Throwing Events Subcommittee Chair
Jim Flanik - Championships Games
Sandy Pashkin – Exec. Committee Chair Appointee
Phil Greenwald – MTF International team manager
Steve Cohen – Anti-Doping and Substance Abuse Subcommittee Chair
Bob Weiner – Exec. Committee Chair Appointee
George Melichar – MTF Inclusion Subcommittee Chair
Graeme Shirley – MTF Rules Committee Representative
Ron Pate – MTF LDR Committee Representative
James Pearce
Marilyn Mitchell
Ruth Welding
Sherry Hott
Jill Vollweiler
Barbara Warren
Duane Gosa
Karen Krsak – Candidate for USATF Board Position
Chris Pasko - Candidate for USATF Board Position

12p, Meeting Opened by Chair

Robert Thomas summarized the earlier Regional Coordinators meeting. Addressed in the meeting were:
Concern about the rising costs of putting on Regional Championships (officials, volunteers, etc.)
The entry fees will be increasing, mostly due to rising costs of renting venues
A proposed maximum entry fee (for first event) of between \$20-\$30

Discussion regarding Physiotherapists for upcoming Indoor WMA, Torun Poland

It costs about \$3000 per trainer to take them to the meet. Currently MTF is looking to take both Ena Weinstein (who was in Perth, Daegu, and Malaga) and Marie Valdez. Both also volunteered to work the 2019 NCCWMA meet. We need to stress to athletes that they should tip, the PT's are not paid for their time and are seeing 20-30 athletes per day. If athletes prepay for the PT services, it will enable a third trainer to go too. However, it cannot look like a surcharge as WMA likely wouldn't allow it. – It should be built in as an option into the entry fee.

Jerry Bookin-Wiener and James Pearce detailed Potomac Valley Track Club's purchase of two NormaTec Recovery Systems devices for MTF use; one full body, one leg/hip. These will be available for use at WMA and NCCWMA meets. PVTC intends to transport them initially to Winston-Salem.

Pins for Poland - For those who traveled to Malaga but did not receive their pins, they can get them at this Annual meeting. Pins are again an option for those competing in Torun.

WMA Delegate Election (Former delegate, Gary Snyder, termed out). Larger countries, like the USA, are allowed a maximum of five delegates. Delegate to replace Gary will be elected here along with alternates. Those interested in running will be allowed a 2-minute presentation. Historically two of the US delegate positions have gone to LDR, giving them 40% of the US representation. Next year MTF will again propose dropping them to one as in Malaga LDR provided only 10% of the US participation. Next year this can be added to the MTF Operating Procedures. MTF also proposes that the team manager is automatically included in meetings, the Chair already is.

Rule Changes

Document compiled by Graeme Shirley needed.

The Executive Committee members at this meeting need to decide on noncontroversial rule changes as the rules people need it done as soon as possible. Per Graeme Shirley, Sandy Pashkin, handled most of the WMA rules changes. USATF has attempted to align our rules with IAAF, WMA this year did he same thing.

As IAAF dictates the rule Graeme looked for deviations in USATF MTF rules and submitted each difference as a new rule change. The new WMA rules are now much more user-friendly

It was stated that next year USATF will market the sport as being for kids through seniors so that each faction benefits. There will be one rulebook for all, meaning that when MTF makes exceptions to a rule, it should be to accommodate ageing.

(See accompanying 5-Page Document)

Discussion of rule changes included:

Rule # 3030.4

Described as a big picture item. The proposal is to add a term such as "USA Masters-eligible"

Currently, four places use the term "citizenship", it should be more inclusive. If an athlete is eligible to compete on the US team at a WMA event, that should align with the USA National Championship rules. The word "citizenship" should be replaced. If an athlete is eligible to compete for the US at WMA they should also be accorded the same status at US National Championships.

For example: Jamaican citizens who reside in the US would like to compete for the US and also be eligible to score at US Championships.

Motion made to expand eligibility for team scoring and record setting to meet the WMA standard.

Motion-Seconded

Discussion

Jim Pearce: When an athlete changes the country for which they compete, both the incoming and outgoing countries can block the change.

USATF would need to physically change the athlete's country in their database, MTF would not be able to make these changes. The athlete would need to change their profile so this must be done on an individual basis.

Phil Greenwald: It would need to be made clear that this pertains to MASTERS competition, as it differs from IAAF rules.

Exec Committee Vote: Ayes- Unanimous Nays- none

Discussion regarding advancing nonqualifiers to fill lanes when a qualifier drops out. This would be Non WMA compliant.

Sandy Pashkin made a motion to kill the motion to allow nonqualifiers into empty lanes.

Arguing that this increases greatly the amount of work on the part of the meet and allows someone into a final that didn't qualify. Mike Travers stated that in Spokane, one of the qualifiers no-showed and a nonqualifier was moved up and received a desirable lane.

Motion Seconded Vote was actually: Those in favor of eliminating the rule that does not allow the first nonqualifier in /accepting the rule change v. Those in favor of keeping the rule It passed

Robert Thomas stated that now athletes must be educated. Graeme Shirley added that this now differs from other TF rules.

Discussion about the Shuttle Hurdle Relays. Currently there are records but there is nothing in the rulebook about the event. The event needs to be defined.

Item 10 – Passing zone definition. Masters has been running event w/out a passing zone

Should this continue? Graeme Shirley stated that MTF rules should comply with those for Open and Youth events for unity w/in the sport. Masters are the only ones to run tis event on a regular basis at the Championships.

To specifically not have exchange zones does make it easier for officials. Sandy Pashkin noted that all MTF records would have to start from scratch if this rule change is enacted. WMA doesn't contest this event so there is no issue of MTF rules aligning with theirs in this case.

Motion made to keep the current Rules as written and to w/draw the rule change proposal (keep rule 332i)

Seconded Vote to keep rules as is passed

Discussion of Relay age groups; that all relays should be competed in 5-year age groups (some currently are not), this matches WMA rules.

Sandy Pashkin made a motion to pass the rule of all relays being competed in 5-year age divisions

Seconded Vote: Ayes, Unanimous Passed

John Blackburn (head of USATF Rules Committee) asked via Graeme Shirley that we comply with WMA tech specs. Currently – we're in sync, so Graeme would like approval to adopt WMA language in our specs and quote them in the rulebook.

Discussion

Jerry Bookin-Weiner objected to the hammer handle rules for the weight. The USA rules are stricter and should be kept. George Mathews agreed as the US rule is for safety. Hammer wire is not made for that kind of stress. Graeme Shirley stated that this information was not relevant, as it pertains to a restriction not a specification.

George Mathews- made a motion to table the discussion.

Seconded Vote to table passed

Motion made to take this off the table.

Seconded Vote: passed

New Motion made: To instruct Graeme Shirley to tell the Rules committee that the MTF Committee rejects this item and to take this matter up next year

Seconded Vote: Passed unanimously

Item #9 Discussion.

Sandy Pashkin wants to take the masters Advancement Table and move it into the rulebook and list it as a masters exception. Graeme said that this would be a hard sell to the Rules Committee and that he is just asking that this be put into the rulebook so that athletes can see it. It is not a rule change but should be published in the rulebook stating: "schedule can be altered". What is currently in the rulebook is only for IF the meet doesn't provide an exception. Use it if wanted, but not restricted. The Open Advancement table doesn't apply to Masters, Sandy just wants to see the MTF Advancement table published in the book. Graeme said that in this case, Rule 81 needs to be withdrawn.

Discussion: Graeme Shirley relayed that officials have stated that the Honest Participation rule has not been honored by masters; (w/draw from event, you withdraw from meet). This is IAAF rule- 142.4

Currently there is an exception to current practice that reads this shall not apply to masters.

Motion made to have an exception for masters to the Honest Participation rule.

Seconded Vote; Passed unanimously

Discussion: Sandy Pashkin stated that the chip timing rule only applies to WMA Championships. That the word "shall" should be changed to the word "may". For a WR, any 3000m or longer race needs lap times (via chip, manual, FAT)

Discussion: Loss of implements. WMA has a loss of identity rule, that once an implement is checked in, it is available to anyone else in the age division.

Motion was made to keep in place that US MTF has no loss of identity rule.

Seconded Vote: Passed unanimously

A Relay Selection Guidelines rewrite needs to go before the full committee. Currently it is three pages long, should be simplified. The US International relay selection panel consists of: the Chair (team leader), Vice Chair, Active Athlete Representative, the Team Manager, the Assistant Team Managers. There is an option of adding the athletes to the panel if needed.

It is stressed that GUIDELINES are provided for relay selection, not all of which are actual rules. The panel is the final authority. **Robert Thomas or Phil Greenwald need to provide guidelines/rules form.**

There is a list of progression for each relay, for example the 4x100, first the 100m races at the current meet will be considered, then the 200m races.

Actual rules should include:

Deadlines

All entered are eligible

Most important- athletes are ONLY considered for relays if they APPLY in writing and *at that championship*.

The application is an agreement to compete

Guidelines should include:

That the primary goal is medal counts, not participation

Encourage athletes to apply as w/out an application they cannot run on a relay

That if the panel cannot come up with a team, they will allow athletes to create their own team, *as long as there is not already a team in that age group*.

Mike Travers asked to make this easy to understand that on the form it should state what are rules and what are guidelines.

Print the rules at the top, the guidelines below. – And perhaps the word guidelines should be changed to "Procedures."