

Conference Call 4/23/15 9 p.m.

Joining the Call:

Perry Funnie – Officials Chair
Susan Heiser- Whatley – Race Walk Chair
Valerie Beesley - Treasurer
Chris Kling – Membership Chair
Vanessa Brown – Recording Secretary
Sam Kennedy – 2nd Vice President
Thaddeus Sligh – President
Clarence Richardson – 1st Vice President

Thaddeus Sligh opened the call by thanking all for being on the phone for the conference call.

Chair Updates – by Thaddeus Sligh:

Reiterated his past emails that he had sent that he has made Vanessa Brown the Recording Secretary now. She was the member who was nominated at the past annual meeting against Valerie Jacobs. Allen Alden is to be the Chair of Coaches Education and Development. Matthew Hammersmith will be the Ultra Chair. Matthew is currently organizing a 100 mile event and we are going to tag onto this event and make it one of our championship events.

JO Report – by Thaddeus Sligh:

JO Nationals will be in Jacksonville this year. We need as many athletes there as possible and support our region.

JO Regionals will be in North Atlanta. The Georgia association is hosting this event this summer. It will be at Mills Creek High School in Hoschtown, GA. The hammer, javelin and steeple chase will be at South Lake High School which is by the airport area. Athletes will be provided transportation for this. Dates are July 9-12. As far as Thaddeus knows the schedule will remain the same as last year. If anyone knows of any issues please contact him and he will pass these on to Jacqui Collins and/or Inez Finch in GA.

Clarence Richardson asked if transportation was also available for the parents for this. Thaddeus felt it was in the past but could not confirm at this time.

Perry Funnie will get the information out to the officials on this event.

JO Association meet will be at East Side High School June 12-14. This is in Taylors/Greenville area of SC. We will need small cones as there is no inside curve and we will need to put these around the track. Thaddeus and Sam Kennedy felt that we should move the pole vault from the infield to outside the gate in an area under the stands. The high jump and pole vault use a common area and there could be an issue with some of the athletes having to wait for one another in each event to do their run ups to the bars. He noted that the pole vault will only run in one direction regardless of where it is set up. We will need to move the pole vault pits and standards from the infield when we set up.

Rooms –Greenville Tourism has helped with this. They also want to plan an outing Saturday night with buses to the downtown Greenville area for all athletes and their families. They are hungry for the tourism dollars and the positive impact on the Greenville/Taylors economy this event will have. Officials

will be staying at the Crown Plaza which is 4 miles to the track with very easy access for all to go back and forth. Other hotels are Hilton, Marriott, Hampton Inn and Holiday Inn Express to date. There is information on the hotels on our website.

Once we get all the equipment from the two storage units we can access what equipment we may need. Thaddeus was going to try to borrow performance boards from Furman or Southern Wesleyan University. We are going to have to purchase rakes and brooms for the field events. There will be the normal expenses of official meals, gifts, housing and stipend. Thaddeus would like the officials paid as they leave the meet and to be paid the same stipend as last year.

On Friday Thaddeus would like to meet with all to discuss a possible bid for the 2017 Cross Country Nationals. He has located 2 places he feels would work for this in the Greenville area. Both are at golf courses.

JO Association Officials – by Perry Funnie

To date Perry has recruited 22 officials from SC and one from NC. Thaddeus asked Perry to reach out to the GA Officials Chair and Youth Chair and the NC Officials Chair. Thaddeus offered to send this if Perry sent the application form to him. Thaddeus felt we should make head officials the best choice and not necessarily SC officials. Sam Kennedy asked Perry to follow up with the Rochesters who had shown an interest in working the meet. Susan Heiser-Whatley's race walk officials can not only do the race walk but other events and most live locally. She will make sure they send their applications in to Perry.

Elite JO Athletes – by Thaddeus Sligh

June 29 to July 21st Thaddeus will be travelling with the elite athlete team thus not being at Regionals this year. In his absence Inez Finch will handle all the Region Chair duties.

Business – by Thaddeus Sligh

Thaddeus asked if all had read over the email he had forwarded in regards to the association accreditation issues. While on the call, Chris Kling forwarded this to Vanessa as she was not sent the email. We did not meet the 2014 championships but in 2015 we will be closer. All the website links are on the website and working now. The 990's are posted as well. Susan recommended that we check the website in the future before the committee who does accreditation does. Susan also pointed out that there was an error in the documents as our bylaws have always been up on the website. Thaddeus will post everyone's budget that was sent to him and will converse with Valerie Beesley with the aid of these to construct a budget that will also be posted on the website. The budget is the only item missing that needs to be done. All this will be done by May 21st. Valerie Beesley reminded everyone that the attendees' reports from the national annual meeting also need to be posted as promised at the last annual meeting.

Thaddeus commended all for their hard work at the annual meeting and in organizing all that has been accomplished since the association annual meeting.

Thaddeus is to collect the past treasurer books so that the financial committee can meet as promised at the association annual meeting. Valerie Beesley has now organized all the past and current financial information for this.

Thaddeus is to follow up with Valerie Jacobs to see when we will be sent the revised bylaws that we had a past meeting on. We will also post the Secretary of State information once this is completed.

Clarence Richardson is working with Perry for an officials clinic in the Myrtle Beach area. There is a demand for this from people in the area. They would like to get this on the calendar once it is organized. CoachO has also spoken to Clarence about a Level 1 Coach's clinic. Coach Grimes had requested this in the past and was denied by USATF National office as they would not let her use the Throws Coach that she had wanted to use. Thaddeus said we must do one Coach's clinic each Olympiad. He was not sure where the best place would be for this and suggested a central location in Columbia would be better. Allen Alden is from Columbia and Thaddeus had spoken to him to be the new chair of this. Thaddeus felt a Level 1,2 and 3 clinic would happen in the next couple years as Allen Alden and Curtis Frye from USC are on board for this.

Thaddeus was alarmed that two Run, Jump, Throws had happened in SC and our association was not informed of these events ahead of time.

Perry Funny is to also be working on Safe Sport Clinic(s) for officials and suggested that an officials clinic be done the same day(s). It would be better to have these in 2 locations to serve across the state. Suggestion of Greenville and Thaddeus and Sam organize and in Myrtle Beach and Perry and Clarence organize. The Safe Sport Clinic is still voluntary at this point but Thaddeus thought that by the end of 2015 it would be mandatory. Susan asked how often this must be taken. Thaddeus said that as of now it is one time only. Thaddeus recommended that all wait to do this lengthy clinic at one of these events that we organize instead of online.

LDR Report – by Thaddeus Sligh

We hosted a 5K Championship event in Columbia. We had a total of 8 athletes – more than last year's one entrant. All athletes enjoyed it. We did a very poor job of sending out information on the event and will do better next year. Thaddeus and Valerie Jacobs organized this and also had the assistance of one other official to run it off. Chris Kling suggested another day would be better as the Cooper River Bridge Run is the same day and all in the lower state were attending this. Valerie Beesley also felt most in the upper and middle state were at this event. We have tagged onto the Corn Bread Festival in the past for this 5K but Thaddeus was open to a different date and venue if others had a better idea for 2016. Chris asked about the income from this event. Valerie Beesley stated the costs were on the last financial report sent to all but the income had not come in yet from the national office as entries were done online with them.

Closing 10:04 p.m. - by Thaddeus Sligh

Thaddeus will follow up on where the Secretary of State filing is with Valerie Jacobs. He commended all on putting their best foot forward and keeping the lines of communication open.

Submitted by Valerie Beesley