

Executive Board Meeting via Zoom

Minutes

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

I. Call to Order (Phil) @ 7:04 PM

II. Attendees: Phil Leake, Tori Busto, Bill Bartel, Ajay Padgaonkar, Dennis Boyle, Dave Sundin, Scott Kostka, Brendan O’Leary, Ryan Cowley, Robert Benoy, Teddy Hayes, John Lilygren, Don Mosbacher, Mike Brown, Anthony Davis, Robert Hooper.

III. Approval of Minutes from the Annual Meeting

Approved as submitted

Chair Report and Association Updates

- Awards:
- Annual meeting included distribution of major association awards.
- A consolidated list of recipients will be sent to be included in these minutes.
- Indoor facility initiative in Richmond:
- Preliminary negotiations underway to place an indoor track in the Richmond pavilion near the Rosie the Riveter Museum.
- Parties involved: City of Richmond Parks & Rec, relevant city departments, county, and the museum (owner).
- Concept: \$1/year access lease if the facility investment is provided by the association.
- Negotiation team: Association leadership (names mentioned: Mansoor and higher-ups).
- Outlook: Promising but early-stage.
- Upcoming indoor season (Reno):
- Officials coordinators: Bob Wright will be coordinating PAUSATF Meets and Anthony Davis will be coordinating UNR Indoor Meets.
- UNR to host 4–5 local meets; Mountain West Indoor expected at UNR.
- 4 Pacific Association meets planned; meet information to be routed to Rob Benoy for calendar posting.
- Cross Country:
- West Regional on November 14; staffing nearly complete.
- Subsequent section meets follow in the days after.

- Training gratitude and updates:
- Thanks to Bill Bartel and Rob for training opportunities; recent horizontals clinic had 32 attendees.
- More Zoom-based opportunities planned.
- CIF registration overview delegated to Mike Brown later in meeting.

Awards Committee Update (Ryan Cowley)

- 39 awards conferred at the annual meeting:
- 9 NOC certificates, multiple association awards, and 11 outstanding apprentice awards.
- Program development:
- Suggestions for new awards or improvements welcomed.
- Newly added focus on emeritus officials 'careers; honored individuals included Leroy Milam, Bob Rauch, Bill Hawkes and Thelma Brafford.

Training Program (Bill Bartel)

- Recent clinics:
- Horizontals clinic at Sacramento City College was successful; planning a follow-up EDM (laser) class.
- Interest in a throws clinic; being organized.
- Intro class:
- Reno intro class was canceled due to zero sign-ups; attempting again on December 14.
- New officials timing:
- Advise prospective officials to wait until after November 1 to avoid paying membership twice (now and January).
- Bill can hold intro classes anytime in November based on demand.

Certification and National Applications (Ajay Padgaonkar)

- Recertification push:
- Few have completed since the annual meeting; RRCs asked to continue urging officials to recertify.
- USATF Championships require "three-way compliant" certified officials; non-compliant applications will be rejected. CIF increasingly asks for compliance as well.
- USATF Championships application window:
- Opened slightly early (~Oct 13); currently ~24 applicants.

- More than 15 applied to top-tier meets; Ajay reviewing event-level qualifications and providing certifier comments.
- Historically 40–50 applicants; selection ~30.
- Deadline: October 15; strict closure expected.
- Association championship officiating requirement (new):
- Certifier affirmation now includes whether applicants officiated at local association championship meets (e.g., Indoor, Outdoor Open/Masters, Youth).
- Applicants must indicate participation; Ajay emailed all current applicants to confirm.
- Regulation reads “one per year”; for this first year Ajay is interpreting as at least one in the last four years (2022–2025) to demonstrate support.
- NOC Named Awards nominations:
- Pacific nominees across six categories (first-round regional, then national):
- Andy Bakjian: Rory
- Horace Crow: Phil Yu
- Charles Ruter: John Busto, Al Hernandez
- John Davis: Chuck Buettner
- James Gray: Bill Bartel
- Lodi Maynard: Jon, Beth Price
- Process: regional round (includes SoCal, Hawaii, Central, San Diego-Imperial); winners move to national voting; semifinalists selected by NOC awards committee; winners announced at USATF annual meeting in early December.
- Action: Address missing nomination (Robert Benoy) sent to Gordon Bocock; Ajay requested resubmission through proper region awards chair (Irene) with a second if needed.

High School Meets and Upgrades (Mike Brown, CTSA; with Ajay and Anthony Davis)

- Proposal in development:
- Allow certain high school meets to count toward upgrades from Apprentice to Association level nationally (practice only), but not for National or Master upgrades.
- Ongoing coordination with the national office (Jamero); Mike drafting a proposal to route through Ajay to national.
- Anthony Davis suggests limiting qualifying high school meets to state association championships (NFHS-aligned, under USATF rules) rather than invitational meets.

Regional Resource Coordinators (RRCs) and Mentoring (Dennis Boyle)

- RRC status:
- Preparing for post-Nov 1 activities focused on recertification and outreach to non-compliant officials.
- Website visibility improvement: all six RRCs listed on one page in a column format; updates in progress (e.g., county assignments).
- Goal: RRCs as first points of contact; continued emphasis on visibility at meetings and handouts.
- National selection video discussion:
- Some viewed a Diversity Council video on potential “Notta” system for selections; mixed opinions; feedback suggests limited traction currently.
- Mentoring program:
- National mentoring initiative forming (zoom-based, discipline cohorts like decathlon coordinators).
- Pacific’s mentoring remains largely informal but active:
- On-meet pairing of new officials with experienced national/master officials for hands-on guidance.
- RRCs help identify local mentors by discipline; multiple mentors possible per official based on event focus.
- Distinction clarified:
- Mentors: discipline-specific, provide on-event training and can provide recommendation letters for upgrades.
- RRCs: broader support (upgrades, SafeSport, process guidance) and coordination.
- Tracking:
- Past RRC spreadsheet surveys on mentor status were useful; may restart to capture newer officials.
- Sentiment:
- Mentoring coverage at meets is strong; retention issues not primarily due to mentoring; continued encouragement for national/master officials to mentor.

Youth Committee (Anthony Davis, RTA)

- Association Youth XC Championships:
- Seeking new location; date TBD; officials recruitment pending.
- Upgrades policy input:
- Drafting proposed requirements that, if using high school meets for upgrades, they must be state association meets under controllable rule compliance.

Leave out of Minutes = Leave out of Minutes Race Walk Committee (Robert “Hoop” Hooper)

- Certification counts:
- 38 race walk officials: 6 Masters, 4 National, 6 Association, 22 Apprentice.
- Youth development incentive:
- \$100 awards to the first three Pacific youth coaches who:
- Complete USATF race walk coaching education online.
- Have at least one athlete finish a judged race walk race without DQ.
- Clinics and participation:
- Increased participation observed at events (e.g., Huntsman World Senior Games).
- Prior clinic by Susan Armenta and Robin Stevens had good turnout; future dates pending.
- Indoor meet schedule highlights (Reno):
- Four USATF race walk events among ~10 indoor meets:
 - Dec 27: Holiday Invite
 - Jan 18: MLK Invite
 - Jan 31: 1 Mile PA Indoor Championships (association championship)
 - Feb 15: Presidential Invite (1500/3K)

Calendar and Meet Staffing (Rob Benoy)

- Current calendar status:
- 14 meets posted (13 collegiate, 1 high school); slower than last year.
- CCAA conference meet in San Marcos requests ~40 officials; heavy reliance on Pacific due to limited local participation.
- Reno indoor series: Anthony’s flyers sent; Tori coordinating Mountain West Indoor; MPSF follows two days later (five days total for two conference championships).
- Posting process:
- Turnaround to website generally 2–3 days; placeholders exist for some Reno meets pending details from Mansoor/organizers.
- Sacramento State:
- Likely no home meets due to football/track facility decisions; potential refurbish and stadium agreement with Cal Expo.

- Capital Invitational at Sac City to fill the gap: Friday HS meet + Saturday college meet; significant official needs; good early-season mentoring opportunity.

Old Business: Growth to Impact Grant

- Grant award: ~\$3,600 for officials-focused initiatives.
- Proposed uses:
- Run Jump Throw support (minimal funding needed; \$200–\$400/year).
- Training expansion (preference expressed for in-person, hands-on training; costs include materials and participant support such as lunch).
- Equipment acquisition (e.g., total station; costs vary ~\$3,000–\$6,000 depending on model).
- Discussion points:
- Strong preference to prioritize training funds over equipment purchase; in-person clinics deemed higher impact than Zoom.
- Idea to provide new officials starter kits (flags, clipboard, stopwatch, shoe bag) to reduce initial personal expenses.
- Foundation funding relationship:
- Officials contribute via annual meeting raffles; Foundation provides training grants back to officials upon request.
- Concerns raised about over reliance on officials for Foundation revenue; Foundation Board working to diversify donors.
- Debate on directing annual meeting surplus to officials vs. Foundation; current structure splits funds, with officials committee as a cost center receiving budget support.

New Business: CIF Registration and Arbiter (Mike Brown, CTSA; Q&A with Anthony Davis)

- CIF licensing process:
- Officials must register via CIF/Arbiter; background check required (not shared with USATF).
- SafeSport: CIF does not currently require; if required, CIF will accept USATF SafeSport.
- NFHS rules test: 70–75 questions; pass at 70%; CTSA members required to pass at 80%.
- Payment mechanism: Arbiter used to pay officials; schools/districts fund via Arbiter or direct association billing.
- Registration fees:
- Example paid: ~\$26–\$29 covering background, registration, and test access.

- Associations in Arbiter:
- Some regions (e.g., USATF SoCal) listed; Pacific not shown; individuals can register without selecting an association; Mike investigating adding associations (Pacific/CTSA).
- Fee schedules and compensation:
- Each CIF section negotiates fee schedules with officiating groups; not centralized at state level.
- Track & field is operationally distinct; dual meets through invitationals to state meets should have at least one certified official (often the starter/referee).
- Recognized challenge: schools' ability to fund officials for invitationals; pilot approach and negotiations ongoing.
- Nevada model shared:
- Registration with state association provides Arbiter access and insurance; associations bill hosts; funds deposited then distributed to officials via Arbiter; statewide uniform pay achieved in Nevada (football helped alignment).
- Action:
- Create job aids/PowerPoint walkthroughs for RRCs and officials.
- Plan an RRC session with Mike to walk through registration and get RRCs up to speed.

USATF Annual Meeting Delegation

- Format: Hybrid (onsite in Florida, two online delegates).
- Reimbursement:
- Voting delegates: \$1,000 stipend (not fully covering costs).
- Online annual meeting fee covered by the association.
- Volunteers:
- Interest expressed by Dave Sundin (onsite or online), Bill Bartel (onsite, pending), Don Mosbacher (onsite, pending).
- Coordination: Contact Phil to finalize delegate assignments; submit names to Charlotte and Irene.

Operating Procedures Update Status (Ajay Padgaonkar)

- Pending updates:
- Approved changes to Officials Committee Operating Procedures (election timeline and governance language) are not yet reflected online.
- Next steps:

- Phil to research and consult Don Collins on language and process; provide status update via email to keep all informed.

Action Items

@Ryan/Phil: Send the awards recipients list to @John for inclusion in minutes.

@Phil: Ensure Reno meet information is sent to @Rob for calendar posting.

@Bill Bartel: Schedule EDM follow-up class and plan Throws clinic; retry Reno intro class on Dec 14.

@RRCs: Continue outreach to incomplete recertifications and prep for post–Nov 1 activities.

@Ajay: Review USATF Championship applicants and confirm national/master-level event competencies; track association championship officiating confirmations; send reminder before Oct 15 deadline.

@Bill Bartel -> @Ajay/Irene/Gordon: Resubmit Robert Benoy's NOC nomination with proper routing and second if required.

@Mike Brown: Draft high school meets upgrade proposal (Apprentice to Association) and route via @Ajay to national; continue CIF/Arbiter process documentation.

@Anthony Davis: Draft requirements limiting eligible high school meets to state association championships for upgrades.

@Rob Benoy: Continue calendar updates; recruit officials for CCAA (San Marcos) and Capital Invitational; share Reno championship staffing details.

@Phil: Circulate Growth to Impact grant details; coordinate prioritization (training vs. equipment vs. RJT) and budget allocation.

@Phil/Dennis: Schedule RRC meeting with @Mike Brown to walk through CIF registration and produce a job aid.

@Interested Delegates (Dave, Bill, Don): Email @Phil to finalize USATF annual meeting delegate roles (onsite vs. online); @Phil to notify Charlotte/Irene.

@Phil: Research and update Officials Committee Operating Procedures changes with @Don Collins; provide status update to the committee.

Topics

Phil discussed the possibility of an indoor track facility in the Bay Area.

Bill Bartel reported on training opportunities and upcoming intro classes for officials.

Ajay Padgaonkar provided updates on recertification and USATF championship applications.

Dennis Boyle shared information about the Regional Resource Coordinators (RRCs) and mentoring program.

Robert Hooper gave an update on race walk events and initiatives.

Robert Benoy presented the calendar status and upcoming meets.

Mike Brown explained the CIF registration process for officials.

The group discussed the Growth to Impact grant allocation options.

Review

Phil reported that the season has been busy since the annual meeting, with numerous awards being distributed. He mentioned the possibility of an indoor track facility being established in the Bay Area, specifically in Richmond next to the Rosie de River Museum. Negotiations are ongoing with city departments, the county, and the museum. He also noted that the indoor season schedule in Reno is set with Bob Wright and Anthony Davis coordinating officials.

Ryan Cowley provided details about the annual awards given at the annual meeting, including 39 awards from the awards committee (9 NOC certificates, association awards, and 11 outstanding apprentices). He implemented a new section to highlight emeritus officials' careers and acknowledged Leroy Milam, Bob Rauch, Bill Hawkes and Thelma Brafford.

Bill Bartel discussed recent training activities, including a successful Horizontals training session in Sacramento with Robert that had 32 attendees. He mentioned plans for potential CDM and throws clinics. An intro class in Reno was canceled due to lack of interest but will be rescheduled for December 14. He advised holding off on recruiting new officials until after November 1 to avoid double membership fees.

Progress

Phil shared that negotiations are underway for a potential indoor track facility in the Bay Area, specifically in Richmond next to the Rosie de River Museum, with access potentially provided for a dollar a year rent if the association puts in the facility.

Bill Bartel reported on a successful horizontals training session at Sacramento City College with 32 attendees and mentioned plans for a follow-up CDM class to work more with lasers.

Ajay Padgaonkar noted that about 24 officials have applied for USATF championships so far, with more than 15 applying for top-tier meets, though this is fewer than the 40-50 applicants from previous years.

Dennis Boyle explained that RRCs are preparing to work with officials who haven't completed certification after November 1, and mentioned that John Lilygren has updated the web page to make all six RRCs more visible on one page.

Robert Hooper reported that there are currently 38 certified race walk officials (6 masters, 4 national, 6 association, and 22 apprentice) and described incentives being developed for youth coaches to train athletes in race walking.

Robert Benoy stated that 14 meets have been submitted to the calendar so far (1 high school and 13 collegiate), which is slower than last year, and mentioned the CCAA meet in San Marcos is requesting 40 officials.

Mike Brown explained the CIF registration process for officials, including the requirement for an Arbiter account, background check, and passing an NFHS rules test with at least 70% (80% for CTSA members).

Issues

Issue: Ajay Padgaonkar mentioned that many officials have not completed their recertification, which is required for USATF championship consideration.

Solution: Ajay requested that Regional Resource Coordinators (RRCs) remind officials to complete their recertification as soon as possible.

Issue: A new requirement for USATF championship applications asks if officials have officiated at local Association Championship meets, and many applicants did not list this information.

Solution: Ajay sent an email to all applicants asking them to confirm their participation in Association Championship meets to provide substantiation for his certification.

Issue: Bill Bartel noted that an intro class in Reno was canceled due to lack of interest.

Solution: The clinic will be rescheduled for December 14, and Bill is holding off on recruiting new officials until after November 1 to avoid double membership fees.

Issue: Dennis Boyle expressed concern about whether new officials are getting adequate mentoring.

Solution: Several officials confirmed that informal mentoring is happening effectively at meets, with experienced officials guiding newcomers, and RRCs helping connect people who need mentors.

Issue: Robert Benoy questioned why officials' money from the annual meeting goes to the foundation rather than supporting officials directly.

Solution: Phil explained that half of the money comes back to officials through their budget, and the foundation also provides training grants when requested. John Lilygren added that the foundation is working to find other funding sources.

Issue: Mike Brown explained that officials need to register with CIF through Arbiter to work high school championship meets, requiring another background check and test.

Solution: Mike and John Busto offered to conduct a Zoom meeting to help officials prepare for the NFHS rules test once it's available online.

Decisions

The group discussed allocating the \$3,600 Growth to Impact grant, with Robert Benoy suggesting it be used for training rather than purchasing equipment or supporting Run Jump Throw, as in-person training is more effective than Zoom meetings.

Tori Busto clarified that Run Jump Throw only needs about \$200-400 for the year as they've partnered with Rancho Cordova High School, which will provide support for the program.

Phil Leake announced that one official needs to attend the USATF annual meeting in Florida in person (with \$1,000 reimbursement), while two others can participate online, with Dave Sundin volunteering to either go to Florida or be online.

Ajay Padgaonkar raised the issue of previously approved changes to the Pacific Association Officials Committee Operating Procedures that haven't been implemented on the website, and Phil agreed to research this with Don Collins and follow up by email.

Next Meeting : 12/16/2025 @ 7:00 PM

TB