

**2018 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT
COLUMBUS, OHIO
November 29th to December 2nd**

FRITZ SPIELMAN

Attended several meetings dealing with the following topics: Finance, Grievances, SafeSport, Rules, and Cross Country. Also attended the opening and closing sessions and the Board of Directors meeting.

FINANCE

There will be a number of IRS changes in 2019 with respect to what non-profits have to report and how they are to be reported. Sixty percent of National Office revenue is from sponsors, much of which have specific uses tied to the money. Recently signed a 23 year contract with Nike. Because the National Office is on the accrual basis, cash flow is always difficult to project. Reminder given to treasurers that they have to prepare W-9s and 1099s each year. Reviewed best practices for handling problems.

GRIEVANCES

Focus was on grievances heard by the National Athletics Board of Review Panel (NABR). The NABR is a three person panel who hears and rules on grievances pertaining to: matters involving more than one association; national/international athletes; violations of IAAF rules; sports act violations and sexual misconduct. Record number of grievances handled by the NABR in 2018 - the 15 grievances filed were more than were filed in the past 6 years. Reg 21 covers the grievance process (i.e. forms, fees, and documentation required; and the timeline to file grievance). National Office focus is to ensure that the NABR panel handles the grievance in a timely manner.

SAFESPORT

Had a number of sessions dealing with safesport: informational, making sense of, and training. USATF hired an Individual this year to oversee USATF response to and compliance with this USOC requirement. Everyone is responsible for reporting violations. Will be adding a tab for volunteers background check procedures. Webpage Q&A page will be expanded to address most issues. Will be adding a parent section to the webpage. The current requirement for volunteers to be a member, have a background check and complete safesport training has been the biggest complaint of the process. USATF is working on a waiver for volunteers who only work at meets. In the future there will be an annual refresher course implemented. Per Federal law, The Center for Safesport can take action to suspend someone even though due process hasn't occurred. USATF is required to pass names on to members when suspension notice is received from the Center for Safesport.

RULES

Sat in on the rules committee sessions for interim report (actions taken prior to annual meeting) and final report (actions taken at the meeting). A total of 101 amendments to the rules of competition were submitted for this year. The interim report identified 13 rules that were rejected and 7 rules that were tabled. After discussions between the rules committee and the individuals that proposed the rule change, 5 of these 20 rules were accepted as amended.

CROSS COUNTRY COUNCIL

Reports were given on the 2018 USA and international cross country events identifying individual and team results for american athletes. Reports were also given on the 2018 club championships to be held in Spokane, Washington on December 8th and the 2019 major events. The USA Championships will be in Tallahassee, Florida on February 2nd; the IAAF World Championships will be in Aarhus, Denmark on March 30th; and the PAN AM Championships will be in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on February 17th. Cross Country Council awards were given to 8 individuals. Selection criteria for 2019 international teams was discussed.

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Need to get to the point where USATF members trust the elected Board of Trustees. Position of USATF President is still in limbo - suspension still in effect. Acting president wants to unite the board and organization. Hope to have this issue resolved early next year.

Discussed 2018 actuals and 2019 budgets. Will break even in 2019. Increase of 21% in insurance rates for 2019 because of SafeSport issues. Consistent stream of revenue from Nike 20 plus year contract. New IRS rules impacting on how non profits report income/expenses.

The ACC doesn't think that the Board of Directors supports/cares about athletes problems.

Had applications for grants from 22 organizations - 12 grants were awarded. Request from associations for additional grant money in 2019.

Membership declined by about 2,000 in 2018 - safesport requirement and AAU main reasons for decline.

Outdated computer system is major concern. Been working hard to implement new system - anticipate fall of 2019 implementation.