

December 4, 2018

To: USATF Ohio Association Officers

I wanted to thank the USATF Ohio Association Officers for approving the grants that allowed association members the opportunity to attend the 2018 USATF Annual Meeting November 29, 2018 thru December 2, 2018.

In my case, my week started on November 28, 2018. I volunteered on Wednesday helping members of the National Office stuff bag with KT Tape and a Power Bars.

I was amazed how all the different entities work together to make USATF the best it could be. I primarily focused on the meetings that focused on the officials.

I attended the following meetings on Thursday:

1. Uniform and Equipment Subcommittee – Discussion was focused on refining the information posted on the USATF web site. The committee is looking into being more specific about the information posted about uniforms such as appropriate short length, one stop shopping to purchase officials uniforms and the development of equipment “starter kits” for new officials.
2. Officials Training Subcommittee – They reviewed the sample training video that was submitted to the national office for approval. There was discussion on the development of online certification tests. Currently the apprentice and association level test have been developed and tested. They are still working on the development of the National and Master level test. The goal is that all Certification Tests will be automated before the next certification cycle.
3. Evaluation Subcommittee – I learned about the evaluation process and the dispute process. Out of 450 evaluations done at the major meets only 20 were disputed. Many officials need to look at the evaluations as a tool to get better.
4. NOC Awards Subcommittee

Friday consisted of the General Officials Session #1. We listened to reports from the various subcommittees from the NOC. This was followed by an interactive session of Referee Scenarios. The evening ended with the Officials HOF Banquet.

Saturdays focus centered on the General Officials Session#2 and the closing meetings on Sunday.

I look forward attending the meeting next year in Reno. I am interested in working with the new Safety Subcommittee that is forming or helping with the Uniform Subcommittee.

Thanks again for giving me the opportunity to learn about the inner workings of USATF.

Respectfully,

James Kakos