

President's report on annual meeting 2014

Delegates to the convention were kept very busy in Anaheim starting with the Association president, vice president, and past president meeting. Communication with our membership was emphasized and we were asked to use email and website. It was stressed that outgoing officers need to be mentors for the new officers and that we want to recognize people for their volunteer service. Working on communication between the national office and the associations was also a point well made.

The session on Accreditation Standards was led by Herb Nichols and a brief history was presented, A recommendation will be made that we will go to 15 from the current 21 Standards provided we can get the necessary changes through the USATF Board. Coaching Education may be removed as one of standard. A timeline to be followed for next year's accreditation was presented, as well as the criteria for the bronze, silver, and gold levels of accreditation

The Executive Board meeting of Associations Committee had among its highlights a doubling of its budget to around \$50,000 for 2015, with \$500 per Association in the budget. The workshop will be the day before the annual meeting in 2015 and 2016. Later, a more detailed discussion of standards clarified that we are looking to institute a tiered approach to some standards based on Association population. We are hoping to reduce the number of championships and increase the types of championships,

I attended an officials committee meeting in order to vote for Scott Rose to become the new Vice Chairman of awards. Karen Krsak gave a nominating speech for him. He went on to be elected by almost a two to one margin. Jimmy Stewart was reelected Certification Chair.

The Associations Committee's first business meeting followed with certification of LDR courses a point of discussion. I got more information on the Law and Legislation committee's move to separate being President of USATF from holding the Chairman of the Board of USATF.

At the marketing and branding session I found out about US ATF guidelines on using the logo. The online portal information will eventually be used by our communications chair to make sure all of our logos are within guidelines,

In the Midwest Region meeting, chaired by Richard Messenger, I learned that Indiana's Purdue University is trying to incorporate becoming an official into some part of their physical education department curriculum and that Kentucky has started a mountain ultra trail race (M.U.T.)and attracted 174 racers their first year. I got a "how to" set up a cross country championship using age grading for awards from the Executive Council of Cross Country which I passed on to Paige Biglin.

In the Association's second business meeting discussion took place on Masters LDR being improved by using Age Graded Awards and publishing Age Graded rankings. Club Council's subcommittee on Disabled Athletes wants to include child athletes and add the Shot Put, Discus, 100, 200, and 800m races.

Respectfully,
Randy Hopkins