

Men's LDR Meeting

Friday, November 30, 2012-12-27

A call to Order was made at 3 p.m. Then from 3:01 to 3:15 Mike Scott and Bill Roe led the discussions involving Cross country. The site for the 2012 and 2013 U.S. Championships will be St. Louis, MO. The Trials for the 2013 World Team will be held concurrently in the 2013 Championship race, where the World team will be selected.

Bob Latham had the floor at 3:15 and gave a report in the 2012 Championships and Road Circuit Report. The 2013 Road circuit awards were announced along with Future Running Championships. It was announced that development programs want to reach out and help others within the running community for increased participation in the future for the Road Running Championships. It is believed that this could not only bring out more participation but by doing so, it would have an effect of strengthening distance running as a whole within the USA.

At 4:35 P.M. The meeting was opened up for discussions on any topics that people had in mind. One Subject that was a hot topic within the group is pertaining to the change in the Olympic Trials Qualifying Standards for the men and women. This will be a change that will ultimately play a key role in who will be selected to represent the USA in 2016 in Rio de Janeiro. It is reported that the qualifying times for the men's marathon will now be:

Automatic (A) = 2:15

Provisional (B)= 2:18

½ marathon qualifying Standard= 1:05

Although the automatic qualifying in the half- marathon will not have any change in time, the marathon qualifiers will have to be a minute faster to hit the automatic qualifying time.

Even though this was the men's LDR meeting, it was noted out of fairness or relevance to all present, I presume, that the women's Olympic Trials Qualification standard also had a change. On the Women's side, the qualifying times for the 2016 Olympic Trials are set at:

Automatic (A) = 2:38

Provisional (B) = 2:43

½ marathon= 1:15

The women are seeing more of a change in their qualifying standards as compared to the men. The automatic qualifying standard for the marathon is now 1 minute faster like the men's. However, the Provisional Standard is 3 minutes faster than it was for the 2012 Olympic Trials. The half- marathon time has remained the same.

The meeting concluded with the different committees that spoke at 4:20 p.m. The committees that held the floor the most were the development and Road Running Technical. Gene Newman led the discussion for his committee report on The Road Running Technical. By this point of the meeting those who had wished to leave had

departed already but most of the people stayed because aspects such as rules, timing and potential for the develop programs to grow had relevance to most if not all of the runners, coaches, and committee personnel in the room. It was also apparent to all at this meeting that Long Distance Running (LDR) is at a critical point with the election for the new Chair being voted on tomorrow morning. The candidates for the LDR were Glenn Latimer, who is the current chair, and Bill Roe.

Also interesting to note was the presence of Jack Hazen at the meeting. He was leading the Coaches Advisory and did not have much to touch upon, but serving as the team's distance coach at the 2012 London Olympics, his presence is noteworthy as the LDR meeting had reason to believe distance running had not only a very successful showing in this years Olympics but is on the right path towards helping USA Distance running become more powerful and have potential to carry on as medal contenders after what a showing we had in the 2012 Olympics. The USA had silver in the 10,000 meter by Galen Rupp. This was the first time in 48 years that a medal had been earned in the 10k by an American since Billy Mills had won it in 1964. Another noted victory for the USA was Mathew Centrowitz finishing 4th, in the 1500 meter race. Another strong point is that the USA had Leo Manzano win the silver medal in the same race. This is the first time the USA had earned a medal in the event in the Olympics in 44 years. Even better is that 2 Americans were in the top 4. It is noted that the USA had a marathoner, Meb Keflezighi finish 4th, along with Bernard Lagat finishing 4th in the 5,000 meter run- both just outside of winning a medal by a single place.

Report given by: *Michael Giuseppe Mannozi* of the Ohio Association