



**SC Association Annual Meeting - Revised
October 18, 2015
Dodie Academic Enrichment Center
University of South Carolina
1302 Heyward Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29208**

The meeting was opened by Thaddeus Sligh, President at 2:15pm. (Note – Traffic delays due to the SC State Fair)

He welcomed everyone and asked for a moment of silence in honor of those who lost their lives in the recent floods in Columbia and all those who were affected by its damage.

Thaddeus introduced himself - President, 2nd Vice President – Samuel Kennedy, Treasurer – Valerie Beesley, Race Walk Chair – Susan Heiser-Whatley, Coaches Education and Development Chair – Allen Alden, Men & Women’s Track & Field Chair – Anthony Washington. (Note others arrived later)

In Attendance were the following: Thaddeus Sligh-President, Sam Kennedy – 2nd Vice-President, Linda Ellis –Youth Chair, Valerie Jacobs – Secretary, Valerie Beesley – Treasurer, Anthony Washington – Men & Women’s Track & Field Chair, Andrew Alden – Coaches Educational Chair and Susan Heiser - Racewalk Chair.

24 people signed in at the meeting held Sunday October 18, 2015.

24 members

9 Officials

Valerie Beesley
Betty Bowman
Maurice Campbell
Archie Ard
Norman Venyah
Mary Venyah
Debra Hawkins
Thaddeus Sligh
William Lange

Guest Members: Tim Huber

6 Club Members

Joy Franklin
Winston Stewart
Osei Stewart
Thandi Stewart
John Charlton
Samuel Kennedy

8 Coaches

Samuel J Franklin
Doug Kotti
Susan Heiser
Andrew Alden
Anthony Washington
Matthew Hawkins
Linda Ellis
Valerie Jacobs

Secretary's Report - presented by Thaddeus Sligh

The 2014 Annual Meeting minutes were distributed and reviewed by the body. Valerie Beesley made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was properly seconded, voted on and accepted.

Treasurer's Report – presented by Valerie Beesley

Valerie Beesley distributed the Trial Balance, Balance Sheet and Income Statement as of September 30, 2015; Report of expenditures from October 1st to October 17th; Spread sheet summary of Income/Expense Items for the years 2010 to 2014 and to 9/30/15. Quick Books was purchased to reload the General Ledger on to for the past 4 years to create these reports. Tim Huber asked what the income was for JO National XC in the year 2015. Valerie explained that she was not aware that these funds or the JO Regional XC funds were deposited yet and had not accrued in 2014 for these. However, they appear as income in 2015. As of September 30th there was a profit of \$1,599.30 and the bank balance as of October 17th was \$65,106.08. Valerie was thanked for her hard work in getting the general ledger up to date.

Thaddeus Sligh announced to all that the Financial Policies and Procedures which Samuel Kennedy, Finance Committee Chair and the Finance Committee members created will be standard financial procedures going forward. He has asked each Committee Chair to create the same type of procedures for their area and these will be posted on the USATF SC website for all to see.

Archie Ard moved the Treasurer's Report be accepted. It was properly seconded and accepted.

Youth Committee Chair's Report – presented by Linda Ellis

Linda Ellis passed out a Youth Chair Report. There were 1190 athletes at our JO Association Track & Field meet in 2015 at East Side High School. Linda Ellis attended a Level II School and Thaddeus Sligh was with the World Youth Team, therefore, Valerie Jacobs represented SC as the Youth Chair at the Regionals in Georgia.

We had many All American Athletes this year. There is a summary on our web site. Linda has designed a t-shirt and will obtain shirts sizes for all of these athletes and the upcoming JO XC athletes. Shirts and plaques for both events will be ordered at the same time and sent to the clubs.

Lamar Grant is the new youth chair for Georgia. Georgia had sent Linda the missing Regional Track medals but however they sent the wrong ones. Linda will get this corrected and send the correct medals to the clubs.

The 2015 JO XC meet will be held November 14th at Heathwood Hall Episcopal School, Columbia, SC. Coach O is open and Linda disbursed the meet entry information sheets which will also be posted on the website. There is a \$10 late fee this year for any entries sent in after the cutoff date of November 10, 2015. Clubs will be informed that there is a USC Football game this same day. Traffic could be heavy but the game time is not confirmed as of yet. John Charlton suggested that the state

troopers and city police be contacted as the exit for the XC meet area is usually closed during a game. There are other ways to get to the school and this will be provided.

Myrtle Beach had been looked at as a site, however, there was a conflicting event. It was stressed that absolutely no pets will be allowed at this or any other USATF SC event. Linda suggested that we give thought to having the JO XC meet much earlier than the weekend after the High School State meet and waive the high school athletes on to Regionals as some other associations do.

JO XC Regionals will be held in Georgia on November 21, 2015. The site is TBA. They did have a site in mind but it was going to be too costly as the event site wanted to charge \$5 per person – regardless if they were an athlete or not. This information will be posted on the website and emailed to the clubs as soon as it is finalized.

JO XC Nationals will be in Albuquerque, NM on December 12, 2015.

The JO Association Track & Field meet will be held on June 10-12, 2016. The association is actively looking for a site. The Regional Meet right now is between Florida and South Carolina. You must have a certain number of competing athletes to host this event so it may likely be in South Carolina as Florida did not have the athlete participation last year that they should have.

Attendees were asked for their input on the East Side High School venue this past year. There was discussion about the bees in the sand pit for the long jump on the infield. East Side was not aware they were there as the pit had not been used in months. We did move the long jump to under the stands which was hotter for the officials and athletes. The pits need to be checked in the future. This is a common problem for schools. We had experienced this at a past Regional meet in the past. There was discussion of where the clerking area should be if we were to return to East Side High School. Different sites for the steeple and hammer were discussed. There was a discussion of other venues in the state to approach in regards to hosting this event and possibly the Regional event if we are to host in 2016.

Linda Ellis is to travel to Atlanta for a Youth Committee meeting next weekend. If anyone has any issues that they would like discussed please email here.

Douglas Kotti made a motion to accept the Youth Chair Report. The motion was properly seconded and accepted.

Official's Report - presented by Thaddeus Sligh

Perry Funnie had submitted a report for disbursal. The body read the report. We have 149 active officials as of this date. If you are not receiving emails from Perry please contact him and provide him your current contact information so that he can update the official's database. George Illingworth and Kenneth Funnie are to receive the Outstanding Official awards. Perry will mail these to them. Thaddeus Sligh encouraged all officials to work our association events. We still have trouble recruiting officials for these events. Thaddeus commended Susan Heiser-Whatley on all her hard work recruiting and training Race Walk Officials and all that she does for this area of the sport.

The Safe Sport clinic that was to be held after this meeting is cancelled. Thaddeus and Perry plan to organize one in the lower and upper state hopefully on the same day soon. Thaddeus stressed that all officials need to do this. This is something the national office has implemented. If you attend the clinic you sign in and watch the video which is about 2 hours long, sign out and do not have to do any test. If you do this online there is a test that you must do. It will take about 3 hours to do the online clinic. Valerie Beesley suggested that if you go online and do this you print each screen as it comes in handy for the quiz questions as they do ask some items that you would not necessarily retain. You also need to print off the certificate that you are issued at the end of this online clinic and send it to Len Krask on the National Officials Clinic; he's keeping a file of these. You do not have to do the online clinic in one sitting, you can leave and go back to it. Thaddeus and Linda encouraged all to plan to attend these upcoming clinics or do the online course. Valerie Jacobs made a motion to accept the Official's Chair Report. The motion was properly seconded and accepted.

Racewalk Chair Report – presented by Susan Heiser-Whatley

Susan Heiser-Whatley handed out a report for all to read. This committee is chaired by Susan Heiser-Whatley. The other members are Debbie Sammons, Jennie Cirillo, Tommy Sammons and Paul Cirillo. The committee has met 5 times throughout the year. There have been two association championships held this year; a 1-hour Racewalk Championship and a 3000/1500 meter Open/Maters Racewalk Championship. Both championships were held at Furman University. The 1-hour racewalk event was an International Postal event. The results are posted with other 1-hour events from all over the world. SC's entries from this event won numerous International Postal divisions. The 3000/1500 m Racewalk Track Championship had entries from ages 15 to 72. Greenville Track Club has invited us back to conduct the racewalk at their 2016 Annual SC Classic Track & Field meet. We have also put on a developmental youth racewalk meet.

The committee is looking for a location to host a 5/10K road championship. This site must be flat and a looped 1 to 1.25K distance. Some suggested locations were Myrtle Beach or Charleston as they would be flatter. One specific location was Patriots Point in Charleston, Susan will check into these locations.

Susan and Ian conducted 5 racewalks at selected Greenville County High School track & field meets. 12 athletes raced in the 1500m racewalk at the Greenville County Championships and 2 of these qualified for the New Balance national 1-mile Racewalk. Four of these athletes competed in our JO association meet and 3 of these went on to medal in Jacksonville, Florida at the JO Nationals.

Susan had conducted 4 racewalk clinics during the year and plan to hold more clinics as she and her committee develops this event in SC. She trained numerous racewalk officials at our past JO meet and organized the racewalk officials at the Regional meet as well. Archie Ard noted what an excellent job she and the crew of racewalk officials did at Regionals.

Ian Whatley has created YouTube channel for Racewalk training and coaching. Susan encouraged all to use them.

Our youth racewalk athlete number increased to 17 this year. Fourteen of these athletes qualified for Regionals and 9 of them entered. Seven qualified for nationals. Five of our athletes competed at Nationals and 4 of them earned medals.

Susan has organized the 2nd annual SC Association 1-hour racewalk to be held December 5th at Furman and this event will also include the first SE Regional –Hour Racewalk Championship. The entry form and other information is posted on the SC website.

Susan announced the goals of the Racewalk Committee: conduct racewalk clinics for coaches; certify more judges; work to add racewalk to more SC events; continue to host the SC 3000m and 1-hour racewalk championships; certify a 1-1.25L loop course and hold a 5/10K racewalk road championship.

Archie Ard made a motion to accept the Racewalk Chair report. The motion was properly seconded and accepted.

Membership/Sanction Chair Report – presented by Thaddeus Sligh

The current membership in our database is 2131 members. Last year it was 1924 members.

Currently the youth membership is down by 83 but Chris Kling, membership/sanction chair felt this would catch up and surpass last year's number as the JO Cross Country Meet is yet to happen. In 2014 we had 1405 young athletes and currently have 1321 with 2 months to catch up.

Chris noted that in the Mountain Ultra and Trial (MUT) sub group we have 116 athletes. This is the most of this group we have ever had. Chris felt we were doing something right here and that the group of athletes are also road racers which is a huge opportunity for the area as well.

In 2014 we had 89 sanctioned events and currently we have 78. Again there is time to catch up on this number as well.

Douglas Kotti made a motion to accept the Membership Chair report. The motion was properly seconded and accepted.

MUT Report – presented by T Sligh

Thaddeus commended Matthew Hammersmith, MUT Chair, with the growth in the membership numbers for this sport. We have helped with some costs for a 100 mile event. Thad went to assist Matthew and verify the athletes with USATF memberships. We will be assisting with the upcoming 50K at Paris Mountain as well. There is no reported income as of yet to this division. It is growing in numbers with our small assistance. Val Beesley asked that the results from the past event be posted on the SC website as this is a must for all association championships and website accreditation.

Coaches Education and Development Chair- Andrew Allden

Andrew Allden informed all that there is a new format for the Level I for 2016-2020. If you had obtained Level I before January 1, 2013 you will have to recertify by December 31, 2016. If you have obtained your Level II status this would not apply. You can do this online and pay the fee or attend a clinic. The curriculum and the test are different than 3 years ago. It would be of value for everyone to do the course again.

The Level I school scheduled for Myrtle Beach will be relocated to Columbia on January 8-10th. Glen McAtee will be speaking on the throws, Cornelius Young – the sprints and Andrew Allden - distance.

The USC sprint/hurdle clinic on November 20-21 is open to all coaches and professional athletes. If you are a Level II coach you can get your Level III by attending this clinic. An email should go out next week on this. You can also see information on it at SouthCarolinaClinic@weebly.com

There will be an IAAF endurance academy in December IMG Academics in Florida; only USATF Level II coaches may attend.

If anyone has any questions for Andrew you can contact him at aacoaching@aol.com

Linda Ellis said it would be a good idea to waive the athletes so that coaches could attend these events that are on the same weekend as youth events. Andrew also mentioned that some associations do their JO cross country events on Sundays and this might also be considered.

Andrew did not know where the next Level II class would be held. It was open for bidding now and the bid decision is not announced until January. It is always during the summer months and will probably conflict with a JO event. Andrew recommended the Youth Level II course was very good to all coaches.

Douglas Kotti made a motion to accept the Coaches Education and Development Chair report,. The motion was properly seconded and accepted.

Finance Committee Report – presented by Samuel Kennedy

Samuel Kennedy identified the Finance Committee as himself as Chair, Douglas Kotti and Chris Kling. He thanked them all for their hard work. The financial procedures will be posted on the website.

The budget for 2015 and 2016 was handed out to all. These amounts were based upon past years and input from the chairs of committees. The committee met and others were invited. Linda Ellis did attend. It was a productive meeting with the budget and financial procedure and policies created. Samuel Kennedy noted that we must send a certain number of delegates to the national annual convention as mandated by the national office. We did go over budget on this in 2014 and most likely will in 2015. Valerie Jacobs noted that only \$5000 was in the budget for this and was concerned as this would not cover the expenses. Thaddeus Sligh said it was not enough but the association would cover the expenses for the delegates. We are fortunate that Amber Campbell is funded by the national athletes advisory but our association can use this as a delegate for our accreditation. Our

other athlete to represent us will be Tiffany Williams. Linda noted to all that the national office keeps track of everyone when they sign in and out to make sure association receive the correct credit for this. Delegates will be assigned areas that they are to attend and take notes for all. Val Beesley will make sure the budget for 2015 and proposed budget for 2016 is posted on the web site as this is mandatory for website accreditation. Sam thanked all on the finance committee again for their hard work.

Old Business

Members of the executive board and committee chairs met in January to revise the By- Laws per Thaddeus Sligh. Our current by- laws are up to date and posted on the SC website. The revised by laws were not typed in time for posting for this meeting. Valerie Jacobs will get the revised by- laws completed and we may have a special meeting to review these and vote on them.

New Business

Thaddeus Sligh discussed proper protocol for grievances or concerns in our Association. Last year someone filed a grievance to the national office. The grievance was not sent to our executive board first. The grievance should have been filed with our executive board first to allow the opportunity to be resolved within the association. Thad asked that if anyone had an issue with the association to please present it to the executive board and they will deal with it within the association.

Samuel Kennedy encouraged all to attend; coaches and officials, the upcoming safe sport clinics.

Val Beesley noted that the Secretary of State letters for 2014 and 2015 aren't on the website. Valerie Jacobs said that she had sent them to Chad our website director. She will follow up on this as this is necessary for our website accreditation as well. Thaddeus will look at the website to suggest some easier tabs for people to find items that are in the download section of our website.

Thaddeus announced our accreditation is good. Valerie Jacobs has a form that must be completed by the end of November. Susan Heiser was concerned that we are still not hosting all the championships we need to do.

Andrew Allden commented that he was the past NC LDR chair. In the LDR events you must offer something as LDR athletes can enter any event without being a member of USATF. In NC they offered special prize money to USATF members entered in LDR events that USATF NC piggy backed off of. NC also advertised in state publications that these athletes would receive the special prize money. Thaddeus told all in attendance we are still looking for a LDR Chair if anyone was interested or knew of someone that might be interested in this.

It is possible that the national office may be lowering the number of required championships and this should be announced at the upcoming national convention in December.

Valerie Jacobs made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:10pm. The motion was properly seconded and accepted.

Respectively Submitted

Valerie B Jacobs
USATFSC
Secretary

President Signature: _____ Date: _____

Secretary Signature: _____ Date: _____