

Association of Track Officials of Michigan

Minutes of March 4, 2018
Association of Track Officials of Michigan
East Lansing, MI

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christine Lee, Richard Lee, Mike Henry, Gordie Richardson, Mike VahDyke, Lew Clingman, Kathy Hutfilz, Jill Sandro, George Babcock, Lynn Ketelhut, Al Wood, Rudy Godefroidt.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes for January were approved as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for February was approved. At the time of the meeting, we had 106 memberships for 2018. There were 209 memberships for 2017. 2018 memberships have halted at this time. 63 persons attended the 2018 clinic. Discussion was held as to how we are going to handle years' of membership awards and accurate membership lists as the membership list we are working off from is not a current list. Gordie will contact Tom Eschmann to see how he organized the membership list and then get in touch with Jon Bush, our new newsletter chair, to see where the two are regarding this list. Lew is going to get a list of all registered officials from the MHSAA. From there, we will come back to decide if we need a membership chair whose sole responsibility is to make sure that our membership list is current and accurate. Discussion was also held regarding our current membership numbers. In the past, a membership invoice was sent to all officials with the newsletter through snail mail. This did not happen for 2018. Do we need to go back to sending out the December newsletter with a membership invoice included through snail mail instead of email to ensure that members are seeing this invoice?

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Much of Mike's report will be taken care of during old business. He did have Lew comment about the clinic surveys. Overall, the comments received from the clinic were positive.

ATOM NEWSLETTER: Jon Bush has now taken over as the newsletter chair. The transition between John Greathouse and Jon Bush seemed to go very smoothly.

The next newsletter will go out on March 15. If there is anyone that has anything that they would like to add to the newsletter, the new editor would love to have it. Next deadline: March 1, 2108, for the March mail date.

WEBMASTER: The current number of visitors is at 17, 405 as of Saturday afternoon, March 3, 2018, an increase of 635 since reported at the ATOM Executive Board meeting on October 7,

2017. The following updates were made on the website: 1) posted the minutes for November 12, 2017, and December 10, 2017. Posted the December 1, 2017, ATOM Newsletter. Posted a reminder about the availability of the 2017-2018 MHSAA Track & Field Rules Meeting dates on the MHSAA website. 2) George was recently contacted by the 1 & 1 Website Company that the ATOM Website has been apparently attacked by a hacker. The company locked the Control Panel until George was instructed about several steps to take to remedy the situation. He is in the process of completing those recommended steps. 3) Once George again has access to editing the website, his next update will be to update those changes to the new Officer's and any Regional Reps.

George will be back in Michigan for the April 8th meeting and looks forward to seeing everyone again.

Discussion was held about possible ways to freshen up the website to make it more user friendly. Mike will reach out to George to see if he has possible ideas about things to change.

1st VICE-PRESIDENT: At the June meeting, Gordie will have a sheet for us to write down any situations that occurred at the Regional or State meets to use as talking points for the "You Make the Call" session at the 2019 clinic. He will contact Tom Eschmann and Jon Bush in help with the membership list. Gordie will also make sure that the ATOM meeting dates for 2018 are listed in the next newsletter and try to get the new uniform options in the next newsletter as well.

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT: Richard reported he has a full schedule.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS:

ZONE 1: Al reported that everything is going pretty well. He has not ran into an major scheduling problems yet and is keeping his fingers crossed.

ZONE 2: Lynn reported that the MITS State Champion meet at SVSU went very well. The Huron Relays will occur on March 23 & 24, at Eastern Michigan. Lynn has the official neurology bell from Dan. Since Lynn received a 1099 from Arbiter, he is charging schools that pay him through Arbiter a 25% fee increase.

ZONE 3: Neither Geri nor Darlene were present for this meeting. Geri reported that the Detroit Public Schools is working on developing a middle school track program possibly ready for this spring. Canton HS needs an official for April 24 and April 26. There is an official in Geri's region that is looking for a starter's pistol. If you have one or know of someone that is looking to get rid of one, please contact Geri.

ZONE 4: Dan was not present for this meeting, but reported that there is nothing new in Zone 4.

ZONE 5: Kathy would like to have a list of not only registered officials, but also who are ATOM members so she can reach out those that need that little nudge to join our group, but also so she knows who to try and contact first when a school contact her for an official need.

ZONE 6: Brian was not present for this meeting, but Lew reported that there were a few coaching changes in the area. State Finals planning is coming along. Official assignments for State Finals should be coming out toward the end of March. Scheduling has been a little tricky for this area because Michiana Timing times many of the meets in the area and they are down staff right now.

State Finals sites for 2018: D1-Kentwood, D2-Zeeland, D3-Comstock Park, D4-Hudsonville. In the college sector, Aquinas will only hire ATOM officials for their indoor meets and GVSU is close to doing the same thing. Dennis Hodges has been recovering well and will be able to jump back into the track season very soon.

ZONE 7: Gordie reported there are many new ADs up North, which is making getting track dates for this spring a bit difficult. There will be 3 new officials from the U.P. area. Three tracks have purchased FAT systems to use for this spring.

ZONE 8: John was not present for this meeting, but reported all is OK.

USATF: Eric was not present for this meeting, but shared that there will be a USATF Level I training clinic on Saturday, March 17, at the UM indoor track facility in Ann Arbor. Anyone interested in attending should get in touch with Eric, so he can make sure there is enough clinic notebooks.

OLD BUSINESS:

Coat problems/solutions: Samples and pricing for a new style of jacket for officials was offered to members at the clinic. Order forms are being created and will be available through the newsletter, website, or by contacting your Regional Rep. The 3-piece jacket will include the ATOM logo, the MHSAA logo, and the American flag. These jackets will run approximately \$79-84 depending on size. This jacket is being offered for new and current officials as another uniform option as the traditional red and yellow jacket is extremely difficult to find.

Recruitment: A discussion was held regarding ways to recruit more individuals to become officials for our sport. Suggestions included: talking to runners at your local road races, talking with officials at the USATF training, create an informational flyer to be handed out, advertising at your local running stores, talking to college/university T&F coaches, connecting with timing companies at meets/road races to help with information.

MidWest Meet of Champions: Will be coming to Michigan for the next four years starting in 2018. For 2018, and hopefully thereafter, the meet will be held at Michigan State

University, in East Lansing. This year's meet is on Saturday, June 9th. If you are interested in working at this meet, please contact Doug Kelly at dokellytrack@yahoo.com.

NEW BUSINESS:

Used equipment sale message board: Discussion was held, but will be tabled until the April meeting.

**The next ATOM meeting will be April 8, 2018, at the MHSAA Building in East Lansing, Michigan at 10:00 a.m.

**Future ATOM meeting dates: September 9, and October 14, 2018 at the MHSAA Building and June 4, 2018, at the Spartan Cafe in East Lansing.

***The 2019 ATOM Clinic will be Saturday, January 26, 2019, at the Doherty Hotel in Clare, Michigan.

Meeting adjourned at 11:51a.m.

Minutes taken by Jill Sandro.