

# *Association of Track Officials of Michigan*

Minutes of March 8, 2009  
Association of Track Officials of Michigan  
East Lansing, MI

## MEMBERS PRESENT:

George Babcock, Darlene Barber, Cecil Burch, Jan Burch, Lew Clingman, Tom Eschmann, Rudy Godefroidt, Dennis Hodges, Geri Jackson, Dan Johnson, Brian Macomber, John Meyer, Jill Sandro, Allen Wood

## SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The February minutes were accepted as presented. Dennis asked to check and make sure that he is on the email list as he did not get the February minutes. He and Al asked if they could receive copies of both February and March's minutes. Jill asks for everyone's patience as she takes over the secretary position. She knows she has big shoes to fill.

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

George reported that there were 87 members at the clinic and approximately 231 registered members for 2009. Many of the extra clinic prizes and clothing from previous years was sold, bringing in about \$250. The flipping coins that were pasted out were \$440. If the cost of the coins is not included in the clinic expenses, we would have come out about even on the clinic. Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

## ATOM NEWSLETTER:

Tom needs 2010 clinic plans (when & where), and State Finals and Midwest Meet of Champions reports for the newsletter coming out in June. There is a tight deadline for this information so please get him the results ASAP. Tom will put a small paragraph in the newsletter stating that anyone who wants an ATOM membership list to send him a self-addressed envelope and he will gladly send a list to them. Next year the membership list will be put in the clinic notes.

## WEBMASTER:

George was not present.

## 1<sup>st</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT:

Dennis said clinic went well. Evaluations were turned in from about 25% of the attendees. A sheet was passed out summarizing the evaluations. All were very positive. The New Officials segment went well, but maybe should be all morning. The clinic will be in Clare next year. Gift ideas were discussed: stocking cap, name tags (ID card), yellow sleeves, bucket hats, ATOM sweatshirt or long sleeve tee. Possible topics for next year: finish line (timers, pickers, FTA); starting mechanics and field event procedures; high jump and long jump judging; factors that make an event unusable; wind gauges; and definition of the area of competition. If anyone has any topic ideas, please forward them to Dennis.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT:

Dan asked about a red ball cap with the ATOM logo on it. He was directed towards Jim Gillis or Lew Clingman. One of them may have one or know where one could be purchased.

## REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS:

**ZONE 1:** Al Wood is the new Zone 1 rep. He was here learning the ropes: what the job entails. Al asked all zone reps to send him a copy of anything that they send out to their zone so he knows what types of information he needs to send out to his zone.

**ZONE 2:** Doug worked the CMU indoor finals and stated that everything went well. He said that the MAC Championships will be at CMU next year also.

**ZONE 3:** The Lynch Relays will be in May. The Robert Shumake Relays will be in April. Please contact Darlene Barber if you are interested in working. Zone 3 continues to try to get new membership. There was talk about the

MHSAA & the 300 mile rule: athletes are not supposed to travel more than 300 miles to compete and some participants are. There will be a USATF clinic in Ann Arbor on March 21<sup>st</sup>. If interested, contact Eric Zemper.

ZONE 4: Dan helped at the GLEAK meet. He is trying to get in more college meets. Dan is disappointed in the officials he knows that haven't joined ATOM and will continue to try to recruit new members.

ZONE 5: Jill received two emails from officials showing interest in becoming the zone 5 rep. John Raducha and Mike Nestell. Otherwise all is quiet.

ZONE 6: GVSU's new facility is now open. Houseman and Rockford are being rebuilt. Houseman City League and the OK conference are blending to go with duals this spring. There is trouble getting officials to work meets for 51 schools. The OK conference schools are all losing athletes except Caledonia. Most of the West Michigan schools have FTE timing systems to use. All four State finals sites will have finish links. If you are working a Regional, please encourage the regional managers to get results out ASAP. Zone 6 continues to work on getting new officials.

ZONE 7: Lyle is in Florida and all is quiet.

ZONE 8: John was able to join us this week and said he will be working on looking for a track in 3 weeks as opposed to having a track meet in 3 weeks like the rest of us talk about.

USATF: Eric was not present.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

The board talked again about purchasing rules books for the membership in the off years that they weren't provided by the MHSAA. This would be an expensive feat if we tackled it! This is a possibility that the Federation will go to printing the book every two years also. It was decided to hold off on making a decision until we know what the Federation will do.

If anyone would like a member contact information list to include emails and phone numbers, please send a self-addressed envelope to Tom Eschmann and he will send you a hard copy. Otherwise a membership contact information list will now become part of the clinic notes.

The possibility of conducting our meetings through a conference call was put on hold, but asked it be kept on the agenda and that we continue to look at the options available. Doug Kelly is someone who might be able to help with this.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Jan Burch proposed the idea of having a legacy membership. This membership would reduce the clinic fee for high school age persons who want to become track officials. This idea was tabled until contact could be made with Blake in regards to maybe mirroring what he did for his students at WMU.

Rudy passed out a chart summarizing the high and low fees officials are paid to work a track meet.

A wind gauge is needed at each State Finals site. Does ATOM want to subsidize for the purchase of these gauges (2 at each site)? If gauges are going to be used, then a worker would need to be with each gauge. A hand held gauge with out a tube is approximately \$60.00. This includes the tripod. The equipment would be owned by ATOM. After discussion, the overall thought was to not have ATOM purchase the wind gauges.

Lew brought to the table the idea of having the individual runners in the Cross Country Finals to wear bib numbers on their backs to separate them from the team runners. Each year ATOM would pick up half the cost with MITCA picking up the other half. Motion made and passed.

The next ATOM meeting will be on April 19, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. at the MHSAA Building in East Lansing.

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.  
Minutes submitted by Jill Sandro