

Association of Track Officials of Michigan

Minutes of April 8, 2018
Association of Track Officials of Michigan
East Lansing, MI

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Gillis, George Babcock, Ron Buchanan, Richard Lee, Kathy Hutfilz, Rudy Godefroidt, Jill Sandro, Gordie Richardson, Lew Clingman, George Kniola, Lyle Berry, Dan Johnson, John Meyer, Al Wood, John Greathouse, and Geri Jackson.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for April was approved. At the time of the meeting, we had 120 memberships for 2018. There were 209 memberships for 2017. 2018 memberships continue to come in.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mike was not present for this meeting.

ATOM NEWSLETTER: Jon mailed out 123 and emailed another 84. He did OK job with the newsletter, but I have to make some changes for the next one. It ended up being printed on regular paper. He should have done it on large paper and had it folded into full newsletter format. Jon would like to have regular submissions from each region and officers. He is open to whatever the executive committee wants. Jon appreciates any reports people want to share for the next newsletter. The next newsletter will go out on June. If there is anyone that has anything that they would like to add to the newsletter, please pass those onto Jon. The new email address for the newsletter is atommichigannews@gmail.com. Next deadline: June 6, 2108, for the June mail date.

WEBMASTER: The current number of visitors is at 17,774 as of Saturday afternoon, April 7, 2018, an increase of 369 since reported at the ATOM Executive Board Meeting on March 4, 2018. The following updates were made on the website: 1) posted the minutes for March 4, 2018, 2) posted the Spring 2018 ATOM Newsletter, 3) notice was made on both the Facebook and Twitter pages about the updates.

1st VICE-PRESIDENT: Gordie had no specific report as many of his points would be discussed during old or new business.

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT: Richard is just waiting to see what the weather will do to determine what his schedule will look like.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS:

ZONE 1: Al had a few meets the last week of March before most schools in his area went on Spring Break. Everything looks set for now, but one rain date could change that all.

ZONE 2: Lynn was not present for this meeting. He is looking for a new rep for Zone 2. Lynn does not technically live in Zone 2 and would like to find someone living in the zone to be the rep. If interested, please contact Lynn or Mike.

ZONE 3: Geri reported things are cold, but things are scheduled to get started this week hopefully. Mainly, Zone 3 is still looking for officials. Geri's schedule is full.

ZONE 4: Dan reported that hopefully his schedule will start this week, but weather will play a factor in that. Dan is working on updating the Neugology list. If you know of any official that should be on this list, please pass that name and information onto Dan.

ZONE 5: Kathy was suppose to work a meet this past Saturday that was cancelled due to the cold weather. She has a couple meets scheduled this upcoming week, but based on weather, those meets happening are not looking promising.

ZONE 6: Lew reported meets are suppose to start this week. Meets scheduled the last week of March were canceled. State meet preparations are going well. Meeting was held this past week. Managers asked that ATOM members work the field events and be umpires. There will be 6 umpires assigned to each State Finals site. State Finals sites for 2018: D1-Kentwood, D2-Zeeland, D3-Comstock Park, D4-Hudsonville.

ZONE 7: Lyle reported that he is having trouble finding officials as schools want to add meets now instead of scheduling them in January. Gordie has only had cancellations so far. As far as he knows, all meets that are scheduled are covered.

ZONE 8: John was able to cross the bridge and attend today's meeting. There were 3 indoor meets that occurred in March. John sent out an email to all registered officials in Zone 8, but hasn't gotten a very good response back. The season is scheduled to begin mid-April, but weather will make that determination.

USATF: Eric was not present for this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

New Zone 2 rep: We are looking for a new rep for Zone 2. Lynn is happy to help this new rep, but feels like a member actually living in Zone 2 would be beneficial to the zone.

Official uniforms: Samples and pricing for a new style of jacket for officials was offered to members at the clinic. Order forms were 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.

The traditional uniform (red jacket with yellow sleeves and khaki pants) as well as the new uniform (red jacket with black pants) are both acceptable uniform attire for T&F officials starting this spring. Regardless of whether you wear the traditional or new uniform, starters must be wearing a yellow sleeve on their pistol arm.

Recruitment: Looking for the brochure that was used a few years ago to update for recruitment. If anyone finds this one or has anything that we could use as a starting point, please pass this on to Gordie and Lew.

Suggestions (from previous meetings) to recruit more individuals to become officials for our sport 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.

Membership person: Gordie is going to contact Tom Eschmann to see if he would be willing to help update the most recent membership list and then possibly help keep this list update and current. *What we need: a current ATOM membership list sorted by zone & a current list of registered track & field officials from the MHSAA.*

Equipment message board: Jim Gillis will help keep this board updated. Jim will post items available on the ATOM Facebook page and will also pass a list of available items to Jon Bush for the newsletter and George Kniola for the website.

Officials' pay: This is something that really is decided on by each conference. ATOM is really not in a position to dictate the price schools pay officials to work meets.

MidWest Meet of Champions: Will be coming to Michigan for the next four years starting in 2018. For 2018, and hopefully there after, 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:

New rules: MHSAA is the games committee for the Regional and State meets, but for invitationals, the host school creates their own games committee.

Do we still run seperate races for 6th graders? 6th graders are allowed to run as part of the middle school team. When you officiate a meet that may have 6th grade athletes, please contact the host school AD to find out what their conference ruling is on 6th grade participation to know if 6th graders will be included in the races or a separate race needs to be held.

Review uniform rule changes

State Finals reports for Jon Bush

National Officials Conference: If you are interested in attending this conference, please contact Lew for registration information.

Temperature conducive for running a track meet: Discussion was held regarding temperature ranges for holding track meets. ATOM, as an organization, can not mandate to schools when they can and cannot conduct a track meet. Motion was made to have ATOM send out a recommendation to zone reps to pass on to officials regarding temperatures and whether schools should host the meet or cancel it. Lew will get in touch with Dennis Hodges to discuss actual temperatures verses wind chills before the recommendation statement is actually written.

**The next ATOM meeting will be June 4, 2018, at the MHSAA Building in East Lansing, Michigan at 6:00 p.m.

**Future ATOM meeting dates: September 9, and October 14, 2018, at the MHSAA Building.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Minutes taken by Jill Sandro.