

Association of Track Officials of Michigan

Minutes of April 21, 2024
Association of Track Officials of Michigan
Clare, Michigan

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gordie Richardson, Rudy Godefroidt, Kathy Hutfilz, Jill Sandro, Don Yuvan, Jon Flott, Eric Zemper, Christine Lee, Richard Lee, John Greathouse, Dave McPhail, Charles Parker, Geri Jackson.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: Our current ATOM account balance is \$6,441.91. Expenses for the month include: \$15 service charge for a returned check. Income for the month included: \$275 clinic & membership. At the time of the meeting, we had 81 registrations for the clinic and 140 memberships. Christine also shared a 2024 Clinic Income Expenses report. Motion passed to increase the clinic fee to \$65 pre-registration and \$75 late-registration.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dave didn't have a specific president's report.

NEWSLETTER REPORT: Jon was not present for the meeting, but emailed the following report:

- I've been sending out occasional emails to our membership. It's important to keep an ongoing conversation with our mailing list. Please send me interesting things to send out – videos, resources, highlights, etc, that I can send out via email. Nothing is too small. I'd like to continue this on a regular basis.
- With Gordie's help, we created an ATOM one-page flier that will help us with recruitment. I will send this out in an email to all ATOM members next week.
- The Track seasons newsletter is coming up. It's important for us to identify who will write the report for each MHSAA final. Please survey the group to get a sense of who will write each one. Here's who did them last time:
 - UP – No one (we cribbed these from MHSAA. We're still need to find out who is working the UP meet)
 - D1 – Doug Kelly
 - D2 – Dave McPhail
 - D3 – Rudy Godefroidt and Kathy Hutfilz
 - D4- Richard Lee

WEBMASTER REPORT: Mark was not present for the meeting.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Charles will discuss clinic issues during new business.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: We still do not have a 2nd VP.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS:

ZONE 1: Charles reported that zone 1 is short of officials, but the season is underway.

ZONE 2: Jon reported that the season is underway in Zone 2, but schools are reporting that they are having difficulties finding officials for meets.

ZONE 3: Geri reported that she is seeing a lack of coaching at meets she has worked at. There are many new athletes, but the items discussed at the coaches' meeting before meets are not being passed to the athletes.

ZONE 4: Richard shared that he had a new official shadow him. Discussion also took place regarding finding the balance between the number of kids participating and the practicality of how many heats are being run and the amount of time a meet takes.

ZONE 5: John is getting emails from ADs looking for officials. Don didn't have a specific report.

ZONE 6: Mike and Lew were not present for this meeting.

ZONE 7: Kathy reported that Zone 7 is very busy. She pointed out that as part of her pre-race instructions she makes sure athletes know they cannot run in lane 0.

ZONE 8: John was not present for the meeting.

USATF: Eric reported there were Level 1 and Level 2 trainings back in March. Eric will be officiating at a few major meets upcoming.

OLD BUSINESS

2nd VP: Richard has volunteered to be 2nd VP effective immediately.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION: Eric shared the proposed changes. The link to the constitution is below. Please look at the proposed changes, consider them, and bring back your thoughts to the September meeting.

[ATOM Constitution - amended 2025](#)

One major discussion point to think about: going to a two-year officer term. Does that get us the result we are looking for?

ATOM CLINIC SUBCOMMITTEE: This committee includes: 1st VP (chair), President, Gordie Richardson, and Kathy Hutfilz. This committee should set a meeting date.

ADS FOR LP & UP FINALS: Gordie will send out a suggested ad for review.

NEW BUSINESS

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFICIALS PAY: Discussion was held at trying to work for officials' pay at a track meet to become more comparable to the officials' pay of other sports.

Also as a reminder, if you have a new official that shadows you, you can turn in a reimbursement to Christine so they can at least get paid for gas mileage. Gordie will send out the form that needs to be filled out and submitted to Christine.

LIST OF MHSAA REGISTERED OFFICIALS: We should request an officials' list from the MHSAA so we have those officials' names when schools call us to help them find an official for a meet.

USED EQUIPMENT: This list needs to be updated on the website.

COLOR CARDS FOR STARTERS: Idea that was suggested be brought up at the next Rules & Regulations meeting next March.

MIAAA CONFERENCE REVIEW: Gordie attended this conference in March. Every AD that attended this conference received our flier.

2025 CLINIC: The 2025 ATOM Clinic will be Friday, January 31, and Saturday, February 1, 2025, at the Doherty Hotel in Clare, MI.

FLYER TO ATOM MEMBERS: John Greathouse will send this out to the members.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Since we are raising the clinic fee for 2025, we will keep the membership dues at their current rate and look at potentially raising the membership dues for 2026.

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING (MIGS): If we and the MHSAA want better officials, then we need to stress that members should be in good standing in order to be able to officiate certain levels of meets.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Para-legic races.

MEETING DATES FOR REST OF YEAR: June 3, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8, 2024. January 12, 2025.

The next meeting is **Monday, June 3, 2024** - State Meet wrap-up. Location: TBA

Meeting adjourned at 12:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Sandro