

LAKE ERIE ASSOCIATIONS
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order by our President Larry Seifert at the Brecksville Library at approximately 1:15PM. Larry welcomed special guests Richard and Donna Messenger our zonal reps and thanked them for attending our Association meeting. This is the first time we have had a representative from USATF attend one of our meetings. In attendance also where 25 members of our Lake Erie Association.

Our President Larry reported that USATF is in a very good financial state. Our World class athletes have been a big help along with our CEO Max who is doing a good job for all. Hershey worked out a deal which is good for our Youth Program It is called Run, Jump and Throw. One of our chairs Rick Marinelli held one of their programs and felt that there where some things he needed that were not provided.

There have been many changes with help at the National Office. Sometimes it is hard to know who to contact in a timely manner.

Our Youth program in Region 5 has been having problems with Coach O. Jim Engel our Regional Coordinator has been working on that.

There was a bit of a problem at last years Annual meeting voting regarding Stephanie Hightower and Bob Hersh. The membership was not to happy with the way the voting was held.

Our Annual meeting this year will be held in Houston TX

Our Association is doing well. Our membership is up and we are in compliance with USATF rules.

He also mentioned that our lakeerie.org website has been completely revamped.

Nancy asked for approval of the agenda that she handed out to the members and if there where any items they wished to add. Chip Johnson asked if we could add AAU coaches meeting.

Agenda approved with the addition which will be discussed under new business.

The 2014 minutes of the Lake Erie Association where put on the Lakeerie.org website. Nancy asked for their approval. Seconded and carried.

Treasurer reports where also handed out to the members Jeff Gerson our Treasurer

reported that USATF sends him a report stating that we have 54 clubs as of 2014. He asked for a motion to accept the report. Seconded and carried.

JoAnn Kitchen our Membership/Sanction chair reported that we have 848 members and 35 registered clubs so far in 2015. 4 clubs have not been approved because of background checks not completed. She issued 137 Sanctions. She will be attending the Association workshop at the Annual Meeting this year.

Women's Track and Field Chair Tony Longino Thomas reported we had many winners from our Association. To name a few, Mahogany Jones, Jessica Beard, Tiana Madison, Joy Barber. He will give me a full written list for our upcoming newsletter in the fall/winter edition.

Master's Track and Field Chair Jeff Gerson reported they were not able to hold the indoor meet at Slippery Rock. The outdoor meet at Bedford went well. He was not able to get officials for the Norm Bower meet. The Open and Master's meet will be on September 27th Entry form on our web site. Jeff will also give a written list of accomplishments of Masters for our newsletter.

Men's Long distance chair Brian Jones reported that he is the Men's Coordinator for the ADP program
He also represented our Lake Erie Association at the Regional Jr. Olympic Track and Field Meet in Kentucky for Region 5.

Our Cross Country Chair Rick Marinelli was not able to attend our meeting. Larry reported that the Nationals will be held in Albeq. New Mexico.

Women's Long distance chair Cathy Jones was not able to attend our meeting. Brian reported on several of her athletes. They also will be listed in our newsletter.

Youth Chair Nancy Seifert reported that we had over 100 athletes attend our LEA Association meet on June 20th. We had several of our athletes qualify to the Regional s in Lexington KY on July 9-10-11-and 12th Most of them where from the Stuben Striders and Cleveland Express track clubs. Several athletes from the Stuben Striders qualified to the Nationals in Jacksonville FL. On July 27th. To Aug. 2nc. I will get in touch with them so that we can put their names in our newsletter. We would like to list their top 3 in each event.

We would also like to give out awards for outstanding athletes for the year 2015.

Officials chair Dave Woytek reported that we have 94 Officials If we can get 6 more, that will give us another vote at the Annual Meeting.

He would like to hold another Officials clinic in late October or November. Possibly regarding Safe Sport.

Richard Messenger said clinic was offered at Youth Natl, JO and Masters.

The next Olympiad is in 2016 New Official shirts are in the works for then.

USATF Rule books are available for \$13.50. They are to go to the President of each Association. Richard will check into that.

Our Men's Chairman Ed Wilson reported that the 2015 season was not a good year for Men's Track & Field.

There were only seven sanctioned meets for men. He has been trying to get some colleges and open athletes into participating in our meets but most college athletes want to take a break after their season. Let Ed know if you have any sites or meets that would be open for the athletes.

Under new business, Chip Johnson of United in Flight asked if we would give our okay for him to attend the AAU coaches meeting in Akron so they can plan their meets not to co-inside with ours.

Nancy and Richard told Chip that the Youth Committee sets up the calendar so that this doesn't happen. Chip feels that AAU offers more meets, but he still promotes USATF.

The members felt that it was okay if Chip wanted to attend their meeting and discuss dates.

Tony said we need to promote USATF more. Richard said USATF has flyers that we should be handing out. He will get them to Nancy at the Annual Meeting.

Larry again thanked everyone for attending the meeting which was adjourned at 2:35

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Seifert
Lake Erie Association Secretary