

Minutes
National Officials Committee
Executive Committee Annual Meeting
Nov 30 & Dec 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:00 am, November 30th in Columbus, Ohio.

Executive Committee members present: Mike Armstrong, Rich Schornstein, Doug Allen, Roger Burbage, Laurie Boemker, Scott Rose, Marty Johnson, and Don Berry. Members absent: none.

A motion was made to allow a change in the order of business vs. the published agenda. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made to accept the Minutes of the NOC Executive Committee Mid-Year Meetings, March 19-21, 2017. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

Chair's Report.

- The Chair's written report is in the NOC Annual Report, which is posted in the Annual Meeting Documents Library, and on the NOC web site.
- The Chair reviewed major NOC items from the past year, with emphasis on: certification problems encountered early in the year; national office support during the year; Phase II of web site support in the near future; a goal of having rules reviews offered online in the future; an intent to standardize the certification process nationwide; expected use of videos in training; planning for certification clinics for EDM/EDR; creation and use of a Young Officials Subcommittee; and a likely increase in the NOC budget, enabling support of Young Officials grants, and possible travel for clinics.

Treasurer's Report.

- The Treasurer's written report is in the NOC Annual Report, which is posted in the Annual Meeting Documents Library and on the NOC web site.
- A comparison of the 2017 NOC year to date expenditures vs. budgeted expenses is online. Overall, we have under spent vs. the budget for 2017.

Secretary's Report.

- Key documents for the Annual Meeting are posted in the NOC Annual Report, which is posted in the Annual Meeting Documents Library and on the NOC web site. Specifically, these include the 2017 NOC Annual Report, the 2016 NOC Annual Meeting Minutes, and the 2017 NOC General Sessions agenda.

Vice Chair Certification Report.

- The Vice Chair's written report is in the NOC Annual Report, which is posted in the Annual Meeting Documents Library and on the NOC web site.
- The Vice Chair has established a certification Subcommittee, plus four Regional Certification Assistants, to help with certification issues and to help communicate with individual officials.
- The USATF certification process and database experienced serious problems at the start of the year. Not all have been fixed, but the Vice Chair reported very good working relations with and support from the national office to address most of the issues.
- Officials' ID cards – We still have a problem with producing Emeritus and Hall of Fame ID cards. The Vice Chair will work with the USATF national office to resolve this issue.
- Approximately 4,600 officials are now certified across the country.

Vice Chair Training Report.

- The Vice Chair's written report is in the NOC Annual Report, which is posted in the Annual Meeting Documents Library and on the NOC web site.
- The subcommittee is conducting de-centralized work; that is, several members working on together individual projects vs. the whole committee working on all projects.
- The plan is for considerably more use of videos in training efforts.
- Ed Halik will make a presentation of a proposed pocket-sized Quick Reference Guide during the clinics Saturday. It's based on the British Athletics reference materials, and could serve as a "mini Best Practices." He has cost estimates and sample content.

Vice Chair Rules Report.

- The Vice Chair's written report is in the NOC Annual Report, which is posted in the Annual Meeting Documents Library and on the NOC web site.
- There will be a committee meeting tomorrow to review all of the rules proposals, and an update will be provided after that.
- The Subcommittee conducted a Rules Review survey during the year. There was a good response and good feedback for use in developing future reviews.
- We still have a goal of providing rules reviews online in the near future, and least for the lowest two certification levels.

Vice Chair Awards Report.

- The Vice Chair's written report is in the NOC Annual Report, which is posted in the Annual Meeting Documents Library, and on the NOC web site.
- The Hall of Fame and NOC Awards banquet is set for Friday night; tickets are still available.
- The Officials' Newsletter is produced on a monthly basis with good content. There's still some concern about the number of officials who may not open and read it, and about how we might increase the number of officials who subscribe to it.

Old Business.

NOC Elections. We will conduct a special election at the Annual Meeting for the remaining one-year term for the Vice Chair, Certification. Thus far there has been one nomination; further nominations will be solicited from the floor during the first General Session.

Selections. The Selection Committee (composed of ten individuals) met Tuesday & Wednesday and finished their selections. There were 347 applicants for the three major meets in 2018; 260 officials were selected. The committee reviewed officials' applications/resumes, certification profiles, meet evaluations, and Cert Chair evaluations. Selections will be posted following the conclusion of General Session #2.

IAAF Matters. The Vice Chair Rules reported that the ITO Subcommittee will in fact be moved from the USATF Rules Committee to the NOC. A brief report was also delivered regarding American ITOs and ATOs.

Young Officials Grant Program. There are a total of fifteen \$500 grants available for the Young Officials Grant program. The deadline for applications is December 20th, and to date there are only seven applicants. We need everyone to beat the bushes to come up with additional deserving applicants.

NCAA Matters. The NCAA is proceeding down the road in their own direction without regard for the proposals or materials we offered to them. Their newly appointed Officials Assignor will address the General Session tomorrow.

Board Report. Len Krsak reported on Board matters dealt with over the past year: discussions concerning potential conflicts of interest for Board members; the hard work and long hours put in by USATF leadership; finances, which contrary to some reports, are in good shape; and the fact that payments are generally being made promptly, though some are delayed for various reasons, including issues with both the payer and the payee. He specifically asked the NOC to identify what they need and want from the USATF Board, and to relay those inputs to him through the NOC Chair.

Insurance. Insurance is now paid in full by USATF, vs. the past where payment was one-half from USATF and one-half from Associations. The USATF staff had developed numerous insurance Q&A items, which the NOC Subcommittee sent back with recommended changes, and those are still pending. At the General Session, representatives of the insurance carrier will address officials regarding insurance coverage.

Evaluations. Evaluations were expanded this year to include evaluation of crew members at the Masters and the Junior Olympics, as well as evaluations of event heads by crew members and referees. In the future, evaluations will be available for officials to view in their online profile, but for the time being, they must ask the Evaluations Subcommittee Chair to send the evals to them.

Best Practices. It was reported that there are now almost 300 documents – both Best Practices and Resources materials in the Best Practices library. More than 40 items were updated during the year and 8 new items were added. The Best Practices website endured problems in the early months of the year, but is now fully functional, with a revised layout for ease in selecting items.

USATF NOC Liaison. Zack Raubuck was introduced as the USATF staff liaison to the NOC.

New Business.

Subcommittee Chairs. The NOC Chair identified all the NOC subcommittee chairs: Affirmative Development: Raymond Pierre; Appeals: Delores Murray; Communications: Scott Rose; Ethics & Goals: Betsy Reed; Equipment and Facilities Specifications: Bob Springer; Evaluations: Rich Schornstein; Insurance: Bob Tice and Irene Herman; Law and Legislation: John Murray; Nominations: Val Foss; Selections: Mike Armstrong; Uniforms and Merchandise: David Smith; and Technology: Mark Heckel.

Law and Legislation. The USATF L & L Committee is working through more than 60 legislative proposals; there will be more to report after their Committee meetings.

Uniforms and Merchandise.

- The Subcommittee Chair expressed thanks to Nike and to USATF for the provision of the new blue officials polo to all certified officials in the new Olympiad.
- The only uniform items now on the NOC web site are the blue officials' polo and the Boathouse jackets. The chair intends to add additional items, but emphasized that these, and any items offered by associations must: 1) comply with USATF logo policies, and permission must be obtained for logo use before offering them for sale or distribution; and 2) not be items from suppliers which we could obtain from USATF's major sponsor Nike.
- An official's "starter kit" was proposed, with items normally needed by new officials. This may be followed by kits for officials in various disciplines. Also, there will be various kits maintained by the NOC for use at major championships, beginning with a Marshal's kit including arm/hat bands, radios, and the like.

LDR Official's Award. The LDR Committee proposed creation of an NOC annual award to recognize outstanding service by an LDR official each year. The NOC Executive Committee will consider and act on this request.

Road Course Measurer Discipline. The Road Racing technical Council presented a proposal to create a discipline for certification of road course measurers, for LDR and race walk courses. The NOC Executive Committee will consider and act on this request.

NOC Operating Procedures. The Secretary advised that proposed amendments to the Operating Procedures were sent to the NOC voting delegates via e-mail more than 30 days prior to this meeting, and that these proposed changes would be offered for a vote at General Session #1.

Certification Regulation. The Secretary advised that proposed amendments to the Certification Regulation were sent to the Executive Committee members via e-mail more than 30 days prior to this meeting, and described the significant changes proposed for the Regulation:

- Section 1 - A complete revision, to specify requirements for becoming and remaining certified.
- Section 2 – A new section to specify the duties of Certification Chairs.
- Section 5 – New wording to specify requirements to remain certified during the Olympiad.

A motion was made to approve the proposed Certification Regulation changes as presented, with the exception of those relating to Emeritus status. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

Certification for Minors. Individuals under the age of 18 cannot, for the most part, obtain a background check; thus they may not become certified. This matter has been under consideration by the USATF national office, which just last week sent to the NOC a proposal for a Junior Officials program. The USATF proposal needs to be adjusted and the NOC will provide comments and suggested changes back to USATF. We also need to resolve how we handle 14-17 year old officials who were certified in the previous Olympiad – will they be decertified or be “grandfathered” and remain certified?

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 12:45am. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made to reconvene the meeting at 5:00 pm on December 2nd. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

Discussions were held regarding the 2017 officials' General Session meetings, and plans for the NOC Mid-Year Meeting in the Spring of 2018.

A motion was made to approve the establishment of an NOC annual award to honor the outstanding LDR official. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mike Armstrong to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 pm. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.