



**Central California USATF Association
Annual Meeting**

**Minutes
Wednesday, September 7, 2022
5:30 pm**

**Location:
Betty Rodriguez Library
3040 N Cedar Ave, Fresno, CA 93703**

Call to Order at 5:41pm

Roll Call

Lynell Glover
Ozeme J Bonnette Cooley
Lillia Rose Bangs - non-member
Joanne Barry - non-member
Ramon Chavez
Lisa Gonzales - parent of youth member Mikkai Gonzales
Michael Hess - non-member
Tania Mancilla
Martin Palavicini
Cedric Pulliam
Terri Valdez

Reading and Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

Martin Palavicini made a motion to approve the minutes. Tania Mancilla seconded. Approved unanimously.

Reports of Officers and Committees

Coaches Education (Martin Palavicini): Most Level 1 schools moving forward will be online to make things easier on everyone. Coaches are required to complete 21 hours of instruction. The plan is to provide 20-50 opportunities per year. The current schedule is available online. There will be 3 options for Level 2 schools - live, online and hybrid. They will also start offering training on 8 Sundays, rather than doing 5 consecutive days. The Level 3 training schedule will be coming up after World Athletics is completed so that schedules can be coordinated. Completion of Level 3 schools will allow for both national and international certification.

Coaching Advisory (Martin Palavicini): There have been concerns about all of the paperwork and requirements, but these policies are in place to be sure to keep youth safe. Credentialing should only be for coaches and not randomly used to enable parents and grandparents to be closer to the athletes. However, there are multiple ways for parents and grandparents to get certified, if interested.

Combined Events (Martin Palavicini): The committee is looking for more opportunities in the States to earn Points for world ranking. For example, there are upcoming meets at Mt. Sac, in Dallas, and in Canada. The national staff is being developed. The Thorpe Cup happened on one of the hottest days in Dallas, but it was successful. The meet is US vs. Germany.

Treasurer (Ozeme J Bonnette Cooley on behalf of John Richardson): Several factors were taken into consideration in planning the 2023 budget. We are coming off of a pandemic, so we can now have meets, but we are still trying to rebuild membership. The current economic situation leaves families with less disposable income. We took a conservative approach and are using 70% of the 2019 budget to project the 2023 budget. The balance sheet as of 9/2/2022 shows a cash balance of about \$10,000.

Officials (Lynell Glover on behalf of Michael Guidry): Online training and online tools will be available soon. He is looking at creating a committee to assist with things this season. We are required by the National office to have 32 officials on the roster. We currently have 10 on the roster, but there are about 7-8 officials in limbo due to a need for Nationals to clean up their system. There are a few other officials who need to complete training. Some officials left the association to seek other opportunities in other associations, but he is trying to recruit them back.

President (Lynell Glover): Coaches can get certified in many ways. For example, coaches need 10 years of verifiable experience, a background check, and an active USATF membership. He plans to help educate coaches so that parents can get certified if they want to be able to access areas with their athletes.

We were fully accredited coming out of 2019. For this year, we are not accredited.

We have room for improvement, such as getting the website to function properly and filling open chair positions. We need a youth chair, a membership chair, a webmaster, and a long distance running chair.) The website is up, but we can't update it. The National office knows and is working to resolve it.

The National office is giving all associations a pass this year due to the pandemic, but we hope to get things back together to be accredited in 2023.

Cross Country's next meet is 11/20 at Woodward Park. This is the Association Championship and the qualifier for the National Junior Olympics. We will send information out tomorrow, but it is already on Athletic.net. The Regional Championship is hosted by Pacific Association and is held the following Sunday. The Association meet is open to all youth, ages 7-18.

For future meets, the Track and Field Regional meet is a 4-day event. The dates are still to be determined. We are estimating 2000-2400 athletes. The Junior Olympics will be on the west coast again, in Oregon, so numbers will be up. We are already recruiting staff to help with those events. We need help, so if members are aware of any potential volunteers, please let us know.

Secretary (Ozeme J Bonnette Cooley): Current membership is at 499, as of last month. This is a huge improvement over 2020's membership.

Election of Delegates to USATF National Convention

We are required to send 6 delegates. One third of the delegates (2 people) must be athletes. The other 4 positions will be Associations chair, Youth chair, and our executive chairs, Martin Palavicini and April Smith.

The National Association Meeting is December 1-4 in Orlando, Florida.

If you know someone who can assist, please let us know. Decisions need to be made in the next 3 weeks via a meeting by Zoom. The meeting will be on September 28 at 5:30pm.

Old Business

None

New Business

The Central Valley is very unique in that schools offer meets for youth. Cedric Pulliam spoke to several coaches at this year's Junior Olympics, and everyone is surprised that our schools offer meets for youth and middle school during the spring. We need to reach out to school coaches to encourage the athletes to continue competing over summer.

Clovis Unified's track season is only 6 weeks.

Officer Elections

Elections happen at the beginning of the Olympiad year. Our next voting for officers will be in September 2024.

The 4 officer positions are voted in, and the committee chairs are appointed.

Adjournment at 6:37pm