

## **2014 USTFCCCA Convention XC Membership Meeting Minutes**

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014 XC Membership Session*

*4:15 pm – 5:30 pm*

- I. Meeting called to order by President Robert Shankman at 4:16pm
- II. Secretary Kevin Alessandro called roll
- III. Secretary Kevin Alessandro asked to approve 2013 Convention minutes – Approved unanimously
- IV. Committee Reports
  - a. Awards – Dustin Dimit
  - b. Cross Country Polls – Dara Ford
  - c. Law & Legislation – Kevin Alessandro- 1st VP T&F will serve as DIII At-large repon USTFCCCA BOD
- V. Old Business- Robert Shankman
  - a. Additional recall starter behind line in middle of field. Passed and Effective 2014.
  - b. Deadline to amend 10 athletes to 8pm on Sunday prior. Deadline to amend 10athletes to 8pm Sunday after Regionals – last yr was 5pm Sunday before Regionals. Changed this summer to 9pm on Sunday after regionals.
  - c. Length of time between races at regionals can vary 60-90 mins. Accepted and effective 2014.
  - d. Combined XC Championships supported by all three Sport Committees but rejected by the NCAA Championships Committee.

**Dave Stelnik, Direct Athletics-** Spoke about the standardization of cross country results and talked about the program for which Direct Athletics has developed to help timers and institutions submit results in the format discussed. Offered that there will be a free version for the first year and then timing companies and hosts would be expected to purchase or implement going forward. Direct Athletics has reached out to most major timing companies for developer implementation without much success. Push is to standardize similar to that of other NCAA sports like volleyball, etc. Concerns from the group that the cost might be too much for sometimes one or two races.

**5:00pm: Tyrone Lockhart & Mahesh Narayanan, NCAA Committee –**

Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm

*Wednesday, December 17, 2014 XC Membership Session*

*12:45pm - 2:45 pm*

Meeting called to order at 12:46pm

Roll Call

New Business

- a. **Clarification on new Rule 8 (Cross Country Course Requirements)**- The proposal/recommendations that was submitted to by the group was too comprehensive for consideration. The group will be re-evaluating the depth of specificity and re-submitting at a later date.
- b. **Should/can national host be able to host regionals that same season?** Developed discussion headed by Emory coach to bring discussion as to whether the host of nationals should be able to host a regional. Specifics include wear and tear of the course if weather is bad the week before the national meet. Possible Competitive advantage. Discussed at regional breakouts and reported back. Mixed reactions. **Proposal:** That the NCAA DIII Cross County National Championships should be a stand-alone meet and the national host should not be able to host a regional meet in the same year on the same course. Determined time-sensitive and will be voted on Thursday morning.
- c. **Remind coaches that regional bids are made in advance and also to have a backup site**
- d. **Note that new protest period is 15 mins**- This protest timeframe is for infractions that are easily identified and can be protested immediately. This does not apply to result discrepancies, which can be altered post event.
- e. **Check-in at course is currently 20mins. Should it be longer?**
- f. **What do you want in your packet and what can be done online/beforehand?**
- g. **Length of time between races at regionals and nationals**- Discussed at regional breakouts and length of time determined for most of the regions. President Shankman will forward times to the NCAA Sport Committee.
- h. **Proposal: More regional championships one week earlier . George Suitor, Trinity. Not time-sensitive.** George presented his proposal as a way to lessen the strain on coaches following qualification into the national championships in terms of booking travel, hotel, etc. In addition, he contests that it would allow for athletes to make-up missed coursework while they are away and strengthen the relationships with professors by giving them more time to work with student-athletes. Main concerns by group are the disruption of conference weekend and subsequent meets as a result of the change. Discussion ensued. Decision made not to forward to Thursday for vote.
- i. **Proposal: Ask NCAA Sport Committee for transparency in At-Large Selection process. Matt Schauf, UW Stout. Time sensitive.** Matt presented his proposal to the group as a result of the selection for the 2014 championship. Requests transparency and reasoning behind at-large selections made into the national championships. Spirited debate by the group and Mike was able to weigh in as a member of the selection committee. The main question is whether that kind of information can be divulged as it is a NCAA committee

with many moving parts. Discussion ensued. Motion changed to **“Ask the NCAA Sport Committee to provide a release of rationale behind the selection of each at-large teams for the NCAA DIII Cross Country Championships.”** Will go to vote on Thursday.

- j. **Proposal: Elimination of mandatory coaches meeting at regional meets. Matt Schauf, UW Stout. Not time-sensitive.** Matt presented second proposal in regards to eliminating the regional meeting the day before the championship. He cited spending more time with your team as a reason and that not a lot is done at the meeting outside of picking up items. NCAA fine for not attending. The group was split in favor and against. Course changes the evening of the event, and information for new coaches were a couple of the thoughts in opposition. Discussion ensued. Decision made not to forward to Thursday for vote.
- k. **Proposal: Based on the existing selection criteria of 12 days prior to the Regional Championships, the NCAA Cross Country and Track & Field Sport Committee will determine the number of at-large teams per region per gender who shall advance to the NCAA National Championships.** Dan Schofer, Cornell. Discussion ensued. Not time sensitive.

Results of Breakout session elections:

Women: Atlantic, Mike Trunkes, SUNY New Paltz; Midwest, Bethany Brewster, Edgewood; South / SE, Mike Dager, Washington and Lee; West, Kelly Beck, CMS.

Men: Central, Dan Schofer, Cornell College; Great Lakes, Kyle Basista, John Carroll; Mid East, Chris Wadas, Misercordia; New England, Halston Taylor, MIT.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:47pm

*Thursday, December 18, 2014 XC Voting Session*

*9:15 am – 12:00 pm*

See minutes from the Combined Session