



## **Annual General Meeting of Athletics Ontario**

Sunday, November 23, 2014

Sport Alliance Ontario, Boardrooms 3 and 4  
3 Concorde Gate, Toronto, Ontario, M3C 3N7

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Call to Order and Welcome – 12:07 p.m.**

The Chair welcomed the attending members and introduced John Craig as the recording secretary for the purpose of the meeting.

#### **2. Parliamentary Procedures and Voting Review**

The recording secretary announced the voting powers of the members present at the meeting and spoke of parliamentary procedures. He also outlined the voting procedures on motions and for the election of members to the Board of Directors. He advised that David Christiani and Peter Hocking would act as scrutineers for the meeting.

The recording secretary noted that, with 26 votes available to be cast at the meeting, a quorum was present and able to conduct business.

Further, the recording secretary asked for the membership to waive the reading of the Notice of the 2014 Annual General Meeting. Approval was granted.

The recording secretary announced the 2014 Annual General Meeting of Athletics Ontario to be duly constituted and open for business.

#### **3. Introductions**

The Chair introduced the members of the Board and staff and noted that Director Bill Stephens was absent and in the hospital.

The Chair gave notice that John Craig is appointed recording secretary as approved at the Board meeting of November 22, 2014.

#### **4. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** to approve the agenda as presented.

Hamilton Olympic Club and Etobicoke Track and Field Club.

**Carried**

#### **5. Approval of Minutes of the 2013 AGM**

**Motion:** to approve the minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting of Athletics Ontario.

Central Toronto TFC and York University TFC.

**Carried**

## 6. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2013 AGM

There was no business arising from the Minutes of the 2013 AGM.

## 7. Ratification of Business Conducted by the AO Board of Directors in 2013/14

**Motion:** to ratify the business conducted by the AO Board of Directors in 2013/14.  
Etobicoke TFC and London Western TFC.

**Carried**

## 8. Reports

- a. **Board Report:** Chair, Lisa Ferdinand outlined the process for forming the Board's Executive and spoke briefly of the information provided on the Board meetings over the year. She highlighted the development of a new Strategic Direction document which will be presented later.

Lisa mentioned that there will be some organizational restructuring which will also be reviewed later in the meeting.

- b. **Governance Committee Report:** Vice Chair, Paul Osland, noted that a good deal of formal policy was drafted, adopted and refined throughout the past year. He said there were some strong initiatives, led by various Committees, that provide leadership on other issues and policies.

He highlighted some recent surveys of the Committee members which were designed to make sure the Committees are functioning properly, meeting their goals, and operating within their Terms of Reference.

- c. **Finance Committee Report:** David Watt, the Association's Treasurer, noted that the Finance Committee has tried to tighten up some of the reporting processes to make them more understandable and to allow for a greater comparison of finances and budgets year over year.

There is also a new Championship revenue sharing formula that has changed our relationship with some of the Host Organizing Clubs and Championships including: changes to Official's travel and hosting formula; an emphasis on putting more money into the meets; the levy has been removed and the entire entry fee is now shown as part of Championships revenue.

David spoke of the losses around the Toronto International Track and Field Games, which were cancelled in April of this year.

- d. **Executive Committee Report:** the Chair, Lisa Ferdinand, advised that this Committee only meets between meetings of the Board to address issues that need immediate attention. Decisions made by the Executive Committee are tabled at the next Board for review and approval.

- e. **Risk Management Committee Report:** Committee Chair, Albert Dell'Apa, was not present. Lisa asked the membership to receive the report as presented. She spoke of the magnitude of the tasks in managing all types of associated risks and asked anyone interested in assisting to please contact the Association.

- f. **Competitions Committee Report:** Committee Chair, Sharon Stewart, said the Committee's goal was to review from start to finish the provincial championship competitions process and update the policies and procedures which pertain to those issues.

Highlights included the implementation and use of the Trackie registration system for all entries, a revised Hosting Agreement for revenue sharing, a review of the bids for the 2015 year and the selection of HOC's for the coming year.

She noted a need to review financial reporting for championships and to establish a template which provides accurate reporting and an ability to compare meets to meets, and meets over the years.

There was a question from Central Toronto TC about seeding performances for indoor meets. Roman read the new seeding rules.

Central Toronto TC also asked why cross country meets were awarded only on a one year basis, a question which will go back to the Competitions Committee for review.

- g. **Programs and Services Committee:** Committee Chair John Stevenson was absent so his report was presented by Paul Osland. Paul advised that the Committee is tasked with a review of all programs and services provided by the Association to see what we can improve on and what can be added.

He thanked the membership for responding to a recent survey on programs and services, advising that the results will help the committee determine what is meaningful to the membership.

- h. **Toronto International Track and Field Games Committee:** Joanne Davidson, the Chair of the Committee, provided some background on the meet, the tasks of the Committee and challenges with government funding. She noted the Games were cancelled on April 15, 2014 largely because AO could not receive a commitment from the government to provide ongoing funding.

She noted that the decision to cancel the meet was a hard and unfortunate one.

- i. **Technical Committee Report:** Committee Chair Dave Moncur was not at the meeting and his report was deferred until it can be posted on the AO Website.
- j. **Human Resources Committee Report:** Lisa Ferdinand reported on the Committee's activities and mandate and advised that more would be presented later in the meeting.

Lisa noted that the Human Resources Committee is also ad hoc, struck to look at and provide recommendations on aligning staff roles, mission, strategic priorities and a business plan.

She noted that a new office structure and staff job descriptions were approved at the Board meeting the previous day and will be implemented in the next 3 – 4 weeks.

- k. **Director of Technical Services:** Roman Olszewski asked members to read his report and ask for questions as appropriate. There were no questions.

Later in the meeting- but still as part of his report - Roman read out the names of the successful HOC bids for the 2015 Championships: This list is attached to the bottom of these minutes.

- I. **Managing Director:** John Craig highlighted some concerns about the legacy state of the new Pan Am Games stadium as well as the state of the exiting Toronto Track and Field Centre facility. He informed the membership that long time corporate partner, Timex Canada, will no longer be sponsoring the Timex Road Race Series across the country, and he thanked Timex for the significant contribution to the sport. John also thanked the Association staff for their hard work and commitment to the job over the past year.

As the reports of the Manager of Communications and the High Performance Managers are part of the Managing Director's Report, John asked Anthony Biggar and Sue Wise to mention highlights.

**High Performance Manager** Sue Wise spoke of the manner in which athlete lists are developed – much of it in alignment with AC, and advised that other organizations, including AC and CSIO, are leaders in developing criteria and selection guidelines.

Anthony thanked existing partners and those who assist the Association with ongoing programs and projects.

#### **Other Reports:**

- m. **Ontario Masters:** OMA President Doug Smith outlined the continuing good relationship between OMA and AO. He mentioned specifically the Hall of Fame and Awards Dinner and said that the Trackie registration system has been a big bonus and works well.
- n. **Athletics Ontario Officials:** Peter Hocking noted there is a need for more officials in the Ottawa area. Existing officials in the area need to become certified.

Val Sarjeant suggested that there is a great opportunity to recruit new officials at the Pan Ams Games in 2015. With hundreds of volunteers we should be able to keep some of them in the sport and the system.

- o. **Grassroots Programming:** Program coordinator Val Sarjeant spoke of the continuing good relationship we have with OT Fitness and the programming that Milt Ottey provides. Last year Milt's programs touched about 35,000 kids. He also suggested that the Pan Am Games will be an excellent time to reach thousands of kids who are excited about the Games.

**Motion:** to accept the reports as presented.  
London Western TFC and York University TFC

**Carried**

#### **9. Treasurer's Report, Budget Review and Appointment of Auditors:**

Treasurer David Watt reviewed the report for 2013-14. He explained the loss for that year and the profit of the previous year. He also explained the oversight provided to the proposed 2014 Toronto

International Track and Field Games and the costs associated with the efforts to sustain that competition.

He explained the current surplus – member’s equity - and reminded the members of a \$5 increase in all membership fees (except for Masters Members) for 2015. The increase will go to Athletics Canada as a membership fee, but Athletics Canada will eliminate all self-funded teams, except for the World Half Marathon Championships.

**Motion:** to adopt of the audited statements for April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014:

Dave Watt and Guelph Track and Field Club

**Carried**

Dave then reviewed and explained the Proposed Budget for 2015 – 2016 along with a review of 2014 Actuals and the projections for the fiscal year 2014-15.

**Motion:** to acceptance of the budget for 2015-16:

Dave Watt and Guelph Track and Field Club

**Carried**

**Motion:** that Thompson Turnbull be appointed auditors for 2014-15.

Dave Watt and Durham Gazelles

**Carried**

## **10. AO 2015-18 Strategic Priorities**

Lisa Ferdinand provided a Power Point presentation of Athletics Ontario’s Strategic Priorities for the coming years.

Hugh Cameron spoke of the need to reduce and manage harassment and bullying, suggesting some workshops and that these workshops be a requirement for coaches if they are going to be on Ontario teams.

Speaking to the Strategic Priorities Julius Paladino suggested a 10% increase in athlete registrations is small. Lisa acknowledged this but advised that, while the figure is conservative it is doable.

Val Sarjeant spoke of our need to look at greater partnerships with MTA.

## **11. Elections of Directors**

Lisa Ferdinand advised which Director’s terms were up for re-election. She reviewed the process under our bylaws through which our elections take place. Further, Lisa advised that Leslie Estwick and Albert Dell’Apa would not be seeking another term on the Board. She also noted that Bill Stephens Director-at-Large appointment expired at the AGM.

Lisa thanked the departing Directors for their efforts and hard work on behalf of the Association.

Leslie Estwick advised that Albert Tschirhart, Paul Osland and Joanne Davidson represent the slate presented to the membership for election to the Board.

**Motion:** to accept the slate as presented.

Etobicoke TFC and Ontario Masters Association

**Carried**

## 12. Motions

Several motions were entertained:

- a) **Motion:** Whereas field events include warm-up time prior to the scheduled start of the competition, be it resolved that when developing meet schedules, meet directors for AO sanctioned meets and Minor Track Association meets include the warm-up time and at least ½ hour break for officials between events.

Sharon Powell/Officials and Vinesh Midha/Officials

**Carried**

- b) **Motion:** That a change be made to the category team scoring at the AC Cross-Country Championship. We propose that a limit be placed on team scoring based on the number of teams entered in the race. For example: 10 or more teams – 8 teams score; 8 or 9 teams entered – 6 teams score. Such a pattern continues to 3 or less teams entered – 2 score. This ensures that team 'compete' for their points.

Some discussion ensued on this motion without a consensus. The motion will be referred to the Technical Committee for review and a recommendation.

- c) **Motion:** to eliminate multiple teams for AO Cross Country Championship team scoring. Newmarket Huskies Striders and Athletics Toronto TC.

Some discussion ensued on this motion without a consensus. The motion will be referred to the Technical Committee for review and a recommendation.

- d) **Motion:** For team scores at AO Cross Country Championships, consider Top-8 Teams as it currently is or Top-6 for Teams. Newmarket Huskies Striders and Athletics Toronto TC.

Some discussion ensued on this motion without a consensus. The motion will be referred to the Technical Committee for review and a recommendation.

## 13. New Business

Sue Wise said that AO will be working with AC to host a Coaching Symposium at end of the Pan Am Games. She also advised that there will be an alumni type of event held July 22, 2015 in conjunction with AC as part of the Pan Am Games festivities.

Lisa advised that the Association is considering a move of the AGM to the spring. Some of the membership felt this would reduce participation given the heavy spring and early summer schedules. There was consensus that holding the AGM in conjunction with an existing competition would not work.

Lisa suggested that a survey will come out in new year to see if there is a desire to change the AGM to another date.

**Adjournment – 3:34**

York University TFC and Etobicoke TFC

**Carried****Athletics Ontario Championships – 2015 – Host Clubs****2015 Athletics Ontario Championships**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Championship Event</b>	<b>Host Club</b>	<b>Venue, Location</b>
February 7	Indoor Combined Events Championships and Prep Meet	Flying Angels	Toronto Track & Field Centre
February 14-15	Indoor Youth-Senior (+ON vs QC Midget Dual)	Guelph TFC	Toronto Track & Field Centre
March 7-8	Indoor Bantam-Midget-Junior	York University TC	Toronto Track & Field Centre
May 10	10,000m JM,SM,SW Track Running	London Runner Distance Club	TD Stadium, London
May-June	10km Road Walk	TBA	TBA
June (12-)13-14	Outdoor Junior-Senior	University of Windsor A.C.	University of Windsor Stadium
June-July	Outdoor Combined Events	TBA	TBA
July 17-19	Outdoor Bantam-Midget-Youth	Guelph TFC/Niagara Olympic	NOC Facility, St. Catharines
September	20km Road Walk	TBA	TBA
November 15	Cross Country	Etobicoke TFC	Centennial Park, Toronto

**Note:** The two major indoor meets will include selected relay events from the other age groups not included in the championship. AO will not be conducting an outdoor prep/standards/national qualifying meet in 2015