

OTFA Board of Directors Meeting

Sport Alliance Building of Ontario
1185 Eglinton Ave. East
Boardroom 3A
November 23, 2007
8:39 p.m.

Present: Albert Tschirhart (Chair), Michael Illingworth, Bill Stephens, Val Sarjeant, Roman Olszewski (staff), John Craig (staff), Anthony Biggar (staff)

Regrets: Denis Landry (Vice Chair)

1. Welcome:

Albert welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He also mentioned that Bernie Eckler (staff) is ill and in hospital. A review of his condition was heard and all wished him a speedy recovery.

2. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting:

Motion: to approve the minutes of the last Board Meeting:

Moved by: Val Sarjeant

Seconded by: Mike Illingworth

Carried

3. Business Arising:

John Craig provided an update on the Road Warrior program. A manager, Michael Brennan, has been hired to develop the program. A team of visitors from the UK were in Toronto in October to provide information about the program and software development, and some influential people from the local roadrunning community were involved in the discussions.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion: to approve the agenda as presented:

Moved by: Val Sarjeant

Seconded by: Bill Stephens

Carried

5. Approval of Technical Committee Motions:

Roman presented the motions that were presented at the meeting of the Technical Committee and provided a short discussion of each. These motions are attached as 'Appendix A' at the end of these minutes.

Motion: to approve the motions of the Technical Committee.

Moved by: Val Sarjeant

Seconded by: Bill

Carried

6. OTFA Board of Directors – AGM Elections:

Val provided an update from Nominations Committee. Bill gave a review of the recommended slate and some discussion about how the slate would be presented at the AGM. John will make the presentation to the 2007 AGM.

7. Hamilton Indoor Games:

A request from the organizers of the Hamilton Indoor Games has asked for OTFA support at the same level as has been provide in the past. OTFA support in the past has included some tax exemptions, insurance (as per the sanction) and a \$2,000 grant.

Motion: to provide the Hamilton Indoor Games with insurance as a sanctioned competition, tax exemptions as appropriate and a \$2,000 grant.

Moved by: Bill Stephens

Seconded by: Mike Illingworth

Carried

8. New Membership Fees:

John and Albert provided an update regarding a proposed increase in fees that Branches pay per member to Athletics Canada. Athletics Canada will introduce a motion at the AGM in 2008 for a change from \$5 per member to \$10 per member. This will likely pass, which will mean an increase in OTFA fees in 2009, or the OTFA will have to find another form of revenue to cover this increased cost.

This increase, which received Branch support in concept at the 2007 Athletics Canada AGM, would be used entirely to support Canada's national teams and reduce the 'self-funding' costs incurred by the athletes making those teams.

9. Transfer Policy for Independent Athletes:

John and Roman advised that an athlete who had registered as an 'Independent Member' had asked to move to a club. Roman and John allowed the transfer to proceed since the OTFA tries to support our clubs and encourage athletes to work with club coaches. There is, however, a need to have this put into policy as part of the Transfer Policy.

Bill and Val argued against such a transfer, suggesting that this was against the spirit of the existing policy. There were some thoughts that there might be a time limit on the transfer.

Motion: that athletes registered in the 'Independent' membership category may join an OTFA registered club prior to June 1 in any given year. After June 1 athletes may not join an OTFA registered club until the following year.

Moved by: Val Sarjeant

Seconded by: Mike Illingworth

Carried

Action: Anthony to make sure the above motion is incorporated into the OTFA Transfer Policy.

10. Dartfish Proposal:

John asked that this agenda item be tabled until the next meeting, suggesting that the Provincial Coach should be involved in decisions of this nature.

11. Code of Conduct:

Motion: To adopt the Code of Conduct as presented as new policy for the OTFA.

Moved by: Val Sarjeant

Seconded by: Mike Illingworth

Carried

12. Other Business:

Quest for Gold Program: John outlined some of the concerns about the program, including some of the appeals being made. The Board asked that the Quest for Gold Selection Committee continue to look for ways of improving criteria and the selection process.

13. Provincial Coach Position:

Val reminded the Board of the events that lead to the hiring of our Marc Christie as our Provincial Coach, and was pleased that the process was complete in time to introduce Marc to the membership at the AGM.

14. Out of Province Transfers

John advised that the Athletics Canada policy on transfers of athletes from one province (and club) to another during the calendar year calls for the athlete's initial province and club to agree to release the athlete to the latter province and club. This is usually done as a courtesy unless outstanding issues develop. This was brought up because an athlete transferred to Ontario during the year and there were some questions about the athlete's ability to represent Ontario and a member club during the remainder of the year.

Motion: to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by: Val Sarjeant

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Appendix A

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MOTIONS FROM THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 23, 2007 PRESENTED TO THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL

MOTION: That the list of new records, as recommended by the Director of Technical Services, be accepted.

MOTION: That the Policies for Records document, up to the start of the tables, as presented at the September meeting by Mike Illingworth and as revised by Roman Olszewski, be approved.

MOTION: That the adjustments, including addition of reference to on-line entries via Hi-Tek in 10.1, made by Mike Illingworth to the Policies and Procedures for the Staging of Provincial Championships Handbook be approved.

MOTION: That the Facilities Grading and Classification Chart be approved for use in the Provincial Championship bidding process, effective January 1, 2008.

MOTION: That the OOC Coordinator of Officials document, which outlines the responsibilities of the Coordinator be approved.

MOTION: That the Ontario Cross Country Championships be scored to determine an overall club champion based on a 10-8-6-5-4-3-2-1 point system for the top 8 individual finishers and the top 8 club finishers in the Bantam through Senior categories.

MOTION: That the following persons be added as new members of the Technical Committee:

Vince Fay, Ottawa
Bob Tucker, Brockville
Larry Martin, Thornhill
Mike Illingworth, Peterborough