

MSTCA Minutes

Oct. 15, 2012

Present: Frank Mooney, Jim Hoar, Kevin Maloney, Mike Budd, John Carroll, Geoff Hennessey, Steve Infascelli, Bill Jennings, Frank Kelley, Jack Lang, Bob L'Homme, Mike Meagher, Nicole Parker, Bill O'Connor, Charlie O'Rourke, Dale Snyder, Lou Tozzi, Said Ahmed.

- **XC Polls:** MileSplit does a statewide XC poll while the poll we've done is divided by large/small school. A discussion ensued about whether we continue to do ours too? It was decided that we will. Steve Infascelli will do the boys and Steve McChesney will do the girls. Mike Budd will provide info on Western MA teams.
- **Frank Kelley Invitational Review:** The meet was very large and thus we divided the meet into a large school and small school divisions. It was very successful and a great way to honor Frank for his more than fifty years of coaching. There were no medical issues, and while parking was full there was no problem handling all the cars. Once again the Wrentham people were very cooperative in allowing us to use this facility for our meet. There was concern that a few teams/coaches are entering kids who wind up walking large parts of the course and wind up getting lapped! We decided that we will speak with those coaches about the issue of entering kids who can't run the full distance.
- **Twilight Invitational Review:** The number of entries more than doubled from last year. It was once again a huge success and the atmosphere at the meet was electric. If the numbers continue to grow again next year we'll have to start the first races earlier since we can't go later into the night. While parking was at a premium, there is additional parking across the street that can be utilized for future growth. And we collected \$1,510 in donations at the gate which will be used for camperships and scholarships. We'll be adding additional portable lighting to a few locations along the course next year where it wasn't quite bright enough. And we'll need to provide another person on the computers to help Rick out due to the very large field.
- **Warning Letter Content:** We discussed the letter drawn up by Nicole for the Board's consideration. This will be sent to coaches who continually enter athletes who do not meet the listed standards for meets. Notification will be posted on both Direct Athletics and on the signed waiver for the meet with the signatures of the coach and principal/AD from each school. Meet Directors will make note of such occurrences at their meets and follow-up in speaking with offending coaches at that meet. Louis made a motion, seconded by John, that the Meet Director will have the responsibility of speaking with coaches concerning this matter at the meets, and they will follow-up and review the meet results to see if there are any major discrepancies vis-a-vis the seed times for athletes and their actual performances. The MD will then be responsible for sending off the letter to offending coaches.
- **By-Law Review:** There will be a sub-committee meeting on October 28th to review and finalize suggestions to the Board pertaining to our by-laws. Frank informed us that there are some major proposals on the table. The Ex Board would remain smaller with a core group of members, while there would be three seasonal Boards being proposed: one for Cross-Country, one for Indoor Track, and one for Spring Track. Since some coaches have a keen interest in certain seasons, and others may have a hard time committing to making all meetings all year

long, this would create a seasonal Board to handle issues for that season and thus reduce the burden of attendance for those not involved in those seasons. The Board is currently composed of reps from the East, Central and Western parts of the state, as well as from large and small schools, and from the northern and southern parts of the state. Input is being sought for this meeting on Oct 28, and any board member who wants to give input is encouraged to contact Rick with that info, and to contact Frank if they would also like to attend the Oct 28 meeting.

- **Indoor Entries Due:** Rick submitted a suggestion that we align our order of events to that used by the MIAA. This would condition the athletes to the order of events they will be utilizing at the State meets. Frank pointed out that the problem we face is that at some of our meets we have huge numbers compared to the MIAA meets, which are limited to 24 in an event. After some discussion it was decided to adopt the MIAA order of events for our Elite Meet and Holiday Challenge Meet, but not for the others due to the very large number of entrants. Frank then made a motion that we run the seeded and unseeded heats of the mile, and the two mile, consecutively so that all milers will run at the same time in the meet, and the same for the two milers. Charlie seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor.
- **Christmas in the City:** Lou thanked the Board for giving approval for our participation with this very worthy effort to provide Christmas toys for the homeless and sheltered children of Boston. The goal is to have teams bring in new toys for this drive at the Winterfest Meet. Kennedy Brothers Physical Therapy, who began this effort several years ago, will handle the collection and transportation of all donations at this meet. We will be putting out the word to coaches on both our website and at some of our upcoming fall meets.
- **Canned Food Drive:** Frank reminded everyone that we will again be trying to help out local food pantries with this canned food drive at the State Coaches Meet at Wrentham on November 3rd, and that all teams are encouraged to help out with this worthy cause. The team that brings in the most cans will earn a \$100 pizza party.

New Business:

- **Spring Meets:** Frank said that for the Relay meets this spring we have the following sites: D1 in Andover, D2 in Walpole, DIII in Pembroke, DIV is still open. For the Fr/Soph meet Newton South will host the Large schools, and the Small schools is yet to be determined. The Coaches Invitationals will be boys at Durfee or New Bedford Voke, and girls at Somerville.
- **Athletes Hall of Fame:** Bobby L'Homme has a list of all past nominees, and would welcome anyone who would be interested in helping to refine this list or add to it. Lou also said he is looking for nominations from last spring for Coach of the Year.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, Nov 13th.

Submitted by:

Kevin Maloney, MSTCA Secretary