

USATF-NJ Youth Meeting Minutes

26 September 2017

Tillet Hall – Rutgers University (Livingston Campus) – Room 109?

First, my apologies, I was drafted following the meeting to produce the minutes. As a result, since my notes did not include who commented / presented, that is not shown. – W. Baker

Attending: Terry Mullane, Al Esselfie, Wayne Baker, Claire Tafelski, Pete Cassiotis, Charlene Cumberbatch, Bruce Fabrikant, Ben Campbell

We began with a recap of the Summer 2017 JO Series – Association, Region 2, and National meets

Discussion of **2017 Athletes of the Year** Standards – Standard is set by the average of the 8th place performance at Nationals(?) over the last 3 years (excluding outliers) – the performance lists are due to the state office by 11/15 for T&F and 12/13 for XC

We looked at dates and details for upcoming events:

11/5/2017 – JO Association Championship – Deer Path Park, Flemington, NJ

11/19/2017 – JO Region 2 Championship – Westmoreland County Comm. College, Youngwood, PA

12/09/2017 – JO National Championship – Apalachee Regional Park, Tallahassee. FL

The following two dates are possible for the Youth development meet and Open & Masters Indoor Meets – 1/14/2018 and 1/28/2018 – Open and Masters may go to Ocean Breeze

3/2018 – Indoor National Championship – Ocean Breeze (not certain)

6/9/2018 – JO Association Meet (14 & under) – Site TBD, probably Plainfield

6/13/18 – Steeplechase and Hammer(?) at Monmouth University – Youth, Open & Masters

6/15/2018 – JO Association Meet (15 – 18) – Site TBD, probably Peddie

7/5-9/2018 – JO Region 2 Championship – Site TBD, see discussion below

7/23-29/2018 – JO National Championship – NC A&T University – Greensboro, NC

The regional meet, which we are to host, was discussed with the following potential host sites along with issues the sites have:

College of NJ – few bleachers and throws on the infield – Cindy Long, the regional rep was to be touring the site on Thursday following the meeting

Ramapo – throws across a major road

Rowan – throws are distant, about 1 mile

Stockton – closed to us, due to commitment to AAU Mid-Atlantic(?) and not wanting to host more than one big summer meet

We discussed the format of the 14 and under meet – particularly the prospect of separating into a boys' and girls' meet as suggested by the NJ Striders – The argument was made that while this would modestly slow the meet (on the order of 30 – 45 minutes total), it would allow officials a short break at mid-day and would reduce parking load on the host community and allow some parents to attend what amounted to a half-day meet - Striders indicated that they might not hold their qualifier meet if this were not done, which might place a huge burden in terms of number of athletes onto the meet – the decision was made to continue with the existing mixed format – the possibility of establishing suggested marks for entries was mentioned.

The question of whether hammer throw and steeplechase would be offered as part of the JO program. The events will be offered as part of the Championship week format, but will not be part of the JO format – anyone wishing to participate in these events at JO's meet will need to enter the Association Meet and will be automatically advanced to the Region 2 Meet.

Also, an interpretation of the advancement rule will allow the top 6? athletes wishing to advance to regionals in each event and age group to advance.

The question of a weather contingency was raised. It was stated that the expectation is that the regional meet would accommodate us in the event of this occurring.

The question of volunteers, especially for the regional meet was discussed. We will need quite a few. Wayne is to research how USATF-Niagara recruited their volunteers.

We also want to present two requests to National at the annual meeting:

- 1) request for some accommodation of membership for youth to permit discounted entry into the XC JO meets by either moving the 11/1 date earlier or offering a reduced rate such as \$30 for October through December of the following year.
- 2) Request permission for a higher entry price for the JO Association Meet. The current maximum means the meet may not be profitable.

Respectfully submitted – Wayne Baker – 30 Oct 2017