

**USATF National Race Walking Committee
Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting
December 3, 2008 Reno, NV**

Meeting called to order by Steve Vaitones, Vice Chair, at 2:35 p.m. Executive committee members in attendance were Steve Vaitones, Ginger Mulanax, Mike Roth, Allen James, and Bob Bowman. Visitors were Mary Jannausch-Zemper, Bruce Leasure, Cheryl Lemons, Jim Bean, Ray Funkhauser, Jo Burrows, AC Jaime, Art Klein, and Dan Pierce. Vince Peters, Chair, was still in the USATF Board meeting.

Because no quorum was present, the body could only discuss and reach consensus on topics. Minutes of the 2007 Race Walking Committee were available.

Topics discussed:

1. Restructuring -

- a. Under restructuring the requirement that our committee's elected chair must be approved by the USATF board might at some point in the future result in a concern for race walking.
- b. The role of the nominating committee in selecting the new board.
- c. One stated purpose of the restructuring is to move from a volunteer driven organization to a more staff driven one.
- d. Steve reminded us that in our bylaws the structure exists for making changes every two years. So in theory, any problematic issue could be altered by the constituents.

2. Proposed Rule Changes discussed -

Items 9 and 9a - clarify automatic entry into National Championships and Trial Races. It has been recommended that the two be merged into one change. This would change the current policy of allowing anyone who had won a National championship entry to allowing entry only if the athlete won the National Championship at the same distance.

Item 16 - Prohibiting anyone disciplined for a doping offense be ineligible to serve as a staff person in any capacity.

Item 19 - Clarification of the role of a jury of appeals to conform to IAAF rule change. Essentially, if there is no compelling evidence to overturn the decision of a referee or chief race walk judge, then the Jury of Appeals should not.

Item 22 - Changes the number of athletes a lap scorer should be responsible for from four to three. Discussion centered on what difficulty this would put on meet directors to find enough volunteers for lap scoring.

Item 66, 67, 68, and 70 - All items deal with the requirement of judges for qualifying events and records. Concern has been expressed that race walking has qualifying events that might not be adhering to standards that would make the event a legitimate