

**Meeting of the Board of Directors
of the Ontario Track and Field Association**

Friday, November 11, 2005
Sport Alliance of Ontario
8:00 p.m.

Present: Roman Olszewski (staff), John Craig (staff), Michael Illingworth, Bill Stephens, Val Sarjeant, Marc Christie, Albert Tschirhart (Chair), Denis Landry (Vice-Chair)

1. Welcome - Albert welcomed those present and noted an 11:00p.m. closing time and a long agenda.

**Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting
Motion to Approve**

Christie and Sarjeant

Carried

2. Business Arising – Enrico asked what our plan was for the Officials in order to relieve the concerns about the hard work schedule for the officials at some of our competitions, particularly the Supermeet. He asked the OTFA Board of Directors to make a recommendation so he could report to the OOC AGM on Saturday, November 12. The Board offered some possible solutions but suggested that the OOC needs to make a proposal which will work for them and for the OTFA. The Board made it plain, however that the OTFA supports the concerns of the OOC and will do what is necessary to make sure the program works for everyone.

The OTFA recommendation was that the meet(s) be structured on an eight hour schedule so that officials don't work in excess of eight hours (though meets sometimes run overtime). This was, however, only a recommendation and will require some creative scheduling and cooperation. Enrico will present the idea and gauge the reaction of the OOC.

The Board also reviewed the existing Transfer Rule which will be discussed at the AGM on November 12, and made sure this item was on the AGM agenda.

3. Approval of Agenda

Sarjeant and Christie

Carried

4. Technical Committee Actions

Motion to approve Records as amended

Stephens and Illingworth

Carried

5. Ontario Grand Prix Series - Albert presented his plans for a Grand Prix Series for the Eastern provinces. He talked about support from AC (AC has already responded to the idea and will further discussions at the Technical Congress in Edmonton later this month), prize money and finances for the competition, and the next steps for the program.

There was some discussion about format, sites, venues and opportunities. Albert's paper is a concept and offers suggestions only; the program should evolve with time. The Board endorsed the concept and will work on the details.

Specific events for year one are also just suggestions and can (should) be changed in subsequent years.

The OTFA should apply to use future Active 2010 and or CSC for this.

Motion # 1

That the Eastern Canadian (Ontario) Grand Prix concept be accepted for the summer of 2006.

Stephens and Christie

Carried

Albert will present this idea at the 2005 AGM to see what kind of interest there is and to see if there are volunteers to manage and drive the program, and possibly form a committee to do so.

6. Athlete Competition/Development Model - Review of Albert's Model which identifies the competitions available or planned for the various age-groups, which the OTFA either provides or provides some support for. This model highlights the services that OTFA provides in whole or in part to its members, and fills in some gaps for some of the age groups.

7. Active 2010 Strategy Document - Good Document available as a resource.

Action: John to find links to download site and advise Board. John also to contact the Ministry and try to get extra copies for the office for general use.

8. Long Term Athlete Development Model - There is also a new model from Canada Sports Centres on Long Term Athlete Development which will likely form the basis of programs for most sports in the future. This is an excellent document and should be made available to the Board.

Action: John to find links to download site and advise Board, or obtain copies and mail out to Board members. John also to try to get extra copies into the office for general use.

9. 2006 Ontario Summer Games - Options for format, date and athletes were discussed as they pertain to the 2006 Ontario Summer Games. Suggestions include that

athletes from the Legion Meet and Hershey could go into a pool from which a selection committee would pick the team.

MTA and OTFA need to see if we can form a relationship to share memberships so that members of the MTA might also be considered for selection. The details for this process will be worked out by a small working committee prior to the 2005 AGM.

10. Championships Policy and Procedures - Prior to the Board meeting the Technical Committee worked on updating of this important document and got through about 25% before the meeting adjourned. Another Technical Committee meeting will be convened in the winter to deal with the rest of the document.

11. Newsletter - Albert suggested that, with the technological changes and options available to us, we should try to get the newsletter out in electronic form and on the Website. For the time being we can continue to send some hardcopies for those without internet access. Managing this transition will take some time but it is something we need to consider for, perhaps, mid 2006.

Action: BC has an excellent and regular Newsletter sent to interested parties. John to ask BC how they develop and deliver their Newsletter.

12. On-line Registration and OTFA Website - John outlined the timelines, hurdles and good things that will happen with a new website and online registration. This is a complex process but one that seems to be moving in the right direction. With the OTFA web site due for launch in the next month or so, there is still some work that needs to be done, and plenty of yet unexplored options.

13. Staff Re-alignment - John outlined some of the issues, required qualifications and issues that need to be considered in re-aligning job descriptions within the office. Marc re-enforced the need for some redefinition and suggested ways in which we might manage to change the office and staff structure. In hiring a replacement for Hazel we will need someone to be able to handle the new website and all its complexities and also someone to help with programs.

Action: Marc, Albert and John (and interested others) to work together to look at current job descriptions and personnel. John to initiate this, and send to Marc and Albert current job descriptions and salary grids and some suggestions on his vision of change. Marc and Albert will offer guidance along the way.

John should also seek help from other sports groups (PSOs) on how they manage similar change, website etc.

14. Kenora Club - AC has provided a letter which would allow Ontario to let a club in Kenora register with, and become a member of, Athletics Manitoba. The Board discussed residency rules and concerns with respect to the CSG and OSG.

Motion # 2

That the request by the Kenora Track and Field Club to affiliate with Athletics Manitoba for 2006 be granted.

Tschirhart and Landry

Carried

15. Power Athletics Club - John presented a letter from Coach Gregory Portnoy of Power Athletics asking for consideration for grants and support for his club as an organization which supports high performance athletics.

With limited resources, the OTFA cannot offer special consideration, but will advise the Power Athletics Club of ongoing programming support available through the OTFA.

Action: Roman to send John a list of all potential grants and support the OTFA can provide. John to send it to all clubs.

16. Hy-Tek Agreement - John outlined the extent and limits of the OTFA license agreement with Hy-Tek and what our restrictions and terms are. We have a good relationship with Hy-Tek, believe we are within the letter and spirit of the agreement, and did not operate more meets this year than our license allowed for.

Some concern has been raised about this issue since several of the results posted on the OTFA website show the OTFA as the licensed managers track meets at which this was clearly not the case. The OTFA has discussed this with Hy-Tek. The concern is a result of the process by which results from other competitions are downloaded into the OTFA program for reporting, ranking and posting. Such downloading and posting shows the OTFA as the License holders. Hy-Tek has shown the OTFA how to correct the problem.

Action: John to explore with Hy-Tek if there are ways of extending the reach and number of the OTFA license so we can operate more competitions. As a provincial organization can we operate and manage Twilight competitions, or are we restricted to Championships and properties owned by the OTFA?

17. Athlete Transfer - John presented the appeal from Calvin Staples to transfer from the Tri-City Track Club to the Speed River Track Club for the remainder of the Cross Country season.

The appeal was denied. The rule will be applied as written.

Action: John to advise Mr. Staples of the decision.

18. Bingo - John advised of the concerns recently revealed about the OTFA bingo with reference to new products, the smoking by-law, property management and industry trends. If the OTFA loses it's bingo it will have severe implications for the 2006-2007 budget. This is an information item only but needs to be kept in mind when we consider

some of the programs we are running and some of the implications of actions taken tonight (i.e., staffing, Grand Prix Series, income from Championships etc.)

Adjournment

Moved by Christie

11:13 p.m.