

**USAT Mideast Region Council
Conference Call
Thursday, January 21st, 2016
9:00 pm – 10:00 pm EST**

Presiding: Michael Wendorf

Present: **Mike Groaning** **Lawrence Giannetti** **Lesley Kruzel**
 Dan Tun **Jereme Grinslade** **Rob Garren**
 Todd Baldi **Josh De Jong**

Minutes: Michelle C Harter

Absent: **Jim Weaver** **Graham Wilson** **Paul Plummer**
 Jeff Grady **Mindy Soranno** **Tom Reilly**
 Nick Cunningham **Dave Kuendig** **Lindsey Cook**

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

Task	Responsible	BY (if applicable)
Review and launch the youth grant applications.	Michael/Paul	Jan 29
Provide updated contact information to Michelle.	All	Jan 29
Submit website updates/ideas to Michelle.	All	Feb 5
Sign up for Mideast Region Committees.	All	Feb 15
Indicate Face-to-Face meeting location/date preference.	All	Feb 15
Submit announcements and/or articles to Michelle for Spring newsletter.	All	Feb 15
Reach out to Kentucky club to engage and show Council support.	Josh	Feb 20

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order 9:03 pm EST

Roll Call – Michelle

Regional Chairs Committee Meeting Summary - Michael

- Reviewed National Meeting in Colorado Springs the previous weekend, which included the National RD Symposium, RCC meeting and Regional breakout meetings.
- Key takeaway from the RCC meeting was the membership growth is flat. The Mideast had a small decline. Most Regions had a decline.
- The primary objective going forward is to grow and retain membership in USA Triathlon, which our Region's initiatives will be aligned to support.
- National goals and objectives cover the following areas:
 - Broaden the reach of multisport. Target growth in aquabike, duathlon, aquathon and paratri.
 - Increase youth membership by 50%.
 - Improve accessibility such as targeted outreach to underserved communities.
 - Improve retention through efforts that create deeper sense of community within the sport.

- Enhance or amplify the value proposition of being a member in USA Triathlon.
- Introduction – Josh De Jong from Indianapolis introduced himself as a member interested in serving on the Council and provided his background. The Council welcomed Josh to the Mideast Council as a committee member.

Youth Grants 2016 - Michael

- Youth grant applications will be reevaluated and revised next week.
- Applications will be available for submission by the end of the month.

Regional Paratri Championships update– Dan

- Chicago Tri is submitting an application to host the 2016 Mideast Paratri Championships.
- Detroit Tri was the original host, but canceled their Event.

2016 Mideast Council Operations – Michael

- Council Seat Appointment: Lawrence provided his background and history with the Council, and indicated interest in serving again in a Council voting seat.
 - *Motion made by Todd to appoint Lawrence to the Council. Seconded by Lesley. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.*
 - One open Council voting seat remains for 2016 for appointment.
- 2016 Mideast Committees: Michelle will send a sign up to all Council members. It is encouraged that each member serve on 1 or more committees.
- Operational expenses need to be reduced and this includes expenses associated with our face to face meetings. Dates and locations of a spring face to face meeting will be sent out for voting.

Admin update – Michelle

- All Council members need to be sure the most current contact information is on our Roster.
- Spring newsletter will be distributed end of February. Submit announcements and/or articles by Feb 15th.
- The Regional and National Websites will be updated with 2016 information. Submit information by Feb 12th.
- USAT Magazine article due by the end of January. Grim Reaper Fitness submitted an article and will be used for this Spring issue to also help promote the launch of our Club Racing Series.

2016 Mideast Committees:

Youth Development Committee – Michael Wendorf (Chair). Implement a youth grant program aligned with the goals and objectives of the youth development program and the USAT mission. Youth grants are distributed, reviewed, and awarded according to certain requirements defined by the Youth Development Committee.

Mideast Region Club Racing Series (MERCERS) – Lesley Kruzel (Chair). MERCERS is a friendly competition among USAT registered clubs that runs April through October. Clubs submit scoring sheets for any USAT sanctioned race occurring in the Mideast Region for points. Top finishers for the season receive prize money for their Club.

Race Director/Coaches Symposium – Mike Groaning (Chair). The 6th Annual RD/Coaches Symposium will bring together Race Directors and Coaches for a weekend of informative presentations and networking from experts in the multisport industry.

Fundraising Committee: Jim Weaver (Chair). This committee will be charged with investigating the best avenue for seeking out additional funds to supplement the Mideast Region budget.

Race Bid Selection Committee – This committee will be charged with gathering race bids and selecting our 2017 Regional Events including the Regional Championships(tri/du/aquabike/paratriathlon) and the Special Qualifier.

Paratriathlon Committee – Dan Tun (Chair). This committee is responsible primarily for recruiting and selecting a venue for the Regional Paratri Championship.

Marketing Committee – Members assist with social media, website, and electronic communications to promote the Mideast Region. They write articles for the USAT Magazine and the Mideast Region Newsletter, and assist with selecting and distributing athlete awards as needed.

Other programs:

Talent ID Series – Mike Groaning (Talent ID Coordinator). Responsible for coordinating the Mideast Talent ID Series in the Mideast Region and conducting a youth/junior clinic in the Spring.

Officials – Tom Reilly (Regional Officials Coordinator). Responsible for conducting Officials Certification Clinics and scheduling officials for USAT sanctioned races in the Mideast Region.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:38 pm EST