

**USAT Mideast Region Council  
Face-to-Face Meeting - Chicago  
Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST**

**Presiding: Jim Weaver**

**Present:** Lawrence Giannetti    Lesley Kruzel                      Rosalyn Popham  
Drew Heintz                      Jeff Grady (via phone)              Kevin Smeltzer  
Graham Wilson                      Michael Wendorf (via phone)      Melissa Stockwell

**Minutes: Michelle C Harter**

**Absent: Bill Tough              Greg Mueller  
Keri Schindler      Hayley Braun**

**ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY**

Task	Responsible	BY (if applicable)
Call to Vote on the Prospective Council Member appointments.	Michelle	03/13/2013
Call to Vote on Duathlon Championship Selection proposed by Lawrence and Robert.	Michelle	03/15/2013
Call to Vote on the Youth Grant Awards proposed by Michael.	Michelle	03/15/2013
Compile a ranked priority budget wish list for ROC program to submit to Council.	Rosalyn	03/15/2013
Contact National regarding communication assistance to spread word about MERCRS.	Jim	03/15/2013
Contact SW Region to learn about their Club Racing Series success.	Jim	03/15/2013
Submit Club Rosters to National for Ranking tabulation.	Lesley	03/20/2013
Submit suggested website content to Drew.	All	03/31/2013
Commit to attending our Regional Events as representatives of the Council.	All	04/01/2013
Follow up with Du Champs applicants with recommendations on how to improve chances for being selected for Championship host.	Lawrence/Robert	04/01/2013
Test, back up, and upgrade website app as needed.	Drew	04/15/2013
SQ 2013 Race Bid Committee to revise Race Bid Application to streamline information and address compliance efficiently.	Lesley, Robert, Jim, Michelle	06/01/2013

**Meeting Minutes**

*Meeting Called to Order 9:30 am EST*

Opening Remarks- Jim

- Rosalyn Popham introduced as the new Regional Officials Coordinator (ROC).
- No Regional Chairs Committee update at this time.

### BOD Update - Kevin

- Reviewed Mideast Region membership and USAT membership in total stats.
- Adult and Elite membership up, Youth is down.
- RD Century Club and Duathlon Century Club being implemented.
- Suggested a ME/MW booth at this year's AGN to promote the Region.
- Splash and Dash/Retro Tri series launched.
- Registration for AGN opened Feb 1, over 2100 registered for Olympic and Sprint.
- NBC Universal may televise.
- Work continues on Level II Coaches Clinic. New Certified Training Center in Clermont, Florida.

### Coaches Symposium - Graham

- Symposium scheduled for Oct 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, in Bannockburn, Illinois.
- Hoping to attract coaches who would not or cannot attend the National Coaches Symposium.
- Cost is significantly less than the National Symposium.
- Review tentative speakers for the Event.
- Format will include Round Table, breakouts to foster networking and discussion.
- Applied for Sanctioning and CEUs for Event.
- Participant will submit a plan as part of the CEU credit.
- Jim Weaver will be attending the Event to represent the Mideast Council.
- Suggestions made to integrate a Rules Session and educate the participants on communicating the benefits of USAT membership to their clients.

### ROC 2013 – Rosalyn

- Reviewed the stats of Officials in the Mideast Region.
- Discussed the goals for 2013: Retention, Recerts, education, safety, access to information, recognition, and recruitment.
- Proposed budget wish list to Council for the ROC program
- Suggestion made to rank budget needs according to need and submit to Council for review.

### Youth Grants – Michael via teleconference

- Michael reviewed all applications received and provided Council a summary of key elements and proposed awards prior to this meeting.
- Discussion involving the Dare2Tri club regarding the use of funds, sanctioning, and location of the event. Clarification provided later by Melissa and Keri to clear up confusion.
- Suggestion made that sanctioning be encouraged for all events including camps.
- Reviewed each applicant and provided proposed grant award as outlined in prior email communication to the Council.
- Council vote on applicant awards will be conducted by email.

### RD Symposium – Jeff Grady via teleconference

- Jeff attended the National RD Conference in January, representing the Mideast Council.
- Summarized the key messages delivered at the conference.
- Content included the state of the sport, touching on strategic planning, growth, spectator engagement, delivering value and membership segmentation. Other topics included the NYC triathlon, the fatality study, insurance and incident management, business development, and knowing your market.

### Club Rankings – Lesley

- Rosters for those clubs participating in our pilot Club Rankings program will be submitted to National within the week.
- Rankings will be based on USAT members only.
- Certificates will be provided to participants.
- Question raised on whether to resurrect the MERCRS program since the club rankings program is not launching in full capacity.
- Discussion followed regarding the pros and cons. Being able to communicate and promote the program is a stumbling block. Jim to address with National.
- Suggestion made to contact the SW Region who implements a successful Race Series.

*Introductions made by Robert Takla and Melissa Stockwell, prospective Council members.*

#### 2013 Regional Duathlon Championships – Lawrence/Robert via teleconference

- Four applicants submitted for the Duathlon Championship Race Bid.
- Two applicants were proposed as potential hosts for Council Review.
- Motion made by Lawrence to select Sylvania Tri/Du as the host of the Olympic Distance Championship and Dri-Shark Du the host of the Sprint Distance Championship. Motion seconded by Lesley. Council vote will take place via email.
- Suggestion made to follow-up with the applicants not chosen to outline what improvements could be made to increase their chance of being selected.
- Council (Jim) will reach out in October to Race Directors to outline requirements for race bid review. In addition, a document stating compliance with USAT will be required to accompany race bids in the future.

#### Website – Drew

- Website is being updated with 2013 information.
- Our Region's webpage within the National website will also be updated with 2013 information.
- Drew will send out Recommendations to the group on content for the website.
- An update to the web application will be applied once Drew tests and backs up our information.
- Any content desired on the website by our respective areas can be submitted to Drew to keep our site fresh.

#### Regional Championships/Special Qualifier – All

- Council agreed to continue distributing "I Qualified for Age Group Nationals!" shirts at both events.
- Jackets will be presented to Overall M/F, Overall Masters M/F at the Regional Championships.
- Council members were asked to commit to attending a Regional Event to represent the Council. Sign-up sheet passed around.
- Special Qualifier 2014 Race Bid Review Committee established: Robert, Lesley, Jim and Michelle. Candidates to be notified by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Committee charged with refining race bid application including evaluating what sanctioning asks and doesn't ask. Suggestion made to include a compliance statement requirement.

#### Paratriathlon Update – Melissa

- Dare2Tri Kids Camp youth grant clarified on Council questions. Funds were received from USAT but for the Adult Camp only. The camp can be sanctioned.
- Turnstone Clinic in Ft Wayne is a go July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30 pm CST