

**USAT Mideast Region Council
Face-to-Face Meeting
Saturday, November 10, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST**

Presiding: Jim Weaver

Present: Lawrence Giannetti Lesley Kruzel Jenn Finn
Drew Heintz Jeff Grady Keri Schindler
Bill Tough Michael Wendorf

Minutes: Jeff Grady/Michelle C Harter

Absent: Greg Mueller Hayley Braun
Graham Wilson

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

Task	Responsible	BY (if applicable)
Determine feasibility of conduct Sprint Championship at Leon's SQ.	Bill/Jenn	Jan 2013
Investigate whether we can add Aquabike to Regional Championship.	Michael	Dec 2012
Update Youth Grant Application as needed.	Michael	Jan 2013
Determine venue candidates for Regional Paratri Champs.,	Keri	Jan 2013
Coordinate with National to produce our first Club Rankings.	Lesley	Feb 2013
Explore using local magazines/media to promote youth events in the Mideast Region,	Drew	Feb 2013
Submit website content to Drew.	All	ongoing

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order 9:00 am EST

Dallas Meeting Update/Budget 2013 - Jim

- Reviewed Dallas presentation outlining Region's 2012 accomplishments, goals for 2013, and budget 2013.
- Presentation and budget well-received with emphasis on membership growth and focus on youth.
- Discussion about bridging gap between youth and Junior/elite by encouraging youth events to include juniors.

Youth Development Program - Michael

- Youth grant summaries requested from this year's recipients to demonstrate how funds were used and metrics used to measure success/impact.
- The goal of the program is to support programs that aren't dependent on the Region for funds.
- More budget funds available for next year and grant program will continue for 2013.
- Suggestion made to do a webcast of a very successful Youth Initiative to help educate others trying to develop their youth events.
- Promotion of grant applications to begin in December and grant applications will begin being received early 2013.

- Suggestion made to engage the National Splash and Dash series in some fashion.
- Sponsorships will be pursued this coming year and Council welcomes any member to serve as Sponsorship chair to lead this initiative.
- Discussed promotional avenues to promote youth events including local sports magazines, social media, website event calendar.

MERCERS - Michelle

- 11 Clubs participated. Official Standings distributed.
- Trophies will be given to top division winners and overall winner.

Club Rankings – Lesley

- Will be working with National to determine the best way to calculate rankings for USAT Clubs in our Region.
- Rankings will be calculated in similar way as Age Group Rankings. USAT members included only and at early Q1.
- Feb 2013 will be first club ranking report. Council will distribute certificates/swag to top ranked clubs.
- This program will serve as pilot for National Club Ranking program in the future.

2013-14 Regional Championship/2014 SQ – Race Selection Committee

- Discussed this year's selections. Selections have been approved by National.
- Race Directors have been informed and public announcements will be made soon.
- Jeff Mallet will be providing artwork for custom t-shirts at the 2013 Regional championship.
- Suggestion made to add Aquabike to Regional championships. Council will investigate with Epic Races.
- 2014 SQ will need to be selected this coming year.

Paratriathlon – Keri

- Hosting a paratri Regional Championship will help bring recognition to paratriathlon.,
- A document outlining specifications for being considered a para-friendly event is now available for Race Directors.
- Chicago Tri is interested in hosting our paratri Regional championships. Keri will be considering other venues as well and follow-up with Council on venue recommendations.
- Also looking to host a para tri- clinic which operate as a train-the-trainer format. Ft Wayne has a well established program, Turnstone, that is being considered host for this clinic.

Duathlon Championships – Lawrence/Jenn

- Grand Haven is committed to making some improvements over last year's regional championships, such as awards, transition, and food.
- Committee will begin making contact with the Race Director to ensure improvements are carried out.

Criteria for age group Nationals- Jim

- (Discussed not voted at National) Athlete must qualify in an event of the same class or distance. Currently, athletes can qualify for Nationals Olympic Distance AG Champs by racing Sprint distance events.
- Also, need to be an annual member at time of competing in qualifying event

RD Liaison-Bill

- Bill will be leaving his post as Regional Coordinator of Officials as of 12/31/2012. New coordinator takes over 1/1/2013 (Roselyn Pop??)
- Reviewed the agenda, topics and keynote speaker for the upcoming 2nd annual ME Region RD Conference (12/1/2012) in Chicago

Website status and update- Drew

- Site needs content and photos. All Council members are encouraged to submit items to Drew. Drew was also directed to Michelle to inquire about photos already submitted.
- Content Suggestion:
 - Calender specific to youth events
 - Promotion of, along with application for, youth grants
 - 'Newbies' area – training tips, rule tips, overall 'tips & tricks'
 - Facebook: Posts needed. Council members encourage to 'Like' and post comments and content

ME Region Championship for Sprint

- Related to above discussion of need for athletes to qualify for National AGs in the distance the will compete in at Nationals
 - Note-This is not yet a requirement from National
- Question to Council: Should the MER offer a Sprint Championship? If so how and where (venue)? Current thinking is to not have it conducted with the Olympic AG Regional Championship
 - Jen and Bill to assess the feasibility of conducting a Regional Sprint Championship along with the Special Qualifier at Leon's Triathlon.

VOTES

1. Motion (Keri): Appoint Bill Tough to Council as voting member as of 1/1/2013
 - a. Discussion – this is now permitted since Bill will no longer be Regional Coordinator of Officials and would have no conflict of interest
 - b. Seconded: Lesley
 - c. All Aye, No Nays – Motion carried

2. Motion (Michael): Region to fund travel expenses not to exceed \$400 for Bill Tough to attend the USAT RD Symposium in Colorado Springs, Jan 17-19, 2013 as ME Region representative.
 - a. Discussion – Motion amended to have Bill provide a summary of the symposium to Council at February meeting
 - b. Seconded: Leslie
 - c. All Aye, No Nays – Motion with amendment carried

Officer Nominations

- Jim discussed the officers in place for the Council
- All affirmed their desire to continue in current offices
- Lawrence nominated himself to succeed Michael as Vice Chairman of the Council
 - Council discussed and affirmed Lawrence's desire to serve as Vice Chair
 - Michael discussed his desire to remain as Vice Chair, indicating how it can help with his work as Youth Coordinator
 - Council requested the two candidates excuse themselves while remaining council members voted
 - Council voted to retain the incumbent: Michael to serve as Vice Chairman

Committees

- Jim led the Council through the committees and their members. Serving members confirmed their continued work on their respective committees:
 - Michael – Youth
 - Leslie – Club Ranking
 - Jen and Bill – Special Qualifier Selection
 - Keri - Para Tri
 - Jen and Lawrence – Du
 - ****NEW**** Jeff/Jim – Sponsorship (focus on Youth)
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Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 pm EST