

**USAT Mideast Region Council
Conference Call
Thursday, December 8, 2011
9:00 – 10:00 pm EST**

Presiding: Jim Weaver

Present: Lawrence Giannetti Lesley Kruzel Lindsey Cook Jenn Finn
 Kevin Smeltzer Bill Tough Michael Wendorf Drew Heintz

Minutes: Michelle C Harter

Absent: Greg Mueller Tom Nagel
 Jeff Grady Casey Hill

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

Task	Responsible	BY (if applicable)
Compile Race Director Meeting Evaluation Results.	Michelle	asap
Submit list of Council programs and initiatives for 2012 for Drew and other potential Council members.	Michelle	asap
Submit RD Meeting Summary to National.	Bill	asap
Determine next Feb Face- to Face Meeting location and date.	Jim/Michelle	January 5th
Submit items for January 1 st quarter newsletter.	All	January 7th

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order 9:06 p.m. EST

Race Director Consortium Update – Bill

- Meeting went extremely well with 29 Race Directors attending from the Region.
- Bill reviewed the agenda topics covered and the Council members involved at the meeting.
- Goals were achieved to create an opportunity to educate, network, and form positive relations.
- Meeting evaluations noted very positive feedback on the presenters, topics, and the purpose of the meeting.

MERCERS – Jim

- Discussed feedback received from Clubs.
- Discussed the perceived value of MERCERS.
- Agreed that most Clubs struggle with the value of MERCERS and this program does not play a significant role in their Club activities.
- Little ROI and significant budget funds used to carry out this program.
- Suggestion made to forgo prize money but maintain competition with traveling trophy awarded to top scoring clubs in all divisions.

- Discussion about where the funds allocated to MERCRS could be better spent: Council members travel to make presentations (USAT rules, club meetings, races, clinics, expos). Increase the amount of youth grant funds available to allocate.
- The critical goal of the Council is membership retention and increasing new memberships. Funds should be focused on activities that support that regional and national goal.
- Motion made to retain MERCRS without prize money awards and to reallocate those funds appropriately to other Council programs and initiatives. Traveling trophies will be the awards for MERCRS 2012 for overall and divisional club winners.

All in Favor. None opposed.

- Drew introduced as potential Council member interested in serving on the Council.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 pm EST