

**USAT Midwest Region Council
Conference Call
Thursday, March 1st, 2012
9:00 – 10:30 pm EST**

Presiding: Jim Weaver

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

Minutes: Michelle C Harter

**Absent: Greg Mueller Keri Schindler
 Jeff Grady Casey Hill**

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

Task	Responsible	BY (if applicable)
Determine venue (or venues to approach via race bid process) for Regional Duathlon Championships 2012.	Lawrence/Jenn/Bill	March 15th
Distribute youth grant awards.	Michael/Michelle	March 15th
Follow up with Epic Racing.	Lindsey	March 15 th
Meet with Graham Wilson.	Jim	March 25 th
Explore the Club Ranking System initiative.	Michael/Lesley	ongoing

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order 9:02 p.m. EST

Regional Duathlon Championships – Lawrence/Jenn

- No Powerman Munice this year, which has been the host race of our Du Champs the past two years.
- A few different potential venues discussed to approach for hosting this year.
- Suggestion made to discuss with Bill Tough further to determine potential candidates and consider a bid process implementation if necessary.

BOD update – Kevin

- Kevin reported that National Board meeting minutes will be distributed regularly and any questions can be directed to him.
- Women’s Committee launched a new FB page.
- National Coaching Commission minutes will also be distributed and have launched a FB page.

Youth Grants – Michael

- 14 total applicants submitted applications.
- Due to national funding, Achieve will not be granted funds. Due to a non-sanctioned youth race, Grand Haven will be encouraged to use funds previously awarded in the year past, and encouraged to sanction the youth race this year.
- Proposed that awards be distributed based on the following:

- Events with training programs plus a Race : \$500
- Events with Race only: \$250
- Call to vote on proposed award distribution.
All in Favor.
- Michael will follow-up with each recipient to announce youth grant award.

Women's Championship Request – Lindsey

- Epic Racing is organizing a Women's only Championship race and inquired the Council about supportive endorsement.
- Discussed the implications of the USAT Mideast Council supporting an event with a title "Championship" when it is not a Regional Championship. USAT or its regions do not control race title names.
- Lindsey will respond to Race Organization stating concerns. Council wants to support events like this in the future region-wide and will discuss further to explore the idea.

Mideast Coaching Liaison – Jim

- Graham Wilson is interested in serving on the Mideast Council as the new Coaching Liaison.
- This will be a new position and role, similar to the Race Director Liaison position.
- There is interest to help create a network among coaches in the Region and hold a symposium.
- Graham will be introduced at the next conference call.

MERCERS Ranking System- Lesley

- Lesley proposed a ranking system format for MERCERS this year.
- This program would be virtually the same as the current MERCERS program except recognition would focus on Clubs attaining a ranking for each division and overall. And, the program would extend to run the entire year.
- Suggestion made to explore the concept this year and implement next year. Discussed the importance of taking time to gather input from other clubs and the Winter training competition to determine value and feasibility.
- Council agreed to keep MERCERS as is for 2012.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 pm EST