

Master's Report for the 2015 USATF Annual Convention
Houston, Texas

Purpose of Report: To identify and report all pertinent information relevant to the USATF Illinois Master's/Open Athlete's Division.

Date of arrival >> November 29, 2015

Date of departure >> December 6, 2015

Place of residents >> Hyatt Regency

Sessions of interest: December 3rd (Master's T/F Regional Coordinator's Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting, Awards Committee Meeting, Anti-Doping Seminar and the Opening General Session).

Topics of discussions: Regional Meeting,

- Updating the webinar for the states Master's Calendar , but not on the National Website
- Illinois/Wisconsin Senior Games to be held in September 2016 (there is a concern about most indoor facilities having the inability to contest the Javelin, or Hammer Throw)
- New Master's form distribution,(they have no DOB on forms) looking to update forms
- There need to be better communications between states
- Illinois Masters meets suffers with athletes participation due to date conflicts.
- Before venue selections, make sure proper equipment is not an issue

Executive Meeting,

- Should there be different rules for Master Athletes VS Open Athletes
- How drug testing is financed
- How many tests to perform on athletes and who pays for them
- There will be bibs for volunteer worker at meets
- Masters Committee has two (2) accounts, the main office has two (2) accounts
- Some regions have regional saving accounts, contact the regional coordinator for information
- Each Masters region net **\$60.000**
- USATF Masters Division have improved on how they spend money
- There was an increase of **500 dollars** to all Masters/Open region
- Outstanding bills must be submitted in a timely manner for payment
- There will be a vote for a new policy to assist with the funding of Master Athletes to attend the WMA National Meet VS World Meets (Funding for 2 men and 2 women). The purpose for the new policy is to increase and improve Master Athletes participation at the above championships
- For the athletes who participates, should all receive, if any, awards just for participating
- **Five (5) thousand dollars** proposal on the table to be paid in the rears which will be determine by the committee chair or the team manager
- Discussion on foreign athletes, should their scores be counted, for a team trophy.
- A rule change to be implemented in the 2016 USATF rules concerning foreign athletes running in relays and how they score (this also refers to non-club teams with foreign athletes)

Master Report for the 2015 USATF Annual ConventionContinuedExecutive Meeting,

- There's a change on how the relays teams/members were selected. They will be chosen from the top athletes /top times
- There is a new form for bidding for a championship meet, but the new forms have problems. Review the new forms very carefully

Ant-Doping Seminar, (Both Master's and LDR)

- ❖ Goals for Anti-Doping Seminars are to give athletes/coaches a starting point in education/knowledge in the doping arena, preserving the integrity of competition and inspiring true sportsmanship
- ❖ To protect the rights of U.S Athletes
- ❖ The program is governed by W.A.D.A (World Anti-Doping Association)
- ❖ W.A.D.A has three (3) goals for athletes, 1) Play Clean, 2) Check the status of medication(s) and 3) Apply for a T.U.E (Therapeutic Use Exemption) status appropriately
- ❖ Athletes/Coaches should not assume that certain meds are approved or not on the prohibited list because they are utilized by many people, such as diabetic/asthma meds
- ❖ **Athletes should apply for the T.U.E at least 21 days before competition**
- ❖ **If athletes apply for the T.U.E. in the proper time frame, their condition will be confidential, but if the athlete do not apply and goes through testing and is in violation of the doping rules, their condition will be made public.**
- ❖ Athletes using supplements are using them at their own risk, what they use, they will be held responsible, rather it goes into their eyes, mouth, ears, or skin
- ❖ Athletes don't have the right to choose where the source/ sample(s) are taken from

✚ **For drug reference resource: www.globaldro.com**

✚ **Athletes Express Drug Reference Line (800-233-0393) during regular business hours**

✚ **Supplement411.org Teaches to Realize, Recognize, and Reduce**

✚ **[Play Clean@USADA.org](http://PlayClean@USADA.org) or www.usada.org/playclean (877-752-9253)**

✚ To obtain a wallet card and the Athletes Guide to the Prohibited list: www.usada.org/publications-policies

Sessions of Interest: December 4th (General Session, Midwest Region Meeting)General Session,

- All active Master Athletes who were not chair people was ask to leave the meeting room for the purpose of discussing and voting for a person to represent the active Master Athletes at the meetings (**there was a tie**)
- There were two(2) bids presented for the 2018 Master's Indoors Nationals
1=**Winston Salem, North Carolina**
2=**Landover, Maryland**
- Maryland was the chose for the 2018 Indoor National Championship (41 to 22 Vote)
- The 2014 minutes was approved
- **\$160.000** dollars was approved for the 2016 Master's budget
- **\$6.500** dollars was approved for the Mid West Region
- The Masters financial Chair would like for the bills to be submitted as soon as they have been compiled
- Steve Cohen stated: Athletes should go on the web site and research their medications to see if they are legal and if need be, request a T.U.E within the time allowed

Master Report for the 2015 USATF Annual ConventionContinuedGeneral Session,

- The USADA Doping Committee was given approval by the National Master's Committee to meet outside the championship venues to perform drug testing
- Testing athletes can be performed anytime and do not have to be disclosed on the meet flyers
- Testing can be done at an athlete's home or place of residence without notification
- There will be a surcharge for the testing (10) dollars 5+5 (5 to USADA and 5 to the Master's Division)
- **Ruth Welding "What is the punishment if tested positive"? Answer! If there is no T.U.E, or Renewal T.U.E, Public Warning and Suspension**
- All Master's Records are rectified on April 1 of each year
- To view and or received a copy of the approved Master's Record visit www.usatfmaster.org
- There are 180 improved and 24 rejected and? pending
- **Anyone can participate in a Master's meet without belonging to the USATF Organization, but, in order to set/tie or break a record, you would have to be a member of the USATF Organization**
- **The above rule applies to the Master's, Open, and LDR Division and will go into effect 2016**
- Master's record report was approved for 2015
- To view Masters athletes who were inducted into the Master's Hall of Fame, visit the above Masters website
- There were 5 women inducted/Voted into the Master's Hall of Fame
- This year (2015), there were 35 Gold, 15 Silver and 9 Bronze Medals issued (can be view on the Master's site)

Midwest Region,

- ✓ Discussed reasons to avoid conflicting dates for both indoor and outdoor meets
- ✓ There were concerns about the indoor meet at Auburn H.S. NO Cage (My thought is, why wasn't this concern mentioned in reference to the Sterling meet held in 2014 and 2015 if held at the Sterling location)
- ✓ **Midwest Indoor Regional/ Heptathlon Championship Meet in Kenosha Wisconsin (Jan 30-31, 2016)**
- ✓ **USATF IL ZONE/Master's Indoor Championship Meet at Auburn H.S, Rockford, IL (Feb 13-14, 2016)**
- ✓ Feb 21, June 4, 18, 19, 2016 are open dates for meets
- ✓ **March 4-6, 2016 Masters Indoor National Championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico**
- ✓ **July 14-17, 2016 Masters Outdoor Championship in Grand Rapids, Michigan**
- ✓ **August 6-7, 2016 Masters Throws Championships at Benedictine University, Lisle, IL**
- ✓ IL Midwest Region Masters Chair (Cohen) expressed concerns about the Masters outdoor meet being held in conjunction with the IL Youth Outdoor Regional Meet

Sessions of Interest: December 5 (General Session, Joint Meeting, Executive Committee)General Session,

- Invitational Masters Program
- High profile events
- Discussion on what qualifies a Master Athlete as a Master Athlete (Discussion of a possible rule change)
- Concerning LDR, how are records set, events must be bona fide, (there must be at least 3 members participating in the same flight)
- **For the New Mexico meet in 2016, they are searching for a Meet Director and Official Coordinator**
- All Masters meet must be "**time standard**" (the person must be that particular age the day of the meet)
- Discussed WMA in conjunction with IAF Indoor World Championships

Master Report for the 2015 USATF Annual Convention
Continued

Joint Session,

- ❖ Discussion on the 2017 WMA Regional Meet
- ❖ The next three (3) WMA Championships will be held in:
 1. Perth, Australia, October 2016, WMA Outdoors
 2. Daegu, South Korea, March 2017, WMA Indoors
 3. Malaga, Spain, Summer 2018, WMA Outdoors
- ❖ The opportunity is available to sponsor elite U.S. Masters athletes at the World Masters Athletics Championships
- ❖ U.S. Masters athletes competing in these championships-under the aegis of USA T/F are self-funded, this means that many U.S. Master Athletes are not able to participate. The sponsorship program proposes to select several U.S. Master Athletes (two men, two women) who are deemed as highly capable of contending for gold medals in their events.
- ❖ The principal benefit to a prospective sponsor is the opportunity to associate their products/services with some of the best Masters athletes in the world
- ❖ Sponsorship of four (4) elite U.S. Masters Athletes at the WMAs in Perth, Australia in October 2016 would cost approximately \$3000 per athlete for a total of \$12,000. A sponsor is welcome to negotiate additional representation from the sponsored athletes and /or from USATF Masters Track & Field as a whole
- ❖ Competition in Masters meets is in 5-year age groups beginning at age 35(35-39, 40-44, 45-49 and so on)
- ❖ Discussion on Juarez, Mexico July 13-16 Meet???
- ❖ There were safety concerns about the meet in Juarez Mexico, but the concerns were resolved which included:
 1. The police dept (now under new management)
 2. No programs for the Mexican Youth (now have many programs for the youth that keeps them off the streets)
 3. The environment was once a terror, people was afraid to walk down the street (but now the environment is pleasant, police presence everywhere and crime has diminished)
 4. You can fly into Mexico or into El Paso but not into Juarez
 5. Talk to experience athletes who have traveled to that destination and communicate with the team management for travel information before purchasing tickets/hotel accommodations

In concluding, this, being my first USATF Annual Convention, with little knowledge of how the system operates, caused me great skepticism, but after attending the appropriate sessions and meeting a few people, the little picture I once viewed became a much bigger portrait and allowed me to start putting pieces of the puzzle together giving me a better understanding of how the system functions. Now my approach to the IL Masters Division will be with clearer understanding, lack of fear and more important, a better understanding of what must be done to improve the athletes participation in both the Open and Masters Athletic Arena.

Please understand, this report was not written by an English major but by someone who just wants to be part of something good and wonderful, so please forgive any and all bad grammar. This report was not proof read. Thank you and Stay Blessed.

End of Report
 Respectfully Submitted
 Enoch Benson IV
 IL, Masters Chair

2015 USATF Annual Convention
Houston, Texas
Cost of Living Report
By
Enoch Benson IV

To: Brenda Kimbrough
USATF President
USATF IL Branch

Subj: Cost of Living Report
December 3 thru 6, 2015

Date: December 20, 2015

Madam President:

I respectfully submit the following expenditures for the above said subject in reference to the above said dates,

Flight Cost:	381.86 (Round Trip)
Auto Rental:	203.36
Hotel Living:	<u>516.00</u> (only submitting for 4 days @ 129.00 totaling \$ 516.00)
	1,101.22

Receipts upon request