

**2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM) Meeting Minutes  
Ontario Masters Track and Field Association (OMTFA)**

**Meeting called to order:** Wednesday, November 28th, 7:30pm  
**Location:** Sport Alliance, Toronto Room 3C  
**By:** Don Ritchie, Secretary

**Agenda:**

- **Attendance & Proxy count (if required)**
- **Meeting Minutes from last meeting**
- **President's Report**
- **Financial Report**
- **Director's Reports**
  - **Awards**
  - **Communications**
  - **Media Relations**
  - **Membership**
  - **Multi Events**
  - **Racewalking**
  - **Throwing**
- **New Business**
  - **Web Site**
  - **OTFA Affiliation**
  - **Proposed changes to the BY-LAW of the Ontario Masters Track & Field Association**
  - **Executive Elections**
  - **Discussion from the Floor**

**Attendance (Proxy count)**

Doug Smith, Chair (**84**), Roy Chubb, Paul Osland, Jim Flowers, Jack Castle, Vern Christensen, Brian Keaveney, Bill McIlwaine (**3**), John Olivierre, Craig McLaughlin (**13**), Rudy Boghina (**5**), Robert Moore, Sarah Raetsen, Gwen Bailey-Mason, Richard Parkinson, Chris Lemassif, Norm Creen, Lily Whalen, Jim Pascoe (**1**), Jamie Black, Al LePage, Karla DelGrande, Bruce Mitchell, Ed Whitlock, Derek Hackshaw, Don Ritchie

26 participants

A proxy count is required for proposed by-law changes. 80 proxies were submitted and validated prior to the meeting. 26 proxies were received and validated by the secretary at the beginning of the meeting.

**Chair opened meeting (Doug)**

## Meeting Minutes from last meeting

Doug placed the previous meeting minutes on the overhead projector for all to see. Doug walked through the meeting minutes. **Bob motioned to accept meeting minutes; Richard second and a majority show of hands carried.**

### President's Report (Doug)

- Felt that the proxy drive was successful and that it resulted in the addition of 2 new members
- Introduced new board member nominations: Paul Osland Vice President, Don Ritchie Secretary, and Chris Lemassif Director
- OMTFA held 11 events last year. Mini meets included semis and finals improving the event. The only event which was not regarded as a success was the outdoor mini meet. It was considered unsuccessful due to lack of attendance
- Financially, the association was “broke” and required fee increases to remain solvent
- Announced new cross country events
- Announced a NA cross country championship, that will include open event participants, and will ask CMAA if the Don Farquharson cup can be used
- Announced that a pentathlon event will be added to the indoor Mini meets. Richard suggested that the pentathlon be expanded to a wider audience. Paul  
**Action Item: Paul & Richard to provide list of user that are interested in the Pentathlon event**
- An Ontario master east and Windsor meets are being consideration.
- A closer relationship with the OTFA is in progress
- Web site is under development to add new functionality
- CMAA spends close to \$20k for the Masters magazine. Doug mentioned that most members have email addresses and that it might be better for the magazine to be distributed by email. Does snail mail make sense in this day and age of electronic communications?

### Financial report (Norm) document provided, see appendix

- The reporting period is irregular, so the normal report was adjusted in order to provide more meaningful report.
- Balance sheet: The key report is Cash in the bank listed on the Balance sheet. The trend is that cash is reducing. The reason is due to the cost of purchasing medals. The cash balance is not health, requiring that some expenses be juggled.
- Income statement: Net revenue for event is better than forecasted. This is largely due to better participation, especially in the cross country events.
- Brian: What is club payment? Payment to track London legion club. Where is equipment rental revenue? Equipment rental check has been received but not processed.
- Discussion on how to show medal cost on the financial reports.

- Brian indicated that the OTFA provided 2000 in February to OMTFA. Doug indicated that this was being review. It does not show on the report due to the reporting period.
- Discussed sport supported organizations. Current OTFA is only recognized event.
- Statement of events: There are some reporting anomalies, due to report from previous reporting period that have been moved into this report. Brockville shows admin that is due to travel.

**Norm motioned to accept report; John second, majority show of hands carried**

#### **Awards report (Jim F.)**

- Review a number of medals that have been used over the last couple years. The gold medal has changed in sized (small, large).
- Almost 1000 gold, 400 silver, 200 , and team medal gold \$4.11
- Noterized medals are difficult since they can only be used at the event.
- Lots of athletes do not pick up there medals
- Some medals get cleaned up and are recycled
- A recommendation was submitted to have medals for cross country events, second and third place.

#### **Communications (Doug)**

- Doug reported that the masterpiece development is in progress, however, there is considerably more effort involved in developing this issue since it is the 100<sup>th</sup> edition. The Throwers club has provided lots of details and an open invitation was made by chair to submit other relevant materials.
- Doug: E-news is about to go out and is proving to be an effective and cost effective form of newsletter communications.

#### **Media Relations report (Al)**

- Al is promoting OMTFA news and is attract media attention is to send results and announcements. Media is largely only interested Championship events and records. Media is slow to recognize OMTFA news.
- At large events like the Scotiabank Marathon, Al is leaving OMTFA literature to promote the organization.
- Trying to promote through email distribution lists. Cross country events, with links to the
- Difficult getting recognition by media
- Local papers are more interested – much discussion on success at local level.

#### **Membership reports (Doug)**

- Total membership is 516
- 104 new members since last year
- Trend is that there have been reduction in same volumes
- How do you maintain the members levels.
- Robert suggest that we be pro-active at director level and contact , communicate electronically with members to maintain interest
- Demographics - High membership levels is 50, next 40s,

### **Multi-Events report (John, Don)**

- John reported that the last pentathlon event held by the OMTFA was about 4 years ago. Approximately 10 athletes participated in the event. The event was held as a separate event unto itself. The administration component relative to the number of participants was prohibitive.
- Don recognized the Throwers club model which has developed a schedule facilitating a weighted pentathlon event, a weighted triathlon event and individual throwing events at each of the 6 meets the Throwers club hosts each year. They have been very successful with this model and it has been explored as a viable strategy for an indoor pentathlon event (60 HH, LJ, SP, HJ, and 1000)
- A survey to the multi event athletes determined that they support a local event, and 80% surveyed indicated they would participate in the event.
- As the OMTFA and OTFA relationship expands, an indoor pentathlon event is expected to of interest to a wider audience as well. The Canadian Decathlon time might be interested in participating in the event.
- Brian announced that Regina is interested in offering an Outdoor pentathlon, pending number of entries to event. **Action Item: Don request Regina Event contact information with the intent to offer OMTFA M.E. support.**

### **Race-walkers report (Lily)**

- Looking for additional participants. So junior participants are added to the group
- Races will be taking place every couple weeks during the winter and Summer
- The Summer has been set and is fully booked
- Doug: indicated there may be value in developing a closer relationship with the OTFA races
- Welland offers a number of combined racewalker events that have a lot of OTFA officials
- Overall, progress is reported very good.

### **Throwing (Rudy)**

- There where a lots of additional throwers this year. Many coming up from the US northern regions (Syracuse, Buffalo etc.). Many younger throwers are participating in club events as well. Overall, a good trend!
- 3 people from Ontario received gold at the world championships

- There are almost too many competitors at the meets this year. Past years, there have been averages of 12 athletes. This year, the smallest number of participants was 16, so a much higher average.
- Doug and Richard expressed concerns about the current club venue. Rudy assured that venue owner is in good health
- On the downside, there were 4 throwers that had serious life threatening illness. All are reported to be improving.

*Time-check: 9PM*

### **New Business - Web Site (Jim, Chris) presentation, see appendix**

- Chris provided a presentation showing the functionality of an OMFTA website
- Jim asked if the estimated development cost of \$6,700 was a one time cost. Yes, it is a one time cost. The on-going estimated administration is \$100-\$150 annually. Annual administration costs do not include volunteer efforts.
- Gwen asked if the cost based on features or volume of data. The cost is largely associated with web-site features, not to a lesser extent the volume of data.
- Craig asked if there is a fee to use visa, MasterCard, Paypal etc. There is a cost to use these services; however, it is believed that the fee will be off-set by an increase in the number of event participants. The ease of use with the online registration functionality is expected to increase attendance. So far, only the Paypal have been investigated.
- Jim asked what new features are expect to increase value to current membership. The sections designed for current members are: athletes profiles, results, links, blog and so on.
- Brian indicated that the web site seemed ambitious especially at the estimated price and who else has this type of web site? The estimated price is admitted very aggressive. Sites with similar features include OTFA, British masters, and however, some of the functionality displayed today was unique or new
- Richard asked how often is the current site visited? Jim indicated that this varies. Sites visits fluctuated from 200 hits a day within in 1-3 days after an event and then drop off to 3-10 hits a day between events
- Don asked what are the next steps are in the web site development initiative. Doug indicated the board will be involved in deciding what the next steps are.

### **New Business - OTFA Affiliation (Paul)**

- OTFA has had an affiliation for several years. This joint member is currently possible for an addition 5\$. It may be possible to save some costs (insurance costs) if all OMTFA members are also members of OTFA. At the moment, only some members of the OMTFA have joint membership status.
- There are opportunities to get more OTFA events that can include masters' participants. If we are under OFTA insurance, this will allow the junior athletes and opportunity to participate in masters' events (handy-capped events). For

example, the start of an event is adjusted for each competitor so that competitors arrive at the finish line at the same time. It has been tried successfully in Britain.

- This is expect to help solve event scheduling challenges by working more closely (at the same table) at OTFA since many of the facilities are shared by OMTFA
- Insurance is currently \$6,700.

### **New Business Proposed changes to the BY-LAW of the Ontario Masters Track & Field Association**

- A conversation took place to review constitution governance to make by-law amendments. Brian indicated that according to by-law rule 12.1 the board needed to review the proposed changes as the first step, then the members would need to be notified of the changes and with details when & where a vote would be made. Doug indicated that the board was aware of the changes and had been given an opportunity to review the changes (and had received feedback from the board).
- The AGM meeting took a brief break while the board was assembled in a separate room to formally vote on the proposed changes.
- The AGM returned from break and Doug reported that the OMTFA Board of directors approved amendments to the by-law.
- **Lilly motioned acceptance of the by-law changes, John seconded the motion and a majority show of hands carried**

### **Executive Elections**

The following slate is offered for nomination by the Executive

#### **Slate of Officers and Directors 2008**

Doug Smith, President  
Paul Osland, Vice President  
Norm Creen, Treasurer  
Don Ritchie, Secretary

Al LePage	Bill McIlwaine
Bruce Mitchell	Chris Lemassif
Jack Castle	Jim Flowers
Jim Pascoe	John Olivierre
Lily Whalen	Rudy Boghina

Don asked for nominations from the floor; no additional nominations were submitted.

**All current and new directors accepted nominations and where welcomed to the OMTFA board.**

**Discussion From The Floor:** Cross Country Team scoring—place or time  
Newmarket Cross Country Huskies (Craig)

- Craig discussed the merits of – “first past post” team scoring system.
- A lengthy discussion resulted. It was identified that the proposed scoring system would result in logistics and tracking challenges that make it problematic to implement.
- Doug indicated that the conversation will go to the board as a next course of action.
- Craig also announced that the Newmarket Huskies country club would like to host another cross country event. He described as “old school” cross country venue. It was well suited for a more intimate meet with a smaller group of participants (like the OMTFA) and not appropriate for large scale events

**Motion to adjourn by Brian and second by Craig**  
**Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:40PM**

## **Appendix**

- Financial Report (Norm to provide)
- Web Site Presentation (Chris to provide)