

### MEN'S LONG DISTANCE RUNNING---2008

Silver Legacy, Reno, Nevada

This was a major election year for all programs at the 2008 Annual Meeting. Fred Finke was re-elected as the Long Distance Running chairman, and Glenn Latimer was re-elected as Men's LDR Division chair. As per a bylaws amendment, both positions were for a four year term. Mark Winitz, Men's LDR Secretary, will begin an update of the Men's LDR Operating Procedures. There was also discussion of the USATF Organizational Restructuring, which cuts the USATF Board down to fifteen members. Each area of USATF was to nominate candidates for the three At-Large Board positions to be filled within the next few months. Dan Browne, Men's LDR vice-chair, reported that all of the athlete representatives on the Executive Committee expressed a desire to continue on the committee. Men's LDR is represented by athletes for exactly one half of the Executive Committee.

Glenn Latimer led a discussion of the 2012 Olympic Trials Marathon. The time standards are already established, and a site selection committee will begin work in the spring of 2009. Bob Latham, Men's LDR Championship Chair, discussed the 2009 schedule which has a guaranteed prize purse of over \$359,000 and has the possibility to approach the half-million plateau. This will be the largest non-Olympic prize money purse ever. The 2008 USA International teams were summarized by their respective coaches. Coaches were appointed for future international LDR teams. These included Bob Latham for the Chiba, Japan, Ekiden; Glenn Latimer for the IAAF World Half Marathon in Birmingham, England; and James Li for the 2010 IAAF Marathon in Beijing.

There were numerous rules changes that were discussed. The most prominent affecting Men's LDR included the previous ban on headphones for road running and cross country events. Because of the difficulty of enforcing such a rule, it was decided that the Games Committee of a USATF sanctioned LDR event may decide to allow the use of portable electronic devices not capable of receiving communications. However, these devices will not be allowed for participants competing for awards (medals, money, etc.) in any USATF Championship---Association, Regional, and National. It was also decided by Men's LDR to require drug testing for any American Record. There is still an attempt to require that any athlete, foreign or domestic, be licensed in order to be able to accept any prize money. This would open up the possibility of open drug testing both in and out of the season of competition. This is an item for future enactment as no final criteria was agreed upon.

The Men's LDR annual awards were bestowed at the Saturday morning breakfast. These included the following: Scott Hamilton Award (Association level achievement) went to Richard Bolt from Oregon; H. Browning Ross Award (National level contributor) went to Bob Sevene; Allan Steinfeld Award (Road Racing Organization contributor) went to Scott Keenan from Minnesota; and the Robert E. DeCelle Award (Outstanding Male Athlete) was given to Fernando Cabada.

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S , R I C H A R D

Respectfully submitted,  
---Bob Latham, LDR Chairman

### CROSS COUNTRY COUNCIL---2008

Silver Legacy, Reno, Nevada

Mike Scott was re-elected to a four year term as the chairman of the Cross Country Council, and Thom Hunt was also affirmed as XC Council secretary. The past year's championships were summarized. The USA Championships in San Diego was the largest championship ever held for a national cross country championship. The upcoming championships included the 2008 Club Championships in Spokane on December 13. I was asked to be the Head Course official for this championship event. Huge numbers signed up for the event which were held in extremely cold and windy conditions. (I can vouch for that). The 2009 USA Championship will be held in Derwood, Maryland, on February 7 with \$47,000 in prize money. This will be the selection process for the IAAF World Championships in Amman, Jordan, on March 28. Six runners will be selected providing they finish in the top fifteen places. Otherwise, other deserving runners may be added to the team. Bill Quinlisk reported that the 2009 National Club Championship will be on December 12 in Lexington, Kentucky. Bob Hersh gave his IAAF report. The major change will be equality of team sizes for men and women. In the past, women's teams had fewer runners with fewer scorers. Steve Vaitones announced the 2008 Harriers of the Year. Jorge Torres and Shalane Flanagan were the recipients of this honor.

Respectfully submitted,

---Bob Latham, LDR Chairman

MASTER'S LONG DISTANCE RUNNING---2008

Silver Legacy, Reno, Nevada

Much of the agenda for the Master's LDR focused on the restructuring of USATF, reducing the size of the National Board of Directors. The revised Operating Procedures for Master's LDR was adopted after lengthy discussions. Don Lein, Master's LDR Chairman, did a fine job of reviewing the new procedures. In the Master's division, there is much time spent selecting the various age group men's and women's runners of the year. Distribution of nominations and selection of winners took an entire session. Andy Carr, USATF Records Chairman, visited one session and discussed new and pending World and American records. Kami Semick and Meghan Arbogast, two Oregon runners, both broke American 100k records at the World Championships in Tarquinia, Italy, and their records are now "pending" until they are ratified in 2009. Congratulations Kami and Meghan. Bill Quinlish presented championship bid proposals for 2009 and beyond, both for roads and cross country. Bob Latham reported on the Coaches Advisory meeting where athletes were encouraged to get more involved in the political process of USATF. M.U.T. and Cross Country Council reports were also given.

Respectfully submitted,

---Bob Latham, LDR Chairman