

USATF INLAND NW ASSOCIATION MEETING

Sunday, September 20, 2026

Location: Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Start: 4:04 pm

End: 6:22 pm

Members Present:

Shannon Castelda, Linda Lanker, Hanah Redmond, Paul Huffman, David Greig, Darlene Shriner, Dave Kolva, Bessie Kolva, Jonathan Hill, Matt Layten, Matthew Durkee, Dave Skeleton, Chris Lowe, Sean Harrington, Austin Anderson, Hayley Gonzalez, Teresa Skinner, Dru Lopez, Heather Cotton, Ebsen Gerber, Erin Tucker

Approval of September 2025 Meeting and June 2026 Meeting minutes:

* Motion made by Chris Lowe, second by Jonathan, passed unanimously

Board Member Reports

President (Paul Huffman)

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Vice President (Jonathan Hill)

- * Shout out to Darlene Shriner, appreciate her dedication and heart
- * Shout out to Chris Lowe for what he's doing and his help
- * Had a conversation with PNTFO, set up a system to rent out equipment/inventory system but might not be worth it
- * Annual meeting in Portland
- * Would like to work on getting a comprehensive event calendar
- * Can push for Central athletes to volunteer
- * Add to calendar the various opportunities for youth in our association area
- * Be accessible to everyone, easy to find/view
- * Hosting HS Invite: April 9/10
- * Discussed collabing with Eastern to host USATF JO meets
- * Chris Lowe mentioned that we haven't had meets at local colleges due to the cost being prohibitive-- way too expensive for our association/clubs
- * Jonathan and Erin T. mentioned looking for ways to make it more accessible and benefit everyone

Secretary (Shannon Castelda)

- * No update/no report

Treasurer (Edith Gomez)

- * Checking presently is \$56,266
- * Savings presently is \$11,000+ (Life Works \$)

Regional Coordinator (Dave Skeleton)

- * Inland NW Association is one of a few of the 56 Associations that are in good standing.
- * Asked if there was anything we wanted discussed at the Regional meetings—let him know.

Clubs/Membership (Hanah Redmond)

- * Has been working on drafting flyers for volunteers to assist with getting community more involved with Our local association meets
- * Kudos to all those who volunteer to help our Association
- * Paul shared he has been working with National office to get Hanah legacy access and asked if anyone else wanted to get legacy account status for emails. Chelsea Yeardon has resigned as the representative for National Office. The legacy account status will only send emails and information to those that need that specific information, so you won't get inundated with too many emails.

Officials (Linda Lanker)

- * registered 8 more officials in the last 2 months, almost 90 certified officials in our association
- * Chris Lowe, Paul, Linda, and Dru meet 1x/month and discussed importance of honoring officials
- * 3 are getting a USATF award in December at the Podium
- * special award to Darlene Shriner (plaque) for the amazing job she does
- * Officials certification at Podium on Tuesday, December 8 at 5 pm
- * Podium track is being resurfaced

Mens/Womens Track and Field (Linda Lanker)

- * 12 athletes competed in U20 meet (in June), 60+ athletes competed in Nike Outdoor (in June)
- * Budgeting meeting was held during the U20 meet for committee
- * Max came to meet with the Association and discussed importance of staying on budget, shared that they will be auditing finances due to overspending on Paris Olympics
- * Chris L did 2026 budget for association, spoke with Edith regarding no expenses recorded from the last 2 association meets; worked with accountant to make sure it is all good and tracked
- * Linda recommended Edith resign from Treasurer position due to distance from Paul/President, other USATF obligations, and personal life

- * Paul has spoken with Chris L about the budget and talked to an accountant with Edith/share Quickbooks; the size of our association makes it difficult to not have someone local though he doesn't want to force anyone out of a volunteer position
- * Jonathan asked if there was anyone in our association that was an accountant and suggested giving Edith time to get help with an accountant consulting—retain Edith and get outside professional help
- * Chris L and Linda both said that they have done this twice already and continue to have the same issues with checks not getting sent, expenses not being recorded, etc over the last 3 years and are now worried about losing accreditation
- * Darlene spoke of her personal experience regarding estates, stating a professional vs a volunteer would be preferred with the experience/knowledge necessary; would it be possible for Edith to stay and turn the spreadsheet/checks/etc to an accountant?
- * Chris L responded that only the President and Treasurer of the Association are responsible for writing checks; these individuals have to be 3-step certified and unless the by-laws are changed we cannot go to a CPA outside of the Association. He shared that they have asked Edith to work with a CPA and it hasn't happened.
- * Chris L moved to ask Edith to resign from Treasurer position, Linda 2nd motion, vote: in favor 6/opposed 0/abstained 3. Motion passed. Paul will contact Edith regarding passed motion to see if she will resign and move forward from there.

Sanctions (Linda Lanker)

- * 40 meets sanctioned for both outdoor and indoor so far, ahead by 7 meets from previous year

Masters Track and Field (Wendell Brown)

- * No update/no report

Race Walk (Dave Kolva)

- * National groups have decided race walk is important and will be funding opportunities to compete internationally, hoping to produce more interest in the event
- * Offering race walk clinics—was hopeful to do some this past summer season but with weather/air quality and a busy schedule, it didn't happen. Interest is there so hoping to do some next year.
- * Shannon asked about the possibility of hosting a clinic this winter at the Podium.
- * Linda added that incorporating it with open house for officials at the Podium would be a great idea. She also suggested the possibility of adding a race walk event to an indoor meet; will talk to Anna about both.

Sports Medicine (Dru Lopez)

- * Meets went well this year.
- * Medical supplies have been updated and replenished.
- * Recommending that the Association purchase a table to be used at the meets. Dru has been using his personal table but would be better if the Association had their own.
- * Olympic Athlete Experience went well and Dru is looking to host another one January 17 at the Podium. Athletes committed are Trayvon Bromell, CJ Allen, Daniel Roberts. Looking to also get Vashti Cunningham and Talia Brooks. Hoping for a distance person too—possibly Cole Hocker. Will get details finalized and is asking Association to spread the word to the community and clubs/members.

LDR/MUTT/XC/Road Race/Substance Abuse (Matt Layten)

- * No update/no report

Records (Bessie Kolva)

- * 25 new records for the girls
- * 26 new records for the boys

Para Sports (David Greig)

- * 9 para athletes attended USATF Para Nationals in New York this summer
- * Preparing for upcoming Worlds
- * More interest in para athletes in our region including Pacific NW and Oregon. Looking to collaborate with those associations. Paul and Teresa went to Lakeside HS to discuss para participation. There was more para athletes at the Association meet this summer, looking for more meets moving forward.
- * Have made an indoor training space at an old EVSD building. Had materials donated. Will be holding more clinics for athletes and certifying officials.

SafeSport Coordinator (Bruce Bradley)

- * Bruce has resigned from this position
- * Paul asked anyone interested in filling this chair position should reach out to him; Bruce is willing to chat with anyone regarding the duties. This position needs to be filled soon due to the upcoming cross country meets.

Course Certification (Robert Medellin)

- * No update/no report

Marketing/Website (Chris Lowe)

- * Sending emails that the National office provides is very challenging and difficult, having the same frustrations with the website as well as uploading documents on there.

Equipment (Chris Lowe)

- * Will add the equipment inventory and information to check out onto the website once he is able.

Spokane Sports Commission (Lohman/Alsept)

- * Report from Paul

Substance Abuse (Hayley Gonzalez)

- * No update/no report

Youth Athletics (Chris Patterson)

- * Unable to attend due to Botswana trip—was selected to represent US to talk about creating track programs in Botswana.

Coaches Education (Jonathan Hill)

- * No report

Regional Youth Coordinator (Heather Cotton)

- * Region 13 XC Meet—has hotel information to get out; sanction for meet has been done; bibs and awards have been ordered.
- * Talked to Jackie—has asked that the elite standards be released by January, to get them distributed to coaches earlier. Jackie said the goal is to have the standards ready by the December convention.

Old Business

- * Paul asked if each club had received a copy of the new by-laws. They had not been sent out so Paul said he would do that via email.

New Business

- * Nothing has been submitted for proposed by-laws.
- * Bessie asked if anything had been done for Mike Hinz, to honor his years of service for the association.

- * Paul said no but agreed that something should be done. He will work with Bessie on what to do/how.
- * Heather asked about a rule book being sent out to head coaches of clubs for 2027.
- * Paul said he can add that to the budget if there were no objections. No objections given.
- * 2027 Budget:
- * Email with budget sent.
- * Chris L stated this is 2027 budget so it will need to be adjusted regarding convention costs due to location.
- * Dave stated that every other year was to be virtual due to costs. He will let Chris and Paul know what/where the convention for 2027 will be held.
- * Motion to approve 2027 budget: Chris L, Hanah 2nd motion, vote: 2 against due to wanting to see the final 2027 budget before approving. Motion passed.
- * National Convention:
- * Convention will be December 4-6 in Portland OR
- * Association will need 8 members representing.
- * Those attending: Paul, Heather, Chris P, Linda, Dru, David, Jonathan.
- * Those interested in attending: Hanah, Hayley
- * 2027 XC Meets
- * Association/JO Qualifying: November 6, hosted by VF in Spokane
- * Regionals: November 20, in Seattle
- * Nationals: December 11 in Louisiana
- * 2027 Track Meets
- * Paul sending email with calendar from Chris P regarding dates for future JO meets
- * Association: June 12, hosted by Tri City Thunder in Tri Cities
- * Qualifying Multis: June 24/25, hosted by VF in Spokane Valley
- * JO Qualifying: June 25/26, hosted by VF in Spokane Valley
- * Regionals: July 8-11, in Oregon
- * Nationals: July 26-August 1, location TBD

NEXT MEETING DATE: January 10, 2027 at 4 pm via ZOOM

Chris L. moved we adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Jonathan, passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm

