Executive Committee Meeting

October 20, 2025

Don Lawrence called the meeting to order at 8:10 pm EST. The following EC members were present: Don Lawrence, Rozanne Redlinski, Danielle Anderson, Kelsey Rylan, Sonja Robinson, Mike Nier, Matt Merrill, Kathy McLymond, Eric Boyce and Jim Glinsky. Rayven Sample were in attendance as a guest.

A motion of accept the minutes of the September meeting was made and seconded by Mike Nier and Matt Merrill, respectively. Don Lawrence asked the Rozanne edit the spelling of Sonja Robinson's name as a condition to the approval. The minutes were approved.

USATF Race Planning and Updates

The group discussed recent activities and upcoming events. They highlighted the success of the McQuaid Invitational, where they educated athletes and parents about USATF and distributed cross-country cards. Mike and others planned for the Open and Masters races on November 9th at Center Park and Fairport. The Association will also host the JO in the afternoon. Pat Leone will be doing the scoring for the Masters/Open and Pat will be running the race himself. They also discussed the Section 6 Cross Country Championships and the need for a tent at the event.

Junior Olympics Race Planning Meeting

The group discussed the upcoming Junior Olympics race, including course setup, timing, and awards. The Masters/Open and the JO will split the cost of the soccer field rental. The race will start around 1:30 PM, with families arriving around 1 PM for course walks. They also discussed the Masters 5K race, where Amy McMahon wrapped up the LDR National Series for her age group. Rayven Sample was introduced as a new member representing the para world in USATF Niagara.

Para-athletes in NCAA Track and Field

Rayven, a two-time Paralympian and T-45 athlete, shared his experience and discussed his research on the representation of para-athletes in NCAA track and field. He highlighted the challenges faced by para-athletes in competing at the collegiate level and expressed excitement about his new role as a spokesperson for PARA. Kelsey asked about para-athlete representation in other sports, to which Rayven explained that his research focused primarily on track and field due to its size and accessibility. Matt Merrill, the meet director, expressed difficulties in connecting with para-athletes for the Junior Olympic program and sought Rayven's assistance in improving communication and event inclusion.

Para-Athlete Development and Recruitment

The group discussed challenges in supporting para-athletes and strategies to increase participation in USATF. Rayven shared his experience as a para-athlete who was unaware of para-track until Tokyo, highlighting the need for better development programs. Sonja Robinson explained efforts to engage middle school PE teachers for clinics and emphasized the importance of recruiting young athletes early, noting that many talented para-athletes go undetected due to lack of awareness and proper testing. The group agreed to develop a plan to increase para-athlete numbers, with Rayven offering to connect with USATF administrators and recruit through schools.

Paralympic vs. Integrated Athlete Competition

The group discussed competitive opportunities for athletes with disabilities, particularly focusing on whether they should compete in Paralympic events or with their peers. Sonja shared that many successful Paralympic athletes actually competed against able-bodied peers in high school, suggesting that integrated competition can be beneficial. The discussion also covered updates on track and field activities, including Kelsey's successful Track or Treat event which attracted over 50 children, and the development of a new tartan track facility in Williamsville.

LDR Trail Race Championship Update

Eric Boyce reported on the recent 8th LDR series trail race, a 25K championship event in Wellsville that saw 30 members participate despite some competition from other events. He noted that the race was successfully partnered with Bridge Walk Run, who saw increased registration numbers and competition due to the championship status. The final event of the series will be held on November 9th at the Cross Race, where Eric is working on securing championship belts for winners, and he is considering format changes for 2026 while remaining open to adding an indoor track component. His report can be seen at the end of these minutes.

Masters Championship Officials Planning Meeting

The meeting discussed the upcoming Masters championship event, focusing on officials' arrangements. Kathy confirmed she had 11 officials scheduled for 1 PM, with Jim Glinsky arriving earlier, though he won't be competing due to a long layoff from running. Matt reported no immediate need to adjust the current official assignments, though final numbers would determine if any changes were necessary. The group also discussed membership numbers, which Jim Glinsky reported were increasing year-over-year, with a significant influx expected after November 1st. (Jim Glinksy’s membership report can be seen at the end of these minutes.) Eric and Mike agreed to handle the registration list, which Pat Leone needs for scoring the LDR portion of the event.

Niagara Association Events Planning Meeting

The meeting discussed upcoming events and administrative matters for the Niagara Association. They confirmed that the Cornell Open will be held on January 18th, with Eric noting that most last-minute registrations are rare. The group discussed the need to update the website with details about the U.S. Race Walk National Committee's proposed 3,000 meter national championships at Cornell. Sonja, who recently returned from abroad, expressed her intention to restructure the Youth Committee to improve efficiency and provide better services to youth athletes. The meeting also covered the annual meeting registration, with a November 15th deadline, and discussed the need for hybrid meeting representatives.

Treasurer's Report:

Due to a conflict in her schedule, Jacky Mendes was not able to attend this meeting. Her financial report can be seen at the end of these minutes.

The motion was made and seconded by Sonja Robinson and Rozanne Redlinski, respectively, to adjourn the meeting. This motion was approved at 9:18 pm EST.

Next steps

- Rozanne: Fix Sonja's name in the minutes
- Mike Nier: Get list of USATF members in the race to Pat Leone on Friday, November 8th
- Don : Talk to Mike Nier offline about splitting the $400 Seneca Park facility fee between Open/Masters race and JOs
- Don : Contact Matt Merrill to discuss Cornell meet details and get website up and running with event details for January 18th
- Don : Send event details to Andy for the Cornell meet website
- Danielle and Sonia: Continue making edits to sponsorship materials and get ready to send out soon
- Sonia: Schedule offline Zoom call with Kelsey, Matt, and others to discuss para-athlete recruitment and qualification guidelines for parents
- Rayven Sample: Connect with USATF/U.S. Para admin about para-athlete participation in youth meets
- Sonia: Organize clinics at three middle schools with PE teachers during this school year
- Matt Merrill: Contact Kathy if any changes needed to officials assignments for JO cross-country based on registration numbers
- Eric: Communicate with Jim Glinsky to vet registration for November 9th race
- Eric: Provide registration IDs to Pat Leone for LDR scoring
- Eric: Order championship belts and try to have them ready for November 9th event
- Don : Send annual meeting registration link and details to Sonia, Kelsey, and Rayven
- Don : Talk to National about Rayven Sample attending annual meeting as athlete representative
- Don : Send annual meeting details to Rayven Sample about December 5-6 meeting
- Pat Leone: Replace race clock battery and provide cost to Don

LDR Report

October 19
Usatf Niagara Trail Championships hosted by Ridge Walk and Run 25km. We had 30 members participate.

Results:
https://niagara.usatf.org/USATF-Niagara/media/USATF-Niagara/Trail.pdf

Recap
https://niagara.usatf.org/trail25recap

Next and the last championship for 2025 will be Nov 9 for the open and masters xc championships. I'll be in communication with Nier, Jonathan, Pat Leone, and Don to ensure the open and masters xc championships will be the most successful it can be and I'll have everything I need to score the LDR series.

LDR series standings
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vQYQrYCG3mWe8w8rF4XCNKrcMa4v2wI-IqYVtHDLTyjBm5xxGy-530EMrd3NylhYHHtalq2G6eysJFz/pubhtml?gid=35350860&single=true

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HbuwFrbsb0xKHUxID4n0bghp3DU0qqlQmkSWJaQRkmw/htmlview#gid=175050568

2026 confirmed usatf Niagara championship dates

5mile: ROTG 3/14
10mile: Mt goat 5/3
4mile: Subaru 7/17
Mountain: Swain 8/1
5km: Oak tree 9/6
Trail: Ridge run 10/18

Niagara Membership Report 17 October 2025

	Male	Female	Total	%
Youth	319	302	621	45%
Open	168	98	266	20%
Masters	317	161	478	35%
Total	804	561	1365	

Clubs 56

We increased by 17 individual members since the last report.
On 18 October 2024 we had 1304 individual and 50 club members.

Treasurer's report:

10.20.2025 Board Call

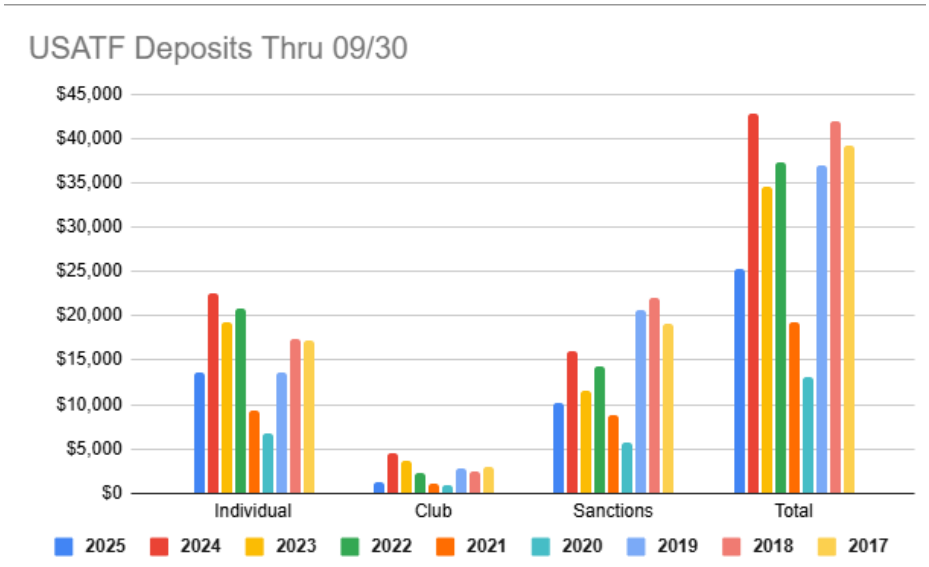
1. Still working with CPAs to iron out Quickbooks in order to file 990. CHAR 500 will be filed afterward.
2. We are roughly $800 behind in revenue compared to this time last year and $2,000 ahead compared to 2023.

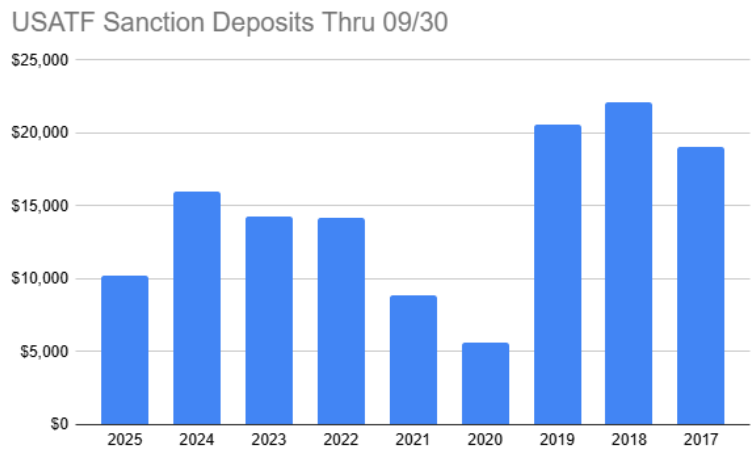
3. As of 09.30.2025 our financial standing is:

Checking:	9,407.06
Savings:	42,807.07
CD:	50,879.38
Total:	103,093.51

6. Summary of all deposits

	Individual	Club	Sanctions	Total
2025	$13,678	$1,301	$10,258	$25,237
2024	$22,499	$4,475	$15,986	$42,960
2023	$19,256	$3,700	$11,559	$34,569
2022	$20,754	$2,350	$14,221	$37,234
2021	$9,235	$1,100	$8,882	$19,217
2020	$6,664	$850	$5,640	$13,154
2019	$13,650	$2,725	$20,577	$36,952
2018	$17,455	$2,450	$22,101	$42,006
2017	$17,205	$3,000	$19,033	$39,238





Sanction deposits:

2025	$10,258
2024	$15,986
2023	$11,559
2022	$14,221
2021	$8,882
2020	$5,640
2019	$20,577
2018	$22,101
2017	$19,033