

***Adaptive Track and Field, USA***

***2019 Annual Chairman Report***

**The 2019 ATFUSA Board Board Terms
(\*\* term ends in 2019)**

Philip Galli Chairman / Long Distance Racing Chair 2017-2020

Jerry Clayton Vice-Chair – Officials/Jr 2018-2021

Charlie Sheppard Treasurer \*\* 2016-2019

Jessica Cloy Secretary 2019-2022

Pam Carey Member at Large (MAL) – High School 2018-2021

Pam Chiavaroli MAL- Records 2019-2022

Darla Clayton MAL – Cerebral Palsy (CP) \*\* 2016-2019

Mark Braun Athlete Representative \*\* 2016-2019

Teresa Skinner MAL – High School \*\* 2016-2019

Tom Southall MAL - Masters \*\* 2016-2019

Randy Chiavaroli MAL - Field Chair 2017-2020

Paul Johnson MAL- Track Chair 2017-2020

Denise Hutchens MAL - Classification Chair 2019-2022

Frank Anzaldi MAL – T20 Chair 2019-2022

**2020-2023 Election Candidates**

CANDIDATES

Teresa Skinner (MAL)

Tom Southall (MAL)

Cindy Latham (MAL)

Brian Siemann (Athlete Rep)

**About Adaptive Track and Field USA (ATFUSA):**
ATFUSA is a 30-year old Texas based 501C3 organization that was formed to support Adaptive Track & Field and Adaptive Wheelchair Road Racing in the USA.
Until 2000 ATFUSA was the National Governing Body (NGB) for Wheelchair Track and Field and Road Racing in the USA.  In 2002, the United States Olympic Committee became the National Paralympic Committee and U.S. Paralympics became the NGB for Para (all disabilities) Athletics (Track and Field) in the USA.

**ATFUSA's Mission:**

Since 2002 the ATFUSA mission is to support and promote community based Adaptive Track and Field and Road Racing in the USA for all World Para Athletics (WPA) defined disability classes and be the NGB for Juniors Under 14 and Master Age groups 35, 50, 60 (groups not controlled by US Paralympics).  Through this effort we continue to be the major US Paralympic feeder into the elite athlete ranks.

* For these age groups ATFUSA,
* Sanction Track Field meets (through Adaptive Sports USA for multiple sport events and
 individually for just athletics competitions and our national championships),
* Sanction Wheelchair Road races,
* Expand Para Athletics in the USA
	+ States having Wheelchair and Ambulatory Athletic divisions at their state meet.
	+ Expand Para Athletics in the US with our partners Adaptive Sports USA, CAF, DSUSA and others.
* Set the rules For U14 and Master athletes,
* Keeps the USA records (for all age groups U7 through Master),
* Sets USA Standards for entry into our junior and non-elite open/master national
 championships.

ATFUSA has a synergistic relationship with Adaptive Sports USA.  In this partnership Adaptive Sports USA can sanction the track and field event when it is run in a multi-sport competition.

**The Board:**

The Board is currently made up of 14 members but can expand from 11 to 15. Each member serves a 4-year term. The Board terms are staggered with a portion of the Board up for election yearly.

The Executive Board’s (Chairman, Vice Chair, Secretary, & Treasurer) terms are staggered so that they do not all end their term on the same year.

All positions outside of the Executive Committee are member-at-large positions. Chair positions for Track, Field, High School, Records, CP, etc. are appointed by the Chairman from the MAL members with the approval of the Board.

**2019 Elections:**

We have three (3) Member at Large board members whose terms end in 2019, Teresa Skinner, Tom Southall, Dr. Darla Clayton.

In addition, our Athletic rep position and our Treasurer are up in 2019.

Charlie Shepard, Treasurer; Dr. Darla Clayton, MAL; and Mark Braun our Athletic Representative have chosen not to run for re-election.

The board would like to thank all three of them for their time on the board.

The Board would like to specifically thank Charlie Shepard, in particular, for all he has done for ATFUSA. The organization would not be what it is today without all his time and dedication. Dr. Darla and Charlie have stated that although they do not have the time to serve as board members they are committed to helping the board and the sport of Track and Field when needed.

Since the board has 3 Member at large positions up for election in 2019 and Teresa Skinner, Tom Southall and Cindy Latham have expressed interest in running there is no reason for an election. The board will be asked to affirm these candidates at the annual board meeting in November.

Brian Seimann, a current Elite USA Para athlete, has expressed interest in running for for the Athlete Representative. Since he is our only candidate the board will affirm his appointment at the Board meet in November.

As of this writing no one expressed an interest for the Treasurer Position. The Board will discuss the vacancy at the annual meeting. The Chair’s position is to appoint the Treasurer from the elected board if possible. This would bring down our Board from 14 to 13 an odd number and give the board 2 potential positions if the need arises.

**2019 Focus Areas:**

1. To support the 2019 LOC in running a successful Adaptive Sports USA Junior Nationals.
2. To support the GLASA LOC in running ATFUSA’s Adult Championships in Chicago, IL.
3. To continue to offer members information and to support them in inclusion of athletes with a disability in high school athletics.
4. To increase the number, quality and training of WPA/USATF track and field officials in the USA.
5. To offer with our partners training and presentation support to ATFUSA member coaches, parents, and athletes.
6. To ensure the USA is complying with all WPA rules and running high standard events at its sanctioned competitions.
7. To maintain records in track and field for all classes/age groups of athletes with a disability.
8. To report meet results, in a database, in a timely manor to inform members of all meet results.
9. To help to grow the Americas Series (multiple events around the Peachtree Road Race).
10. To move to paperless results and provide pre-event electronic heating-seeding / calendar / meet timeline at Junior Nationals.
11. To sanction/support wheelchair road racing in the USA.
12. Provide quality Track and Field Equipment for our members at reasonable prices.
13. Update the By-Laws to agree with the way we are conducting business.
14. To maintain ATFUSA’s 501(c)(3) status.

**2019** **Detail:**

1. Support the 2019 LOC in running a successful Adaptive Sports USA Junior Nationals.
	1. ATFUSA supported the Minnesota LOC by:
		1. Doing a site visit in preparation for the event.
		2. Providing officials / Refs.
		3. Running the track and field portions of the competition.
	2. ATFUSA wishes to acknowledge the work of Jessica Cloy, Philip Galli, Charlie Sheppard, Tom Southall and Kevin Crytzer in that effort.
2. To support the GLASA LOC in running ATFUSA’s Adult Championships in Chicago, IL.
	1. ATFUSA worked with GLASA to offer our adult members a national non-elite level event.
	2. ATFUSA held an officials’ training session to increase the number of locally IPC trained officials capable of supporting GLASA year-round.
	3. Ran the Track and Field competition.
	4. Ran the Fast Cow Open Track event.
	5. GLASA will be the host of the ATFUSA Adult Championships again in 2020.
3. To continue to offer members information and support in the area of inclusion of athletes with a disability in high school athletics.
	1. ATFUSA (Pam Carey, Phil Galli, and Teresa Skinner) continued to work with states, U.S. Paralympics, and local high school officials to assist in the inclusion of our junior members in high school athletics.
	2. Along with many other disabled sport organizations, we continue to be on the Athletics for All Task Force focusing on athletics for students with a disability. The Task Force wants to offer states/school districts “Best in Class” sports and programs to comply with the federal mandate.
	3. Provided input on who should CAF ask to do their High School coaches training series which is now hyperlinked from our Website with or other training tools.
4. To increase the number and quality of WPA trained track and field officials in the US.
	1. Paul Johnson is managing the testing for the USATF officials taking the WPA Certification course and test online. ATFUSA is posting on the ATFUSA website the names and locations of all certified officials. LOCs can enter their zip code and the application will list the certified officials in their area. <http://www.atfusa.org/find-certified-officials>
	2. ATFUSA has run officials’ training sessions for regional LOC teams to ensure their Level 2 and Level 3 competitions meet acceptable World Para Athletics (WPA) /ATFUSA rules and standards.
	3. Phil Galli will run a Para official training session at the 2019 USATF conference in Reno in Early December and address the Officials committee with our progress in 2019.
	4. Working with our Training taskforce team (all TD’s and key WPA officials in the USA) we have developed a Meet Officials guide which, with our training course, will raise the competency of Officials working WPA Rules meets. This guide is in review and will hopefully be available for the 2020 Athletics season.
	5. Jerry Clayton, Cathy Sellers and I are working on a Level II officials’ program which hopefully will lead to a WPA USA NTO officials position.
5. To maintain records in track and field for Para athletes. This year was the 7th year junior athletes can set records at Level 3 regional events. We are making progress to update records during the year. This year we updated records from the spring in time for Junior Nationals and we are currently posting 2019 records in November and December of 2019. We will, as we did in 2018, send Record Certificates to ATFUSA members by 12/31/2019.
6. To sanction and support long distance wheelchair racing in the USA.
	1. ATFUSA sanctioned and/or officially supported 2 Road races in 2019:
		1. The Peachtree 10K Road Race
			1. Sanctioned as the ATFUSA National 10K.
			2. Reviewed and updated the rules
			3. Acted as the Wheelchair division Referee.
			4. Named and were apart of the protest committee
			5. Jessica and Phil ensured all WPA Rules were followed and Jessica provided finish line support.
		2. The New York City Marathon.
			1. Reviewed race rules,
			2. Determined the starting grid position for all athletes for the race,
			3. Ensured all chairs were compliant to WPA Rules
			4. Organized the start and were apart of the protest committee.
			5. Jerry Clayton was the WPA Technical Delegate.
	2. Worked with Peachtree Wheelchair team and the Cedartown team to restart the Americas series.
		1. Re-started the Meet in the Heat in the Series
			1. Meet Managed the 30+ Athlete Event in Rome GA.
			2. Provided the Meet Ref and Call Room Official.
			3. Recruited all other officials.
	3. ATFUSA is looking for a 5K, 15K, 1/2 marathon, and marathon to be our National Championships in 2020. If you are interested, e-mail philg1234@comcast.net.
7. To train and educate.
	* 1. In 2019 ATFUSA, with monetary support from US Paralympics, ran an Ambulatory and Wheelchair Athlete Track & Field clinic at the Turnstone Level 3 meet. The clinic focused on Track nd Field 101 skills and techniques.
		2. ATFUSA will run a Meet Management Clinic at the Annual meeting to help LOC’s run a better Athletics competition.
		3. Develop an Officials Meet guide which concisely describes documents the WPA rules for all Athletics officials by positions.
8. Equipment Sales:
We continued to market equipment to our members.
Partial proceeds of these sales go to ATFUSA (and Dixie).
9. Update the by-Laws to Revision 8. The changes are specific to the by-laws align with the way we are doing business. The By-laws will still need additional changes to update the document to remove sections which are left over from when we were the National Governing body for Wheelchair athletics (prior to 2000).
10. To maintain ATFUSA’s 501(c)(3) status.
	1. ATFUSA has filed the mandatory postcard with the US Internal Revenue Service and the state of Texas for 2018.
	2. ATFUSA maintains its Corporate Address as: 14900 Ranch Road 12, Wimberly, TX 78676 (residence of Wendy Gumbert).

**The Board discussions and actions for 2020:**

1. Review the rules from 2019 and determine if all went well.
2. Review the WPA pending rule changes and make changes if needed.
3. Determine clinic goals and objectives for 2020
4. Continue to review the Junior standards in track and field, specifically filling in voids in the T20 classes for Field and other standards which do not line up with current athletics results.
5. Continue to work to increase the number of athletes going to the 2020 junior Nationals in Denver.
6. Work to support the 2020 Junior Nationals in Denver.
7. Update the Best Practices for seated throws field cages for discus on the Web.
8. Actively market and increase participation of athletes at the 2020 Peachtree road race our National 10K.
9. Work to get additional Road Race Sanctions for 5K, 15K, ½ Marathon and Marathon.
10. Provide enhancements and review the topics covered on the ATFUSA website.
11. Continue the effort to upgrade SAMS to an online Cloud based program.
	1. Port to SQL
	2. Offer electronic options for Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 which are integrated with the cloud system.
	3. Move development to an IT development firm in addition to NJIT. We have $11,000 ($5000 from the VA grant, $5000 from ATFUSA, $1000 from Merck)
12. Convene a Phase 2 committee to continue to update the ATFUSA By-Laws.
13. Continue to discuss having a Master’s Championship.
14. Continue to work with our TD team to develop Level 2 training and training documents for our Officials to offer a pathway to a USA WPA NTO position.
15. Continue to promote Equipment sales and other income opportunities.
16. Document our T20 participation position.
17. Discuss a T21/T22, 2-year trial to offer Classified Downs and Autistic athletes the ability to compete at our events provided they can follow all WPA T20 rules.

This report is respectfully submitted by

Philip C. Galli, Jr.

ATFUSA, Chairman