



Adaptive Track and Field, USA 2023 Annual Chairman Report & Annual Minutes

<u>The 2023 ATFUSA Board</u>		<u>Board Terms</u>
<u>(** term ends in 2023)</u>		
Philip Galli	Chairman / Long Distance Racing Chair	2021-2024
Jerry Clayton	Vice-Chair – Officials Chair	2022-2025
Tom Southall	Treasurer	** 2020-2023
Jessica Cloy	Secretary	2023-2026
Pam Carey	Member at Large (MAL) – High School	2022-2025
Pam Chiavaroli	MAL – MAL	2023-2026
Brian Seamann	Athlete Representative	** 2020-2023
Teresa Skinner	MAL – High School & Coaching Chair	** 2020-2023
Cindy Latham	MAL – Field Coaching	** 2020-2023
Randy Chiavaroli	MAL – Field Chair	2021-2024
Jim Strunk	MAL – Records & Track Chair	2021-2024
Denise Hutchins	MAL – Classification Chair	2023-2026
Frank Anzaldi	MAL – T20 Chair	2023-2026

2024-2026 Election Candidates

CANDIDATES

Steven Kessler - Treasurer
 Brian Seamann – Athlete representative
 Teresa Skinner
 Cindy Latham

ABOUT ADAPTIVE TRACK AND FIELD USA (ATFUSA):

ATFUSA is a 35+ -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 Lead for Juniors under 14 (U14) and Master Age groups M35, M50, M60 in the USA (groups not controlled by USA Para Athletics). Through this effort we continue to be the major US Paralympic feeder into the elite athlete ranks by doing the following:

- Sanction Track & Field meets (through Move United for multiple sport events and individually for Athletics only competitions and our national championships),
- Sanction Wheelchair Road races at the 5K, 10K, 15K, ½ Marathon and Marathon level
- Expand Para Athletics in the USA
 - Work with states to set up or maintain High School Wheelchair and Ambulatory Athletic divisions at their Dual, Group, Regional, and State level meets.
 - Partner with other organizations to Expand Para Athletics in the US; Challenged Athlete Fund (CAF), Move United (MU), USATF and others.
- Set the rule exceptions for U11, U14 and Master Para athletes.
- Keep the USA records and event results for all age groups U11 through Master, championships.
- Work with US Para Track & Field and USATF to grow the number of Level 1, and WPA NTO Para Officials in USA to prepare for Para Meet Growth in the USA and the 2028 LA Paralympics.

ATFUSA has a Memo of understanding with Move United. In this partnership Move United has been given the rights by ATFUSA to sanction Track and Field competitions (usually when they are held in a multi-sport competition) and ATFUSA provides management services to oversee the sanctions and direct support at the major Level 2 and 3 Track & Field competitions.

THE BOARD:

The Board is currently made up of 13 members but can be 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 in the same year.

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

2023 BOARD ELECTIONS:

There are four positions up for election in 2023, the Treasurer, Athlete Representative and two (2) Member at Large board members.

The voting process is no longer valid due to Move United not having an individual member membership (to change in 2024). The board is working to revise the process to select the board. Once approved the By-Laws will be updated to reflect any changes.

The Board therefore, would like to acknowledge the re-appointment of Teresa Skinner, and Cindy Latham as members at Large, Brian Seamann as our Athlete Representative and welcome Steven Kessler as our new Treasurer.

2023 FOCUS AREAS:

1. **Meet Management:**
Update the SAMS Meet management software.
2. **Develop Para Officials:**
Continue work to increase Para Certified Officials and Run an NTO course.
3. **Meet Results:**
Maintain the Standards, Results and Records database on the ATFUSA Website.
4. **Rules:**
Communicate and set the U14 and Master rule exceptions.
5. **501C3:**
Maintain ATFUSA's non-profit status.
6. **Long distance Racing:**
Grow the number of ATFUSA Sanctioned Road Racing events.
7. **Equipment Sales:**
Provide Track and Field implements to the Para community.
8. **Meet Support:**
Provide operational support for the Move United Athletics competitions and run the competition at the Move United Junior National Meet in Colorado.
9. **High School:**
Continue to help states create Para Divisions for Athletics for both Wheelchair and Para Ambulatory athletes.
10. **Education:**
Work to improve our value to Athletes and Coaches on our Website and through clinics
11. **By-Laws:**
Continue the work to update the By-Laws to agree with the current way we are conducting business.

2023 DETAIL:

1. Meet Management:

The IT Committee made up of Phil Galli, Kevin Crytzer, Jim Cuevas, & Paul Johnson:

- a. Is working to create SAMs 2. SAMs is meet management software equally owned by Move United and ATFUSA, which was created in the early 90's to help Meet Directors run a multi-sport Para meet. The original program was premise based and somewhat difficult to use if a region only ran 1 meet per year. The objectives of the updated SAMs2 program are:
 - i. Create a cloud and premise-based program
 - ii. Offer; up to date data on rules, records, results, and classification for just in time meet population.
 - iii. The ability to transfer meet results and post meet reports to MU and ATFUSA.
 - iv. Phase II - Simplify the administration screens to allow Meet Directors a simple way to use the program without extensive training.

The program effort for phase 1 is being done in India. This year the Alpha Test version was tested successfully at the Hartford MU Nationals and is in final test. We expect to finish testing by Mid-January at the latest.

The mutual goal of Move United and ATFUSA is to have the program available for the 2024 season.

2. Develop Para Officials:

Continue to grow USATF Certified Para Officials

- a. 291 Officials have been certified this Quad. 40 Officials were added in 2023.
- b. The committee is also working on delivering multiple WPA NTO courses from 2024 through 2027-8. The USA needs 50 to 70 NTO's by the 2028 Paralympics in Los Angeles.
- c. ATFUSA (Phil Galli) prepared a summary of the 2023 Para Committee news to the USATF Officials committee at their Orlando Annual Conference. The report was delivered by Pam Navara
- d. Continue the evaluation process to rate the skill level of our Certified officials working Para meets so these officials can qualify for the NTO course. In 2023 305, evaluations from 181 Officials, were conducted from Officials who worked our Para only meets in the US. From these evaluations we will select those qualified to be named to the next NTO course.
- e. We are hoping to hold an NTO course in 2024.

3. Meet Results & Records:

To maintain Meet Results & records in track and field for Para athletes.

- a. We uploaded all Para meet results to the Results Database at ATFUSA.org.
- b. This year was the 12th year Junior and Master athletes can set records at Level 3 regional events. Many national records were set.
- c. Jim Strunk is working finalizing the 2023 records.
- d. Records were updated on the Web and in SAM's in June of 2023 prior to the Hartford Nationals.
- e. The Boston Athletic Association (BAA) Sanctioned their Boston Para ½ Marathon, and their Boston 10K. The course/events were WPA approved and new USA records were set for many of the Wheelchair and Para Ambulatory classes and a few World Records were submitted for approval.

4. Rules:

- a. No new/changed rules were introduced in 2023

5. 501C3.

- a. ATFUSA will file the mandatory postcard with the US Internal Revenue Service and the state of Texas for 2023.
- b. ATFUSA maintains its Corporate Address as:
14900 Ranch Road 12,
Wimberly, TX 78676
(residence of Wendy Gumbert).
- c. ATFUSA maintains its working address as:
ATFUSA
9 Boulder Lane
Orleans, MA 02653

6. Long distance Racing:

Racing was back.

- a. The Peachtree Road race was our National 10K and I served as the Para Referee for the event. Peachtree has approved to continue the championship into 2024.
- b. Jerry Clayton and Phil Galli worked the, Boston and NYC Marathons as TD and Para Ref.
- c. In addition the Boston half Marathon and the B.A.A. 10K were sanctioned by the BAA and Phil Galli served as the Para Ref. at the half where 1 world record was set for the Female T64 class.

7. Equipment Sales:

We continued to market equipment to our members.

Partial proceeds of these sales go to ATFUSA (and Dixie).

Actual 2023 sales of \$____.____ (Awaiting the final numbers)

Accounting is included in the Treasurer report.

8. Meet Support:

- a. ATFUSA provided direct support for GLASA, Tri-State, Palmetto Games, Dairyland, US Para Track & Field Championships, New England Disabled Sports, and Louisiana.
- b. ATFUSA ran the T&F competition at the Hartford Nationals which is the ATFUSA Junior and Adult Nationals.

9. Clinics/Education:

- a. We ran an Officials clinic at the Hartford Nationals and in Spokane, WA.
- b. We Continue to review the Best Practices and post them on the WEB.

10. By-Laws:

We did not make progress to revise the By-Laws. We will continue to work them again in 2024.

THE BOARD DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS FOR 2024:

1. Rules:

- a. Review the rules from 2023 and determine if changes must be made.
- b. Continue to communicate important rules for coaches and athletes.

2. 501C3:

- a. Revise the Process to elect and approve Board Members
 - i. From the response to the 2022-member mailing, work a plan to create:
 - 1. A Coaches committee,
 - 2. A Parent committee,
 - 3. An Athlete committee,
 - 4. And the use of the Officials committee,

Allow each committee to nominate a member to be on the board (with the approval of the overall Board). Distribution and numbers from each committee to be worked.

Committee Chairs will be selected by the chair from the Board members with the approval of the overall Board.

3. Clinics/Education:

- a. We will run an Officials clinic as needed.
- b. Continue to review the Best Practices and post them on the WEB.

4. Standards:

- a. Review the Junior standards in track and field and make appropriate changes.
- b. Review the Open Standards in Track and Field and make appropriate changes.

Meet Management & Meet Growth:

Nationals:

- a. Work to run T&F at the Hartford Move United 2024 Nationals.
- b. Work to increase the number of athletes going to the 2024 Hartford MU Nationals.
2023 Juniors > U11-U20
2023 Open
- c. Place/Approve the Refs at all major competitions, to run the Track and Field Events, to provide a consistent level of competition across all the Level 3 meets.

5. Road Racing:
 - a. Actively market and increase participation of athletes at the 2024 Peachtree Road Race (our National 10K) and our Adult Open championship which will be a part of the Hartford MU Nationals.
 - b. Continue our sanctioning of Boston Athletics Association Para Events.
 - c. Work to expand the Elite Para Ambulatory division at the Boston Marathon, ½ Marathon and 10K to the other USA Marathons.
 - d. Work to get additional Road Race Sanctions for 5K, 15K, ½ Marathon and Marathon.
6. **WEB Site:**

Provide enhancements and review the topics covered on the ATFUSA website.

 - a. Continue to develop a coaching committee with the purpose of pulling together on our Website all training and coaching videos and deliverables on the internet. The goal to have 1 place for our athletes and coaches to access topics by Para subject.
 - b. Continue to enhance the Officials corner to develop Level 2 training deliverables.
 - c. Develop additional Webinars for Coaches, Athletes, and Officials on specific Level 2 topics
7. **Meet Management:**

Implement the new SAMS.

 - a. Implement the program in 2024 meets.
 - b. Pay the final ~ \$1500.00 payment, receive the final version of the on-line software with all source code and instructions and upload the software to our server (Either ATFUSA or MU).
 - c. Agree to a contract to produce the Stand-alone version of SAMs 2, so a Meet Director can collect data during a meet if there is no Internet available.
 - d. Identify the simpler management screens for Level 1, and Level 2, meet's where all the Level 3 capabilities of SAM's 2 are not needed.
 - e. Develop electronic transfer mechanisms for Track/Field/Swimming input or results, to eliminate mistakes and improve Data import/export.
 - f. Develop import apps to allow for auto replacement of the Classification, Standards, and Record tables, as they change.
8. **Para Officials:**
 - a. Support the challenge to get to 400 ATFUSA Para certified Level 1 officials by the end of the Quad. 400 by 12/31/2024.
 - b. Organize and name Officials to qualified to attend the second USA WPA NTO course.
 - c. Continue the Para Official Evaluation process to rank the skill level of our Certified Officials.

- d. Create a Level 2 USATF certification course and test to prepare official to qualify for the NTO, once WPA has implemented the New NTO course.
- e. Create specific training and a webinar for USATF officials working sanctioned Road Race competition that include a Wheelchair and/or Para Ambulatory divisions so that if records are set we can feel confident that all rules and exceptions were followed.

9. ATFUSA Revenue:

- a. Continue to promote Equipment sales and other income opportunities.
- b. Maintain the Move United Memo of Understanding.
- c. Continue and expand to Sanction Road Events (Peachtree 10K and The BAA Para Events) and additional events.

10. High School:

- a. Look into modifying the Level 1 Officials course to address the simpler Ambulatory and Wheelchair High School divisions.
- b. Support the growth of States with Para Ambulatory Divisions when asked.
- c. Aid any state wishing to organize a Para Division.

11. Donations:

Give out the remaining Track chair which were purchased for Emerging athletes. Brian and Jim to make their recommendations.

12. Suggested ATFUSA Purchase:

The Chair is recommending we purchase a Total Station for Move United and use it at Nationals and possibly at other Major MU/ATFUSA sanctioned Meets. This will mean that we will need to hold education and cert courses to use this equipment. The Equipment cost would be in the \$3500.00 Range. This would include the unit, a heavy-duty tripod, the remote reflector, a PC tablet, a shipping case for the unit and accessories.

This report is respectfully submitted by;

Philip C. Galli, Jr.

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ATFUSA, Chairman