

# MTFOA NEWS

Volume 13 Issue 3

October 2005

## This & That

**MTFOA Directory**—as voted on at the last Eboard meeting the 2005 directory will be available at the October Annual Meeting. We were trying to update it and make it more complete, but unfortunately only around 1/3 of our members responded to our survey form. So given that fact it is not as up to date as we would have liked...Also, remember the newsletter only goes out via mail to individuals that request it—this newsletter is only being mailed because we (the Eboard) decided that everyone should get at least one per year via mail that had a list of all our upcoming meetings in it. (see page 4)...Also at our October meeting Rick Kates will have samples of our new jackets and news on new shirts. Also look for some information on special deals on BAA Marathon jackets “Don’t you just love a bargain?” Regarding rule books, usually the High School rule book is available at our December meeting and the NCAA book becomes available sometime in January. We will keep you posted here. Check page 2 for this years High School changes and check page 3 for more information on NCAA rules. Last spring several individuals mailed me checks for rule books and I was not able to get them out to them due to several pressing family issues. Rest assured we did not cash your checks...Also remember for questions regarding:

Dues collection & questions: Don Kirkland, P.O. Box 372, Derry NH 03038 phone (603) 432-5555

Applications & Testing of New Officials: Mike Meagher, 14 Starr Avenue, Andover Ma 01810 (write for information or follow direc-

tions on our web site)

MTFOA apparel: Rick Kates, P.O.Box 41, Pembroke, Ma 02359 phone (781) 706-3340

## —New Dues Policy—

As usual dues for the new year (2005-2006) are due at the October meeting. At last count there are still around 41 members that have not paid their dues for last year. Please remember if you have not pay your dues on time you are not be registered with the MIAA and eligible to officiate at any of the State meets this season. If you have not paid your dues for the 2004-05 send a check for \$45.00 made out to MTFOA to Don Kirkland P.O. Box 372, Derry NH 03038 for your 2004-2005 dues ASAP. Also keep in mind if you have not paid your dues then you are obviously not a MTFOA member in good standing and are officiating without any insurance...

## *REGGIE LEWIS TENTH ANNIVERSERY*

### *DINNER DANCE*

When: Saturday October 8, 2005

Where: Reggie Lewis Athletic Center

Price: Tickets are \$75/each which includes dinner, dancing, raffle, silent auction, & live entertainment with the band “Brass Force” for tickets and more information call RLAC (617) 541-2470

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (July 20, 2005) — At its June 27-28 annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Track and Field Rules Committee added a new rule requiring coaches to verify that their pole vault participants' equipment meets requirements prior to competition.

Rule 7-5-3 calls for a procedure that will ensure that the standard is met prior to participation at each meet, thereby reducing liability for coaches. Each state association will determine its own verification procedure.

“We’re enforcing this in the spirit of fair play. We want to reduce the risk of vaulting with an inappropriate pole,” said Cynthia Doyle, NFHS assistant director and liaison to the NFHS Track and Field Rules Committee.

In other changes, Rules 6-4-5, 6-4-8 and 6-5-1 were modified to require all references and diagrams to reflect one standard sector at 34.92 degrees for shot put and discus competitions, effective 2006-07. By having a common sector for the shot and discus, competitors will not have to guess which sector will be used for competition. The smaller, 34.92-degree sector requires better control of the implements, reduces risk to spectators and is easier to lay out for meet administrators.

“The NFHS questionnaire suggested we implement the change in sector,” said NFHS Track and Field Rules Committee Chairman Mike Colbrese, executive director of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association. “This minimizes risk to athletes and to spectators alike by encouraging good throwing technique and exerting better control.”

Although the sector is minimized, spectators will still be expected to keep their distance from the throwing area.

The committee also stressed the importance of marking curved lines for alley starts, using computerized chips in the absence of a finish judge, and measuring from the “zero point” in pole vault competition.

Track and field is the third-most popular sport among boys and the second-most popular sport among girls at the high school level with 923,123 combined participants during the 2003-04 season, according to the High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the NFHS. It also ranks second in school sponsorship for both boys and girls.

#### Points of Emphasis

- Marking the track for alley starts
- “Zero point” when measuring in the pole vault
- Using computerized chips in the absence of a Finish Judge

#### Editorial changes

- 2-1-6; 4-2-1; 4-2-3; 4-3-7; 5-6-4; 7-1-7; 7-4-10; 8-2-e

For more information on High School Rules you can visit their web site at: [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org) then click on Sports Rules and information, then click on Track and Field/Cross Country

**Massachusetts Track & Field Officials Association**

To whom it may concern,

Below is the information that you requested regarding joining The Massachusetts Track & Field Officials Association.

Our next meeting is schedule for December 1, 2005. There will be subsequent meetings on the first Thursday of the month during March, May and October. To become a member of MTFOA you must take and pass our entrance exam and pay our yearly dues. Our entrance exam is an open book, take-home, true-false test that consists of 100 questions based upon the National Federation (High School) rulebook. A passing score is 90 out of 100. Our fee structure is as follows:

Testing fee..... \$5.00 (payable when you send for the test)

Cost of High School rule book ..... \$5.00

Yearly MTFOA membership dues .....\$45.00 (payable after you take and pass the test)

*When you pay for the test you will be sent an exam, an answer sheet, and an application blank. (please note the rule book is another \$5.00) All of these materials (exam, answer sheet and application) must be sent back to me and postmarked within 21 days of the time I mailed them to you. (If I mailed them to you postmarked on November 24<sup>th</sup> your return postmark must be stamped December 15<sup>th</sup> or earlier) You will be notified within 21 days if you have passed the test or not. At that time an invitation to join the MTFOA will be extended to you (hopefully). This invitation will be good for six months. Payment of your dues entitles members to new HS & NCAA rulebooks each year and the HS case book each time it comes out (every other year). New members are also given a hat when they join the organization. Rulebooks & hats should be picked up at our membership meetings. Please make all checks payable to MTFOA.*

Feel free to call me if you have any questions regarding the above or on other matters relating to our organization.

Sincerely yours,

Mike Meagher  
14 Starr Avenue  
Andover, Ma 01810  
(781) 749-1308

**NCAA Rule Books**

Usually we get these sometime in January. I checked the NCAA's web site today (9/27/05) and was unable to find the 2006 updates. I am sure I will have them for the December Newsletter. If you are one of the few that requested it by mail you will get it by mail if not it will be available on line on our web site at the end of November. You can actually get the entire NCAA rule book on line and download it and print it's a lot of pages and a lot of ink. Anyway check the web site: [www.NCAA.org](http://www.NCAA.org) click on Sports then on any season and click on cross country or Track and Field. It does not matter if you click on men or women it's the same rule book. It is not available yet but keep checking it is the fastest way to get your book. I would guess that soon the NCAA may not even print the books. Although it would be hard to imagine that they would pass up a money making operation such as the rule books.

**MASSACHUSETTS TRACK & FIELD OFFICIALS  
ASSOCIATION**

Massachusetts Track & Field Officials Association  
14 Stagecoach Road  
Hingham, Ma 02043

Phone: 781-749-1308

Email: throwfar99@hotmail.com

Visit our web site @  
[www.mtfoa.com](http://www.mtfoa.com)



John P. Buckley  
14 Stagecoach Road  
Hingham, Ma 02043  
Email—throwfar99@hotmail.com

*Upcoming events:*

*October 6, 2005—7:00pm MTFOA Annual Membership  
Meeting @ Reggie Lewis Center, Roxbury, Mass.*

*December 1, 2005—7:00pm MTFOA Membership Meeting  
@ Reggie Lewis Center; Roxbury, Mass.*

*March 2, 2006—7:00pm MTFOA Membership Meeting @  
Reggie Lewis Center; Roxbury, Mass.*

*May 4, 2006—Cancelled*

*E-Board Meetings (E-Board members only 6:30pm  
start)—9/22/05, 11/17/05, 2/9/06, 4/13/06*