

Meeting Minutes – CYO Track Coaches Off-Season Meeting
December 3, 2008

Meeting held at St. Ignatius Hilvert Center

Representatives from 19 CYO Track Teams were in attendance. Also attending were Jim Kalla, Retired CYO Track Commissioner; Pat Conlon – CYO Track; and Joe Coors CYO Track Program Coordinator/Technology Coordinator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Jim Kalla.

Jim Kalla shared the sad news about Mr. Barry Gudenkauf who passed away on October 31, 2008. Barry was the announcer for the CYO Track Meet, the Sacred Heart Track Meet and the Queen of Peace Track Meet. Barry was a good friend and a loyal supporter of CYO Track. He will be missed.

CYO Track Leadership - A change in the leadership of CYO Track was announced by Jim Kalla. When the 2008 CYO Track Season ended, Jim Kalla retired as the CYO Track Commissioner. A new commissioner, Mr. Bill Wunderlich, was chosen to take over the job. Unfortunately Bill has experienced increased work demands and he will not be able to have the time necessary to devote to the role of CYO Track Commissioner. Therefore the role of CYO Track Commissioner is and will remain unfilled. The leadership for CYO Track will now come from the CYO Track Board. The purpose of the CYO Track Board will be to set direction for CYO Track, to review and approve the CYO Track Meet schedule, to review and administer any rule changes or major administrative changes for CYO Track, to act on any protests and disciplinary issues, to provide visible leadership for CYO Track, and to liaison with CYO. The members of the 2009 CYO Track Board are:

Jim Waters – Board President – Coordinator, St. Ignatius Track
Maureen Scheiner – Coordinator, St. Catharine Track
Beth Juszyck – Coordinator, St. Susannah Track
Len Carrarher – Coordinator, Assumption/Our Lady of Grace Track
Joe Stelzer – Coordinator, Mariemont Track
Steve Ruwe – Coordinator, Mother Teresa CES Track
Joe Coors – CYO Track Prgram Coordinator / Technology Coordinator
Pat Conlon – CYO Track
Jim Kalla – CYO Track, Retired CYO Track Commissioner

Review of 2008 CYO Track Season – In 2008 we held six invitational meets and the CYO City Championship Meet. The average number of athletes attending these meets was between 1200 and 1400 each weekend. In 2008 we introduced and used meet management software at all of our meets. In 2008 we increased the entry fee from \$2 to \$3 per athlete – the first increase in entry fees in over 15 years. Fifty cents (\$0.50) of each entry fee went to the CYO Track Technology Fund for the purchase of computers, printers and meet management software used at our meets. In 2008 we implemented one rule change. This rule change now allows a team/school to enter an unlimited number of athletes per event with the stipulation that only the top two finishing members of a team/school in an event would be eligible for any finals, to win awards for the event, and to be included in team/school scoring for that event. Similarly, this change allowed a team/school to enter an unlimited number of relay teams in a relay event with the stipulation that only the top finishing relay team for a team/school would be eligible for awards and scoring for that relay event.

2008 CYO City Championship Meet – Unfortunately the CYO City Meet ended on a “sour” note. The Boys 7th/8th Grade portion of the City Meet abruptly ended at 11:00 PM by order of the Green Township Police in accordance with an ordinance about the cessation of athletic activities at LaSalle High School by 11:00 PM. This resulted in the cancellation of the 200 M Dash and the 1600 M Relay events for the 7th/8th grade boys. Delays throughout the day were caused by problems with the meet management software and other circumstances. We apologize to everybody about these delays – it was a really long day! The CYO Track Board will be reviewing options for the 2009 City Championship Meet.

CYO Track Technology Fund / Meet Mangement Software – As noted above, with the monies collected from the \$0.50 surcharge in the entry fees, we purchased 2 laptop computer, 2 laser printers and 2 copies of the Meet Management Software for use at our track meets. The purchase of a sophisticated timing device is being considered for the future but not for the 2009 season. We are committed to the continued use of the meet management software for our meets. The software provides consistent and accurate results and helps us enforce eligibility guidelines at our meets. During 2008 we experienced “growing pains” with this software. A review by the

7 meet directors from 2008 has resulted in the following suggestions – the development of operating guidelines to be followed at all meets (to include standardization of reporting meet results), hands-on training for meet directors on the set-up and operation of the meet management software prior to the start of the 2009 track meet season, and potential training session for 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade track coaches on how to fill-out and submit pre-meet team registrations. Joe Coors also encouraged that we consider training some of our people on the activities done by the starter at our meets.

2009 CYO Track Schedule -

The Official Start Date for CYO Track Practice will be Monday, March 2, 2009 (1st day of coaching – conditioning is allowed before this date). Easter Weekend will be April 10-12; no meets are to be scheduled on this weekend.

Available meet weekends for 2009 and tentative meet assignments are:

- Friday/Saturday – March 20/21
- Friday/Saturday – March 27/28
- Friday/Saturday – April 3 / 4 (Sat – St. Catharine K-6)
- Friday/Saturday – April 10/11 – EASTER – NO MEETS
- Friday/Saturday – April 17/18
- Friday/Saturday – April 24/25 (Fri – St. Catharine 7/8)
- Friday/Saturday – May 1 / 2 (Sacred Heart – Fairfield HS) (East/West Meet)
- Friday/Saturday – May 8/9 (Queen of Peace – Ross High School)
- Friday/Saturday – May 15/16 (CYO City Championship Meet)

This schedule WILL CHANGE – conflicts need to be worked. Note concerning St. Catharine – they want to hold either a K-6 meet or a 7/8 meet; they are looking for another team/school to partner with them on one of the weekends. It was once again mentioned that the option of multiple meets on the same weekend is a possibility – these meets could be set up by division or by location (east side of town and west side of town).

The CYO Track Organizational Meeting will be scheduled during the week of February 9, 2009 – watch for an announcement of this meeting on the CYO Track Bulletin Board web-site (<http://cincyotrack.4t.com>).

Neighboring Parish Rule – Over the last four years, the number of teams/schools sponsoring CYO Track teams has decreased. What we are now seeing are more teams comprised of athletes from multiple parishes. In 2008, 14 of the 34 teams/schools had athletes from neighboring parishes.

In order for a member of a neighboring parish to participate on a CYO parish-sponsored team in a sport the following conditions must be met: (1) the athlete must be a registered member of a Catholic parish, (2) the athlete's parish must not be sponsoring a CYO team in the respective sport, and (3) the neighboring parish wanting to accept the athlete on their CYO sponsored team must apply in writing and get approval from CYO each year to allow the athlete to be on their team for that sport.

For the 2009 Track Season, all requests for athletes to participate on a CYO Track team under the neighboring parish policy must be submitted by March 20, 2009 – prior to the start of the 2009 CYO Track Meet season. Watch the CYO Track Bulletin Board web-site (<http://cincyotrack.4t.com>) for more on this subject.

CYO Track Bulletin Board Web-Site – the CYO Track Bulletin Board web-site (<http://cincyotrack.4t.com>) will continue in operation with Joe Coors assuming the role as web-master.

Open Session – Questions

Paul McDonald, SMAC, requested that all 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade meets adopt the policy to have boys and girls running events be done concurrently and not have them run as girls first while boys do field events and vice versa. After much discussion (much of it concerning the problems with high jump) it was noted that the decision to either do running events concurrently for boys and girls at these grade levels or the other way can be dependent on location situations and this decision will continue to be at the discretion of each meet director.

Dan Jester, St. James White Oak, suggested that the opening height for the high jump for 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade be increased by 2 inches to help speed up this event. This suggested rule change will be reviewed by the CYO Track Board and, if deemed appropriate, it will be published for review and comment before a vote is taken on it at the February, 2009 CYO Track Organizational Meeting.

Lesley Marsh, St. Gertrude, suggested that a phone network be established for use in situations where last-minute cancellations/postponements can quickly be shared to all the team coordinators. This suggestion will be reviewed

by the CYO Board and if appropriate it will be published for review and comment before a vote is taken on it at the February, 2009 CYO Track Organizational Meeting.

Lesley Marsh, St. Gertrude, asked that consideration be given to awarding individual trophies for the 1st place team members at the CYO City Championship Meet – similar to what is being done for other CYO sports. She also asked if CYO designed T-shirts could be made available to 1st place teams at the CYO City Championship Meet – again similar to what is being done for other CYO sports. These suggestions will be reviewed by the CYO Track Board and reported back on at the February, 2009 CYO Track Organizational Meeting.

Lesley Marsh, St. Gertrude, asked for a review of the NO SPIKES rule for CYO Track. She and others are requesting that spiked shoes be allowed at the 7th/8th grade level. This suggested rule change will be reviewed by the CYO Track Board and, if deemed appropriate, it will be published for review and comment before a vote is taken on it at the February, 2009 CYO Track Organizational Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Kalla.