



**USAT Paratriathlon Committee Minutes**  
**2/25/13**

1. Welcome and introductions
  - a. Keri Schindler
    - i. Chicago
    - ii. Executive director of Dare2Tri
  - b. Amanda Duke
    - i. High performance paratriathlon program manager
  - c. Jack Weiss
    - i. Texas
    - ii. USAT board of directors and treasurer
  - d. Mike Lenhart
    - i. Atlanta
    - ii. Founder of Getting2Tri
    - iii. Committee chair
  - e. Eric Averill
    - i. Massachusetts
    - ii. Race director
  - f. Deanna Babcock
    - i. North Carolina
    - ii. Paratriathlete, USAT L1 coach
  - g. Chris Baker
    - i. Idaho
    - ii. Owns coaching company and soon to begin doctorate in neurology specializing in adaptive running mechanics
  - h. Jason Fowler
    - i. Paratriathlete
  - i. Ami Cole
    - i. New York
    - ii. USAT official
  - j. Travis Ricks
    - i. Challenged athletes foundation program manager
  - k. Kim Romanchuk
    - i. MD, teacher, mother of young paratriathlete
  - l. Patricia Walsh
    - i. Paratriathlete
2. Committee structure
  - a. Chair
    - i. Mike is chair
    - ii. New chair to be approved by USAT CEO / USAT board, so if you don't like Mike as chair, speak up
  - b. Vice chair
    - i. Role is to work with Mike and help oversee subcommittees as needed
    - ii. Kari is our newly appointed vice chair

- c. Secretary
    - i. Role is to take notes during various meetings
    - ii. Notes to be posted to public
    - iii. Deanna is newly appointed secretary
  - d. Treasurer
    - i. Do we need one?
    - ii. Would help track actual vs. planned expenditures to make sure we are spending our allotted funds as planned and in a timely manner
      - 1. Amanda already basically does this, and Mike helps manage expenditures
      - 2. Was decided that Amanda can send monthly spending reports to coincide with our conference calls so that whole committee can review expenditures and make sure we're on track
    - iii. We will not have an official treasurer
  - e. Terms for chair, vice chair, secretary
    - i. Informally decided to be two years
    - ii. Individuals are encouraged to vacate positions if they are unable to carry out duties for any reason
    - iii. Amanda proposes re-elections to be held every two years, with individuals eligible to return to their former appointment if they so choose
  - f. Terms for committee members
    - i. Also no set term
    - ii. Individuals are encouraged to remain on committee as long as they can serve enthusiastically and effectively
    - iii. Persons are free to leave should they face any time conflicts
    - iv. Persons can be discretionarily removed from committee if their effectiveness becomes diminished
3. Review of 2013 goals and budget
- a. Was submitted and approved in full by USAT board of directors
  - b. Increased budget relative to last year
  - c. Can be viewed under "2013 USA Paratriathlon Committee goals and budget"
  - d. Key planned efforts for 2013
    - i. Paratriathlon "Meet and Greet" at USAT Paratriathlon National Championship
    - ii. Outreach, Education and Communications
      - 1. Outreach to facilities to discover talent
      - 2. Education of race directors and officials
    - iii. Development of USAT clubs' programs with paratriathlon focus.
    - iv. Regional Paratriathlon Development Grants Program.
    - v. Development of paratriathlon friendly race applications
4. Subcommittee assignments
- a. 5 main subcommittees are points i-v above under "key planned efforts for 2013"
    - i. Hope to assign 2 committee members to each subcommittee
    - ii. Each subcommittee has its own specific goals and budget
  - b. We can add more subcommittees as needed / desired
5. Alignment with USAT regions and responsibilities
- a. There are 10 USAT regions
  - b. Each committee member should contact their regional board in order to have open communications and be of service
    - i. Regional chair is technically responsible for being the liaison with our committee

- ii. In regions where there is a dedicated paratriathlon chair, it may be more appropriate to liaison with that person
  - c. Regional groups are responsible for grassroots legwork, committee members are to serve in a support role
  - d. We will possibly schedule a 30 minute call with regional representatives from each council for our next conference call
- 6. Austin (USA Paratriathlon National Championship)
  - a. Serves also as our mid-year meeting. Gentle reminder to be aware of potential conflicts of interest and come ready to work.
  - b. Classification
    - i. Will almost certainly be “national,” not “international”.
      - 1. Can only have international classification at ITU races
      - 2. If only national classifications, athletes traveling to ITU races who have not yet been internationally classified will have to make a classification appointment
        - a. International first-time classification should not be problematic as national and international classification groups are functionally the same.
    - ii. If San Diego is ITU sanctioned, there will be an opportunity for international classification there
    - iii. In 2014, ITU will launch new a new international classification system and everyone (regardless of current classification status) will have to be re-classified
- 7. Administrative (shirt sizes, etc.)
  - a. Everyone should have already sent shirt sizes to Mike
- 8. Open issues and questions from the Committee members
  - a. Prosthetic liners during swim
    - i. Travis say’s it’s A-ok.
    - ii. Liners should be less thick than wetsuits
  - b. the PC open category
    - i. offered at Austin and in general at various races
      - 1. Athletes in PC open at Austin are not eligible for awards
      - 2. awards at other races are at the discretion of the RD
    - ii. Is meant to be a “catch-all” for athletes who have not yet met time standards, athletes who cannot be officially classified in our existing categories, and visually-impaired athletes who do not wish to compete wearing blackout glasses
    - iii. Is NOT meant to be a free-for-all with regards to equipment
      - 1. All individuals are encouraged to compete using equipment that is approved for one of the current PC categories
      - 2. However, athletes can mix-and-match
        - a. For example, a leg amputee could ride an upright bicycle on the bike and use a push-chair on the run
        - b. However, an athlete could not ride a recumbent bicycle on the bike because recumbent bikes are prohibited
      - 3. Some race directors will be more or less stringent on the rules above, but we should educate race directors about the purpose of the PC open category

- iv. Bottom line: PC open category can only be free-for-all equipment-wise to the extent that all athletes are competing using safe, legal equipment – but this should be better defined
    - c. Are regional paratriathlon championships required to be officially designated as “PC friendly?”
      - i. not yet
      - ii. likely moving towards this in the future
- 9. Next meeting scheduled for March 18 at 8 pm EST