



MASTERS LDR HISTORY

Editor
Bill Quinlisk

Copyright Bill Quinlisk ©2020

USA Track & Field is the National Governing Body for Track and Field, Long Distance Running and Race Walking, and is the United States member of World Athletics



Goal:

This history will focus on the origins and development of the Masters Long Distance Running Sports Committee of USA Track & Field (USATF).

Definitions:

Athletics: includes track and field, long-distance running, cross-country running, race-walking, and mountain, ultra, & trail running.

“Master”: The word **“Master”** was first introduced in the 1960’s to describe track races open to runners ages 40+. It appears that the choice of age 40 as the cut-off for masters was arbitrary at first. Later, the age 40 cut-off became part of the American culture. When the master concept expanded to road racing, often just one award was given to the top male runner age 40+. By the late 1960’s, as the road running boom began and as the baby boomer generation turned 40, the 40+ division proved so popular that women and additional age divisions were added. San Diego lawyer David Pain was instrumental in beginning ‘master mile’ races for runners 40+. With pioneers like the San Diego Track Club and Cornell professor Jim Hartshorne in Ithaca, NY, master events were soon springing up all over the US. David and his travel-agent wife Helen organized a European racing tour for over 100 US and Canadian master runners in the early 1970’s thus jump-starting the worldwide master movement. At first, these categories grouped runners in 10-year age increments, e.g., ages 40-49, ages 50-59, ages 60-69, etc. Later the age divisions were sub-divided into 5-year increments. Descriptive titles like “Sub-Master”, “Master”, “Veteran” and “Super-Veteran”, developed for the age categories but only the “Master” nomenclature has stuck. By 1975, these age groupings were used at the first World Masters Championship for both stadia (Track & Field) and non-stadia (Road Racing and Cross Country) events and have been used ever since. World and U.S. Masters Track and Field continue to lower the defining age for Masters to well below age 40. U.S. Masters Long Distance Running including cross country has resisted that movement and has stayed with the culturally-defined age 40 cut off.

Masters Long Distance Running (LDR): the Sports Committee of USATF that has jurisdiction for all off track running and all track running over 10,000m for masters (ages 40+) men and women. Off track running exceeding the marathon distance falls under the authority of the USATF Mountain/Ultra/Trail Running Council. All cross country running falls under the jurisdiction of the USATF Cross Country Running Council.

USA Track & Field (USATF): the governing body for Athletics in the United States.

Master Athletics Governance History:

Amateur Athletic Union (AAU, 1887-1979): On January 30, 1878, rower and runner William B. Curtis founded what became the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) in New York City. The name was formally adopted in 1887. The AAU governed the sport of athletics, among other sports, until 1979, when the first Amateur Sports Act decreed that the AAU could no longer hold international franchises for more than one sport.

Interessen-Gemeinschaft Alterer Langstreckenlaufer (IGAL): Translated from the German as “Partnership of Older Long Distance Runners”. IGAL formed in 1968 to organize and promote non-stadia events (i.e., road races) for Masters.

International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF): is the international governing body for the sport of athletics, covering track and field, cross country running, road running, race walking, mountain running and ultra-running. Included in its charge are the standardization of rules and regulations for the sports, recognition and management of world records, and the organization and sanctioning of athletics competitions, including the World Athletics Championships. In 2019 the name was changed to **World Athletics**.

The Athletics Congress (TAC, 1979-1992): The Athletics Congress became fully operational as the governing body for Athletics in the U.S. in late 1979 with its first annual meeting, conducted in Las Vegas in conjunction with that year's AAU Convention. A constitutional convention was held in Dallas/Fort Worth in 1980. The first stand-alone annual meeting of TAC occurred in Atlanta, Georgia, in late fall of 1980.

USA Track & Field (USATF, 1992-present): In 1992, the TAC name was changed to USA Track & Field (USATF) to increase recognition for the organization and the sport of Athletics in the United States.

World Association of Veteran Athletes (WAVA, 1977-2001): The worldwide governing body for the sport of master athletics, including track & field, road running and cross country, for athletes ages 35 and older.

World Masters Athletics (WMA, 2001-present): WAVA was renamed WMA in 2001. The organization sanctions worldwide master events and provides age specific rule modifications to the rules of the sport set by Open Athletics worldwide governing body, the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF). IAAF was renamed World Athletics in 2019.

A short history of the beginnings of Masters Track & Field 1968 to 1971 can be found at:

<http://mastershistory.org/a-history-of-masters-track-and-field-1968-to-1971/>

Bill Quinlisk has created a new website primarily for U.S. Masters Cross Country results and data at:

<https://mastersxc.com/>

This website also contains additional history, statistics and best practice documents relating to all Masters LDR.

Masters Long Distance Running Governance History

Opinions expressed are from Bill Quinlisk.

Thanks to Carole Langenbach for providing much of the early history.

Annual meeting sites and the governing bodies are highlighted in **BOLD**.

1974 and prior: Masters Athletics, which included both Masters Track & Field and Masters Long Distance Running was a sub-committee of the Open Track & Field Sport Committee within the national governing body – the **Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)**. Ken Bernard was Chair of the Masters sub-committee in 1973. Bob Fine took over in 1974. The first unofficial U.S. Masters Track & Field Championships was held in San Diego in 1968 with the first official championships held in Eugene, Oregon in 1974. In 1971 the Ft. Stanwix 13-mile road race in Rome, NY became the earliest road race in the world to offer awards for all Master age groups.

1975-1976: The first World Veterans Track & Field Championships was held in Toronto, Canada in the summer of 1975 with 35 nations competing and was scheduled to continue as a biennial event. In the U.S. Masters Athletics became their own standing sports committee within the **AAU**. Bob Fine served as Chair. Open Women's LDR became a separate sports committee within the AAU. Masters (40+) Women's LDR was recognized for the first time. Ruth Anderson served as Chair of the new Master Women's LDR sub-committee of Master Athletics.

1976-1977: Masters Athletics was divided into two separate sports committees within the **AAU** at their 1976 annual meeting in **Phoenix, AR**. Bob Fine continued as the new Masters T&F Chair while it is believed that Ken Bernard was chosen as the new Masters LDR Chair (minutes missing). The first issue of *National Masters News*, a quarterly newsletter, was published in Lansford, PA in the summer of 1977 with Ed Gildea as editor. The World Veterans Athletic Association (WVAA) was formalized in 1977 in Gothenburg, Sweden at the Veterans Track & Field World Championships with Canada's Don Farquharson as President and Bob Fine as the North America representative. The short-lived Masters Sports Association was formed in New York City as an organization that just sponsored events, not athletes or teams or clubs, with Bob Fine as President.

1977-1978: The U.S. Congress passed the Amateur Sports Act of 1978 on November 8th, thereby breaking up the all-sport monopoly of the AAU. At the 1977 **AAU** annual meeting in **Columbus, OH**, Bob Fine was elected to continue as the Masters T&F Chair while it is believed that Ken Bernard was chosen to continue as the Masters LDR Chair.

1978-1979: In July, 1979 in Hanover, West Germany, at the World Veterans Track & Field Championships, the World Veterans Athletic Association (WVAA) voted to become the World Association of Veteran Athletes (WAVA). At the 1978 **AAU** annual meeting in **San Antonio, TX**, the Masters LDR Committee resisted a merger with the Masters T&F Committee. Bob Fine and Wendell Miller were elected as co-Chairs for Masters T&F while Ken Bernard was elected Chair of Masters LDR. Californian Al Sheahan took over as editor of *National Masters News*, though the paper was still published in Pennsylvania. In August of 1979, the IAAF approved the Athletics Congress (TAC) as the governing body for Athletics in the U.S. following the breakup of the AAU.

1979-1980: The Athletic Congress (TAC), the new governing body for Athletics in the U.S. first met at the 1979 annual meeting of the **AAU** in **Las Vegas, NV**. In the initial structuring of the organization, the TAC created an over-riding Masters Athletics Sports Committee despite a vote from Masters LDR to stay separate from Masters T&F. This structural issue was to be re-examined at the TAC constitutional convention scheduled for July, 1980 in Dallas, TX. In the interim Ken Bernard was elected as Chair of the Masters LDR sub-committee with Ruth Anderson elected as the Vice-Chair. Wendell Miller was elected as Chair of the Masters T&F sub-committee. Bob Fine was elected Chair of the Masters Athletics sports committee of the TAC. George

Vernosky was elected as Treasurer for both sub-committees. In February, 1980, *National Masters News* moved their publishing headquarters to Fresno, CA. There were eight national Master LDR Championships held in 1979; two were cross country events and six were road events. There were an additional two ultra-road events.

1980-1981: After the July, 1980, TAC constitutional convention in Dallas, TX, the **TAC** held their first stand-alone meetings in **Atlanta, GA** in the late fall of 1980. Masters T&F and Masters LDR were formally split into two separate sport committees. Ken Bernard was elected as Masters LDR Chair with Bob Boal chosen as Men's Vice-Chair and Jo Lacetera chosen as Women's Vice-Chair. Jim Weed was selected as Masters T&F Chair with Ron Salvio and Joanne Grissom picked as Vice-Chairs; George Vernosky as Treasurer and Jerome Perry as Secretary. The Masters LDR Committee heard reports from the seven road race and three cross country national Master LDR Championships held in 1980. The WAVA T&F Championships were held in Christchurch, New Zealand in January, 1981. The 14th annual IGAL Master Road championships were held in conjunction with the WAVA track event.

1981-1982: At the 1981 **TAC** annual meeting in **Reno, NV**, Bob Boal was elected as Masters LDR Chair with Bob Fine and Mary Cullen as Vice-Chairs, Jerome Perry as Secretary and George Vernosky as Treasurer. Jim Weed was re-elected as Chair of Masters T&F with Jerry Donley as Secretary. There were nine national Master LDR Championships held in 1981: three cross country events and six road races.

1982-1983: The 1982 **TAC** annual meeting was held in **Philadelphia, PA**, with Bob Boal, Mary Cullen, Bob Fine and Jerome Perry re-elected to their respective offices for Masters LDR. As you have probably realized, these were only one-year terms of office. No Treasurer is listed but George Vernosky was named to head up the Budget and Audit sub-committee. Jim Weed was once again elected as Chair of Masters T&F. There were a record-setting eleven national Master LDR Championships held in 1982: three cross country events and eight road races. The WAVA T&F Championships were held in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

1983-1984: At the 1983 **TAC** annual meeting in **Indianapolis, IN**, Bob Boal, Bob Fine, Jerome Perry and George Vernosky were re-elected to the same officers' positions for Masters LDR. Carole Langenbach replaced Mary Cullen as Women's Vice-Chair. Jerry Donley was elected Masters T&F Chair with Al Sheahen chosen as their Secretary/Treasurer. The National Officials Committee was formed. Longtime Masters LDR Secretary Jerome Perry would later move to serve on the Officials Committee. Another record was set with twelve national Master LDR Championships held in 1983. Once again there were three cross country events and a record nine road races. Both Masters T&F and Masters LDR chose to support the IAAF ban against South Africa and their apartheid policies and voted against the bid by South Africa to host the 1987 WAVA Championships.

1984-1985: The IAAF met with WAVA to announce the formation of an IAAF Veterans Committee. Canadian Don Farquaharson wrote a complete report for the January 1985 issue of *National Masters News*. Ollan Cassell appointed Bob Boal to be the U.S. Representative to this new body. As of 1990 the TAC general membership elected this representative. The WAVA T&F Championships were held in June 1985 in Rome, Italy. The 17th Annual IGAL Road Championships (10k and Marathon) were held in conjunction with the 1984 **TAC** annual meeting in **San Diego, CA** on Dec. 1st and 2nd. All incumbents were re-elected for both Masters T&F and LDR Committees. Budgets were approved for the two Masters Committees. Each received \$20,450. Masters LDR Chair Bob Boal appointed a Championships Guidelines sub-committee. Eleven national Master LDR Championships were held in 1984: three cross country events and eight road events.

1985-1986: With Jerome Perry moving over to the Officials Committee and Bob Fine moving up in the TAC organization, Carole Langenbach was elected to the Masters LDR Secretary's position. Ruth Anderson and Charles DesJardins were chosen as Vice-Chairs for the Masters LDR Committee at **TAC's** 1985 annual meeting in **Houston, TX**. Masters LDR meeting minutes were inexplicably missing from the Jan. 1986 issue of *NMN*. Phil Benson was appointed to Chair a new sub-committee to develop Championship Guidelines after the previous sub-committee fell short. Donley and Sheahen continued in their officers roles for Masters T&F. A

record-tying twelve national Master LDR Championships were held in 1985: three cross country events and nine road events.

1986-1987: All incumbent Masters LDR officers were elected to newly approved 2-year terms at the 1986 **TAC** annual meeting in **Tampa, FL**. (Boal, Anderson, DesJardins, Vernosky and Langenbach) The WAVA T&F Championships were held in November of 1987 in Melbourne, Australia. Cesare Beccalli was elected President of WAVA. IGAL voted to merge with WAVA with a promise that WAVA would continue separate Master road championships. Jerry Donley was re-elected to a new 2-year term as Chair of Masters T&F. The other Masters T&F officers were appointed. As in 1983 and 1985, there were once again twelve national Master LDR Championships held in 1986: three cross country and nine road events.

1987-1988: Kirk Randall and Ruth Anderson presented nominations for Masters LDR age group runners of the year awards at the 1987 annual meeting of **TAC** in **Honolulu, Hawaii**. Phil Benson was appointed Championships Coordinator under the newly approved Guidelines. A Masters LDR Operating Procedures amendment gave the LDR Executive Committee authority to award championships for distances not bid on at the convention. Reps were appointed to the Ultra Committee to evaluate any Masters Ultra Championship bids and report back to the Masters LDR Committee for acceptance. Norm Green volunteered to produce a “log of champions” to include all age division winners at our championship events since 1979. The budget for 1988 was \$16,500. A new record for the number of national Master LDR Championships was set in 1987. There were thirteen events including ten road races held ranging in distance from one mile to the full marathon and an additional three cross country events.

1988-1989: At the 1988 **TAC** annual meeting in **Phoenix, AR**. Charles DesJardins was elected to a 2-year term as the new Chair of Masters LDR. Kirk Randall and Ruth Anderson were elected Vice-Chairs. Vernosky and Langenbach were re-elected Treasurer and Secretary respectively. Norm Green presented the first Masters LDR year-end championship statistical summary. A budget of \$14,000 was approved. Lynn Cannon from the USOC informed TAC Masters that they must stop using the word “Olympics” to name their championship events. Specifically, the “Senior Olympics” based in St. Louis has changed to the “Senior Games”. A proposal from ICI was presented to host a Masters Championship Circuit. The Masters LDR Executive Committee was directed to negotiate the terms to begin the ICI Circuit in 1990. The Masters LDR Committee held its first Executive Committee meeting independent of the TAC annual meeting when it met in late July, 1989 in Eugene, OR at the WAVA T&F Championships. All elected officers attended. There were twelve national Master LDR Championships held in 1988: three cross country and nine road events.

1989-1990: All TAC sports committees were allotted \$15,000 budgets regardless of requests at the 1989 **TAC** annual meeting in **Washington, D.C.** In a contested election Barbara Kousky was elected Chair of Masters T&F over David Pain. All other Masters T&F officers were appointed. Marilyn Mitchell replaced Al Sheahan as Secretary. The Masters LDR Executive Committee had two separate meetings in 1990: January in Naples, FL and Indianapolis, IN in August. Masters LDR began assigning Liaisons to all Masters LDR Championships. There were a record-tying thirteen national Master LDR Championships held in 1989: ten road race events and an additional three cross country events.

1990-1991: All incumbent Masters LDR officers were re-elected to 2-year terms at the 1990 **TAC** annual meeting in **Seattle, WA**. Bob Boal won the election to continue as the US Rep. to the IAAF Veteran’s Committee defeating Jerry Donley and Bob Fine. Kirk Randall was appointed to replace Phil Benson as Championships Coordinator. A budget of \$25,000 was approved for 1991. A new rule passed to allow TAC members who are resident aliens to win medals at National Masters Championships. The first printed version of Guidelines for Masters LDR Championships was published and distributed in May, 1991. The Masters LDR Executive Committee met in Blaine, MN in March, 1991 and in St. Paul, MN in October, 1991. Several championship bids were not renewed for 1990 leading to the lowest total number of national Master LDR Championship events held. There were only four road events and the usual three cross country events held in 1990.

1991-1992: TAC President Frank Greenberg attended the Masters LDR meeting at the 1991 TAC annual meeting in **New Orleans, LA** to gather opinions regarding a name change for TAC. The Committee requested that any new name reflect the component sports within the organization: i.e., Track, Field, Race Walking, Cross Country, Ultra and LDR. A Committee budget of \$22,500 was approved for 1992. Barb Kousky was re-elected Chair of Masters T&F. Honoring their promise to IGAL made at the time of their merger, the first WAVA Road Championships were held in Birmingham, England in August, 1992. The Masters LDR Executive Committee met in March, 1992 in Boston, MA at the IAAF World Cross Country Championships. For the first time ever at an IAAF Open World event, a Veterans (i.e., Masters 40+) race was included in the program. The Executive Committee also met once again on Twin Cities Marathon weekend in October in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN. Under Kirk Randall's leadership there was an incremental rise in the number of national Master LDR Championships held in 1991 compared to 1990. In 1991 there were three cross country and six road events for a total of nine championships compared to only seven in 1990.

1992-1993: TAC was officially renamed "**USA Track & Field**" at the 1992 annual meeting in **Louisville, KY**. All incumbent Masters LDR officers were re-elected except Jerry Crockett replaced Kirk Randall as VP for Men. A budget of \$30,000 was approved. A motion was passed to amend the Masters LDR Championship procedures to allow the race director to eliminate team competition after consultation with the Liaison if deemed appropriate. The Masters LDR Executive Committee met in March in Boston, MA; the site of the IAAF Veterans XC Classic. Four members of the Executive Committee won medals in their age groups; Kirk Randall – 2nd 50-54, Ruth Anderson – 1st 60-64, George Vernosky – 1st 60-64 and Bob Boal – 3rd 75-79. The Executive Committee also met at the 10k Championship site in Oklahoma City, OK, in September. The WAVA T&F Championships were held in Miyazaki, Japan in October, 1993. 1992 saw a return to twelve national Master LDR Championships with a record four cross country events and an additional eight road events.

1993-1994: A budget of \$34,000 was approved at the 1993 **USATF** annual meeting in **Las Vegas, NV**. Barb Kousky was re-elected as Chair of Masters T&F. The Masters LDR Executive Committee met at the Washington, DC site of the Cherry Blossom 10 Miler in April and again on Twin Cities Marathon weekend in October in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN. The Executive Committee met with Cherry Blossom race management to discuss possible future championship bids while once again the Twin Cities Marathon served as the Masters National Championships. There were a total of eleven national Master LDR Championships held in 1993 under the new USATF banner: three cross country races were held and eight road events.

1994-1995: The Masters LDR Sports Committee re-elected all incumbent officers at the 1994 **USATF** annual meeting in **St. Louis, MO**. (DesJardins, Anderson, Crockett, Vernosky and Langenbach) Bob Boal was re-elected U.S. delegate to the IAAF Veteran's Committee. Chuck DesJardins was confirmed as a member of the IAAF Veteran's Committee. Masters LDR voted to present an annual award to the top Master Ultra runners. An updated Masters LDR Championship Guidelines booklet was distributed. Masters T&F restructured their election process to conform to their Bylaw changes. There will be four officers elected (instead of one) to 2-year terms in even-numbered years. Barb Kousky was re-elected Chair. A 9-member Masters T&F Executive Committee was created. Masters T&F and Masters LDR jointly appointed Marilyn Mitchell to complete the Masters Hall of Fame project proposal. The WAVA T&F Championships were held in Buffalo, NY in July, 1995. National Masters News moved offices to Eugene, OR due to earthquake damage in southern California. The Masters LDR Executive Committee met at their 5k Championships in Carlsbad, CA in early May and again at their Marathon Championships in Minneapolis/St. Paul in October. There were eight national Master LDR Championships held in 1994 including three cross country events and five road races.

1995-1996: The 1995 **USATF** annual meeting was held in **Atlanta, GA** where once again a budget for \$34,000 was approved. The Masters LDR Ultra sub-committee was discontinued as of 1996 in anticipation of creation of a new, independent USATF Ultra Committee. Norm Green presented a draft proposal for a Masters LDR Road Circuit. USATF accepted the Masters LDR Road Circuit proposal in October, 1996 and the Masters LDR Indy Life Running Circuit was slated to begin in 1997 managed by Charles DesJardins. Twin Cities Marathon was

awarded another 5-year bid to host the Masters LDR Marathon Championships through 2000. The Masters LDR Executive Committee once again met at their 5k Championships in Carlsbad, CA in March and at their Marathon Championships in Minneapolis/St. Paul in October. There were only seven national Master LDR Championships held in 1995 including three cross country events and four road races.

1996-1997: Marilyn Mitchell distributed ballots for the inaugural class of the Masters Hall of Fame just prior to the 1996 annual meeting of **USATF in San Francisco, CA**. Seven individuals were elected including Master LDR greats: Norm Green, Ruth Anderson, Toshiko D'Elia and Miki Gorman. Others elected were Payton Jordan, Irene Obera and Beverly LaVeck. The USATF Executive Committee voted not to renew the contract of longtime Executive Director Ollan Cassell. Masters T&F elected Ken Weinbel as their new Chair by a one vote margin over incumbent Barb Kousky. The Masters LDR Indy Life Circuit with \$50,000 in sponsorship money set aside for series prize money was scheduled to begin in 1997 with an 8-race slate. Committees were directed to update their Bylaws to eliminate conflicts with the USATF Bylaws and Regulations. Initial Masters LDR budget was approved at \$36,000 with a warning of a possible 10% cut by the second quarter of 1997 due to a projected overall revenue drop for USATF. Chair Charles DesJardins moved to the Treasurer office for Masters LDR as he also became the managing director of the Indy Life Circuit. Jerry Crockett was elected as the new Masters LDR Chair. Other officers elected were: John Boyle - VP for Men; Ruth Anderson – VP for Women; Norm Green – Secretary. There were nine national Master LDR Championships held in 1996 including three cross country events and six road races.

1997-1998: Craig Masback was introduced as the new CEO of **USATF** at the 1997 annual meeting in **Dallas, TX**. Masters LDR Chair Jerry Crockett reported that the \$36,000 budget for 1997 had been slashed to \$22,700. This 40% cut severely limited financial support that our Masters LDR Championship event directors had come to rely. The budget crisis will continue into 1998 with a proposed amount of only \$22,700. Charles DesJardins reported that the 1997 initial year of the Indy Life Circuit had problems and some events will not return in 1998. There were serious chip timing issues at the Gate River Run in Jacksonville. He expressed special thanks to Ryan Lamma of the Road Running Information Center (RRIC) for Series scoring assistance. Bill Quinlisk, attending his first annual meeting as a delegate from the Niagara Association, suggested development of Master Harriers of the Year Awards and was directed by Jerry Crockett to pursue a formal proposal. There were nine national Master LDR Championships held in 1997 including an anomalous one cross country event and eight road races. The WAVA T&F Championships were held in Durban, South Africa. The Masters LDR Executive Committee again met at the Twin Cities Marathon in October.

1998-1999: A separate Mountain/Ultra/Trail (MUT) LDR sub-committee of was established at the 1998 **USATF** annual meeting in **Orlando, FL**. The first USATF National Club Cross Country Championships was held in Orlando in conjunction with the annual meeting. There were four races: Open Men, Open Women, Master Men and Master Women. Carole Langenbach was appointed as the first Masters LDR Cross Country Representative. HOF Chair Norm Green announced that 15 individuals were elected to the Masters Hall of Fame including five chosen by the special "Old-Timers" committee. This brings the total number of Master Hall of Famers to 28: 18 men and 11 women. Masters LDR Chair Jerry Crockett thanked members of the Executive Committee for bearing personal expenditures to travel to meetings and championships during this budget crisis. He indicated that past athlete support funding of \$1000 per championships was no longer available. In addition championship race directors were being asked to provide a minimum of \$5000 in prize money. In an attempt to lessen the burden on championship races, a rule change was proposed that would limit Master LDR championships to US citizens only. Barb Arveson was appointed to head up a Masters Athletes Communication Center to generate bios of top Master athletes for championship race directors. Barb indicated that athlete input was necessary for successful implementation. The first North America, Central America and Caribbean (NCCWAVA) Regional T&F Championships were held in St. Michael, Barbados in November, 1998. The Masters Cross Country Harriers of the Year proposal was tabled for one year to allow further development over scoring concerns. A 10-event Indy Life Circuit/National Championship schedule was announced for 1999. Masters LDR requested a permission to appoint a separate team manager to WAVA Championships. T&F and LDR co-managers were suggested. All incumbent officers were re-elected without

opposition. There were eleven national Master LDR Championships held in 1998 including three cross country events and eight road races.

1999-2000: At the 1999 **USATF** annual meeting in **Los Angeles, CA** it was announced that Indy Life was dropping their sponsorship of the Masters National Road Running Circuit due to changes in federal insurance law. Charles DesJardins was re-elected to another 4-year term to the IAAF Veterans Committee. The WAVA T&F Championships were held in Gateshead, England. A \$30,000 budget was approved for 2000; the same amount as in the 1999 budget. There was discussion about a physical location for the Masters HOF. Resolution will be based on the location of the Open HOF (if any). Masters LDR proposed and approved a requirement for the mandatory use of age/gender “back numbers” at all Master LDR Championships. A new requirement for verification of date of birth was also approved. The Masters Harriers of the Year award proposal was presented by Bill Quinlisk and accepted by the Masters LDR Committee to begin for 2000. The awards will be based on the age graded results from all national masters cross country championships held between annual meetings. There were eleven national Master LDR Championships held in 1999 including four cross country events and seven road races.

2000-2001: At the 2000 **USATF** annual meeting in **Albuquerque, NM**, incumbent Masters LDR officers were elected by acclamation except due to USATF budgetary changes, the office of Treasurer for Masters LDR was eliminated. The NCC WAVA Regional T&F Championships were held in August, 2000 in Kamloops, BC, Canada. Chuck DesJardins reported that IAAF and WAVA are in discussions regarding drug testing for Masters. Neither group wants the responsibility (and expense). WAVA changed its name to World Masters Athletics (WMA) after the T&F Championships in Brisbane, Australia. The new USATF Cross Country Council will submit recommendations for any stand-alone Masters XC Championships to the Masters LDR Committee for final approval. Tom Dalton and Carolyn Smith-Hanna were elected as the inaugural winners of the 2000 Masters Harriers of the Year Award. It was recommended by John Boyle and approved that Masters LDR shall appoint a race liaison for each of our championships. The budget for 2001 was set at \$30,000. The same amount as 2000. Ken Weibel stepped down as Chair of Masters T&F and George Matthews was elected to replace him. There were eleven national Master LDR Championships held in 2000 including four cross country events and seven road races.

2001-2002: At the 2001 **USATF** annual meeting in **Mobile, AL**, Carole Langenbach the Masters LDR Representative to the one-year old Cross Country Council proposed master men and women’s distances of 6k for the Winter XC nationals and 10k for the fall XC nationals beginning in 2002. The distances were accepted on a trial basis. The Masters LDR Operating Procedures were approved as amended. The budget remained at \$30,000 with \$6,000 directed to the Cross Country Council and \$4,000 directed to the MUT Council to assist at their Master championships. An additional \$3750 was received from the LDR Division budget for athlete support at Masters LDR Championships. Masters LDR Chair Jerry Crockett resigned and Norm Green was elected to complete the remaining year of Crockett’s term. Barb Leininger was elected to complete the remaining year on Norm’s term as Secretary. A rule proposal to allow net chip times for Master LDR records will be submitted for the 2002 annual meeting. The first NCCWMA Regional Outdoor T&F Championships were held in Leon, Mexico in August, 2002. There were eight national Master LDR Championships held in 2001 including four cross country events and only four road races.

2002-2003: The 2002 **USATF** annual meeting was held in **Kansas City, MO**. Norm Green, John Boyle and Barb Leininger were re-elected as Master LDR officers unopposed. The inaugural 2003 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships are scheduled for Carolina, Puerto Rico. After only 2.5 Masters LDR road championships in 2002 (Women 5k, 15k and Marathon), new Championships Coordinator Ken Robichaud announced that there were 6.5 events scheduled for 2003. Mary Rosado was chosen to replace Chuck DesJardins who resigned as Masters LDR Team Manager for WMA events. John Boyle and Jack Wing will work on language for 2003 meeting to amend either Masters LDR Championship Guidelines or USATF Competition Rules to allow Master athletes to ‘double and triple dip’ for awards. Bill Quinlisk suggested Masters XC be scored by place rather than by time. A rules’ proposal will be submitted in 2004 to that effect. Chip timing was accepted for Master record

purposes. Eligibility rule changes were announced that eliminate all-star or national teams at all USATF LDR championships. There were only seven national Master LDR Championships held in 2002 including four cross country events and only three road races. An effort will be made to solicit road race bids for 2003.

2003-2004: At the 2003 USATF annual meeting in **Greensboro, NC**, Masters LDR held a special election and chose Lloyd Stephenson to serve a Secretary to finish the remaining year of the term of Barb Leininger who resigned in October of 2003. Vice-Chair John Boyle was appointed to replace Ken Robichaud who resigned as Championships Coordinator. Don Lein has taken over the duties of Norm Green in coordinating the annual Master 5-year age group runner of the year awards. A \$32,000 budget for 2004 was approved. Masters LDR Chair Norm Green was presented one of the President's Awards in Greensboro. The inaugural 2004 WMA Indoor T&F Championships were scheduled for Sindelfinger, Germany with the 2004 NCCWMA Outdoor T&F Regionals scheduled for August 26-29 in Dorado, Puerto Rico. The following mission statement for Masters LDR was approved: "The mission of the Master LDR Committee is to promote and oversee programs which stimulate interest, participation and excellence in Long Distance Running and USATF, for participants at all levels, potential participants, and the general public; to act as the advocate to the governing bodies of long distance running to represent the interests of our constituency." There were eleven national Master LDR Championships held in 2003 including four cross country events and seven road races.

2004-2005: At the 2004 USATF annual meeting in **Portland, OR**, Carole Langenbach retired as Masters XC Rep. and was succeeded by Bill Quinlisk. The Masters LDR rules' proposal to change Master cross country team scoring from scoring by time to scoring by place within each team division was approved and will take effect beginning in 2005. A natural consequence of this change was to reduce the number of declared and scoring runners on M60+, M70+ and all Master Women's teams to score three and declare a maximum of five. Masters LDR Chair Norm Green and other incumbent officers (John Boyle and Lloyd Stephenson) were re-elected by acclamation. Alan Jones, he of the Jones' counter and Age Graded Tables fame, was elected to receive the Otto Essig Award for meritorious service to Masters LDR. Kathryn Martin received the Overall Master Athlete of the Year Award. A \$32,000 budget was approved for 2005 with no change from 2004. Charles Desjardins and Mary Rosado were selected to continue as WMA Reps and will attend the 2005 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships in San Sebastian, Spain. There were eight national Master LDR Championships held in 2004 including three cross country events and five road races.

2005-2006: Norm Green's Master LDR Chair report at the 2005 USATF annual meeting in **Jacksonville, FL**, drew attention to several areas of concern including: how to replace RRIC in road race data collection; how to respond to the move by the IAAF to lower the age of master athletes to 35+; and, lack of attention from the national office LDR Coordinator and the new LDR Division Chair. Norm pointed out that the Master LDR Executive Committee was unanimous in their support for keeping the age for Master's LDR at 40+. Awards Chair Don Lein presented summaries of race results prior to the voting for 5-year Age Group Road Runners of the Year. He noted difficulties in collecting useful data with the demise of the RRIC. The age grading tables have been updated but not yet published or approved by WMA. A budget of \$32,000 for 2006 was approved. Six active and five 'Old-Timers' were elected to the Masters Hall of Fame including LDR greats Vicki Bigelow, Gloria Brown and Barbara Filutze. The 2006 WMA Indoor T&F Championships was scheduled for Linz, Austria and the 2006 NCCWMA Outdoor T&F Regional Championships were set for Guatemala City, Guatemala on Aug. 24-27. There were only seven national Master LDR Championships held in 2005 including three cross country events and only four road races.

2006-2007: In the spring of 2006 Master LDR Chair Norm Green stepped down and Vice-Chair John Boyle assumed the duties until the 2006 USATF annual meeting in **Indianapolis, IN**. Don Lein was elected as Chair of Masters LDR via a coin flip. After a tie vote between Don and John Boyle in one of the few contested Chair elections in recent memory, a coin flip determined the new Chair. Jack Wing was elected as the new Vice-Chair and Lloyd Stephenson was re-elected as Secretary. Outgoing Chair John Boyle's 2006 annual report highlighted the contributions of Awards Chair Don Lein, MUT Rep Lorraine Gersitz, XC Rep Bill Quinlisk, L&L Rep Mary Rosado and the head of our WMA delegation Charles Desjardins and thanked them for their service.

There was discussion on whether or not USATF Master LDR annual awards should only be presented to USATF members. Issue was tabled and Don Lein will return in 2007 with data and a proposal. The 2005 updated age graded tables have been approved (as of 2006) and have been added to the RunScore software. The new tables have not yet been published. Andy Carr has taken over as record keeper. A budget for the coming year of \$33,000 was approved. The 2007 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships were scheduled for Riccione, Italy. While the number of cross country national Master LDR Championships remained at three for 2006; the number of road events dropped to three for a total of only six championships. A push will be made to solicit road race bids for 2007.

2007-2008: Once again a Master LDR budget was approved for \$33,000 at the 2007 **USATF** annual meeting in beautiful **Honolulu, HI**. Mary Rosado reported from L&L that the proposal to create a Club XC Site Selection sub-committee chaired by the Masters XC Rep. had been approved. Don Lein proposed that beginning in 2010 the terms of office for all Master LDR officers be extended to four years to coincide with the terms of the officers of the Masters T&F Committee. An amendment in the Master LDR Operating Procedures would be necessary to make such a change. Collection of road race results remains a topic of concern. Don Lein indicated that the Budget Committee has denied our appeal for a \$10,000 budget increase to develop and implement a Phidippides Award to be based on road race participation. The Masters LDR strategic plan developed by the Executive Committee was distributed and discussed. Andy Carr (Records) proposed eliminating the Road Mile as a standard race distance. Due to a significant backlog of pending records, Andy Carr's proposal that any record application still pending after 5 years be designated as "U" for "Unable to Verify" and no longer be listed for consideration was approved. The 2008 WMA Indoor T&F Championships have been scheduled for Clermont-Ferrand, France and the 2007 NCCWMA Outdoor T&F Regionals will be held in Clermont, FL, USA on Aug. 28-31. There were only six national Master LDR Championships held in 2007 including three cross country events and only three road races.

2008-2009: The Master LDR Executive Committee held two in-person meetings during 2008. The first was held in Austin, TX, the site of the 10k road championships on April 26th. Proposed changes to the Masters LDR Committee Operating Procedures provided by Lloyd Stephenson with assistance from Norm Green were discussed and finalized at the second meeting of the Executive Committee at the Twin Cities Marathon Championships on October 4th. The proposed Operating Procedures amendments were then tabled at the 2008 **USATF** annual meeting in **Reno, NV**. A revised proposal would be presented for a vote in 2009. A budget of \$42,500 was approved for 2009 that included \$5,000 for the Phidippides Award program. Bill Quinlisk, Mary Rosado and Jack Wing were named to a sub-committee to draft a Master LDR Championship Guidelines booklet and provide said draft to the Executive Committee one month prior to their October, 2009 meeting at Twin Cities. At that meeting, after discussion and amendments, the new Championship Guidelines booklet was approved unanimously by the Executive Committee. Jack Wing resigned as Vice-Chair for health reasons. A special election was held where Bill Quinlisk was chosen as Vice-Chair and will serve a one-year term to complete Jack's term of office. With the change to elections held in the year following the start of the new Olympiad, a one-time transition must occur from the start of the 2008 Annual Meeting until elections at the 2009 Annual Meeting. All officers shall continue in their positions for one more year until the election in 2009. Don Lein, Bill Quinlisk and Marian Lein will continue as officers for one more year. Starting with the 2013 election, the new term of office for all elected officers will be four years. No budget was proposed or announced for Master LDR for 2009. The 2009 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships has been scheduled for Lahti, Finland where our 2 delegates will be reimbursed 50% of their expenses. There were seven national Master LDR Championships held in 2008 including three cross country events but still only four road races.

2009-2010: At the **USATF** annual meeting in **Indianapolis, IN**, the revised Master LDR Operating Procedures were approved unanimously with minor changes as suggested from the floor. Don Lein thanked Lloyd Stephenson and Norm Green for their work. Per the newly approved Master LDR Operating Procedures, the new 4-year terms for officers supposedly would not begin until the 2013 election. Elections will now be held at the annual meeting in the year following the start of each new Olympiad. Don Lein was re-elected Chair; Bill Quinlisk was re-elected Vice-Chair and Madeline Bost was elected Secretary, all by acclamation. David Katz

reported on his work with the IAAF and the WMA to allow USATF Master LDR to maintain the age for Masters at 40+. Don Lein announced that the budget process has changed this year and committees will no longer submit budget requests to the USATF national office. Don Lein anticipates the same amount as last year for Master LDR although he gave no amount. The 2010 WMA Indoor T&F Championships were set for Kamloops, BC, Canada and the 2010 NCCWMA Outdoor T&F Regional Championships were scheduled for Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, on September 3-6. With the late cancellation of the Master's 5k cross country championships scheduled for St. Petersburg, FL; due to governmental budget cuts, there were only two cross country events in 2009. However, there were six road events bringing the total number of national Master LDR Championships held in 2009 up to eight.

2010-2011: Jim Peterson, the Chair of the LDR Substance Abuse sub-committee reported to the Master LDR Committee on Master anti-drug issues at the **USATF** annual meeting in **Virginia Beach, VA**. Mary Rosado reported that drug education booklets would be shipped to all Local Organizing Committees to be distributed at 2011 Master LDR road championships. After the recent admission of drug use guilt by past multi-time Master LDR champion, prize winner and record-setter, Eddy Hellebuyck (Oct. 2010, *Runner's World*), Mary Rosado suggested that Masters LDR inquire about funding for up to four master drug tests per Master LDR championship. Discussion ensued about removal of Hellebuyck's Master LDR records. The issue was tabled pending resolution of USADA action. Currently, master athletes may only be subject to drug testing if competing in a combined master/open championship where open testing is done. Pam Fales reported on our request for direct access to the Master LDR portion of the USATF national website. Bill Quinlisk presented a 2010 Master LDR championships' report containing data from each event including participation numbers and the Master prize purse amounts. Master LDR was granted a 2011 budget of \$42,500 with an additional \$15,000 to be directed to support the Phidippides program. The Master LDR Committee established a "Team Grand Prix" for 2011 with \$5,000 in team prize money available. All national Master LDR Championship events, including cross country, will be included in the 2011 GP schedule. Bill Quinlisk and Madeline Bost presented the GP scoring rules that they developed. The 2011 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships are scheduled for Sacramento, CA, USA. Mary Rosado and Don Lein will represent USATF Master LDR at the WMA General Assembly in Sacramento. Don will present a proposal for a Master's Marathon World Championship to be scheduled independently of any WMA T&F event. With the return to the traditional three cross country championships, the number of national Master LDR Championships held in 2010 increased to a total of nine. There were six road events.

2011-2012: At the 2011 **USATF** annual meeting in **St. Louis, MO**, Bill Quinlisk presented a printed (and electronic) report from the Master's LDR Team Grand Prix. Included were 2011 GP results, the 2012 schedule and the GP rules. 2011 was scheduled to be a Masters LDR officers' election year. It is not clear if an actual officer's election was held. No election results appear in the 2011 official Master LDR committee meeting minutes. Member Services has no record of an election but they would not have been involved if the elections were uncontested. Regardless, all incumbent officers would continue serving for another 2 years and thus would end up with 4 year terms (2010-2013) instead of the defined 2 year terms (2010-2011). Lloyd Stephenson reported that several Competition Rules proposals were of concern. The Master LDR Committee opposed the proposed changes to the team uniform rule and to a proposal that would lower the age of Masters to 35. The committee recommended that the age of Master LDR runners should remain at 40+. The committee approved a proposal that all Master LDR records must be set in USATF sanctioned events only. The Masters Hall of Fame will not have nominees for 2011. Norm Green resigned as Hall of Fame Chair for personal reasons. The Masters Hall of Fame currently has 124 T&F athletes, 16 Race Walkers and 48 LDR athletes. There are several individuals who overlap several categories and several administrators with athletic credentials. Master LDR suggests that the Master Hall of Fame be split into two separate ballots – one ballot for T&F and one ballot for LDR. It was suggested that LDR criteria for consideration be set to age graded performances above 85%. Since the RRIC data pre-dates 2000, volunteers will be needed to gather result data from 2000 to the present. Bill Quinlisk reported that he has made a formal request to the Club Council and the Cross Country Council to increase the Master prize purse at the Club cross country championships. Master runners have made up between 40 and 50% of entries at recent Club XC events but Master athletes receive less than 25% of the purse. The

2012 WMA Indoor T&F Championships are scheduled for Jyvaskyla, Finland. The 2012 NCCWMA Outdoor T&F Regionals will be held in St. John, NB, Canada on August 9-12. There were once again nine national Master LDR Championships held in 2011 including three cross country events and six road races. As a side note: Master LDR Vice-Chair Bill Quinlisk nipped Ann Arbor TC President Mitch Garner by one second to win the M60+ title at the hilly USATF Market Street Road Mile held early on Saturday morning of the annual meeting in downtown St. Louis. His time was 6:29.

2012-2013: At the **USATF** annual meeting in **Daytona Beach, FL**, Marian Lein reported that since its inception 5 years ago, 1,262 Phidipides awards have been presented. It was recommended that a special award be developed for runners who win five consecutive Phidipides awards. It was recommended that the Record Committee vacate all Master LDR records set by Eddy Hellebuyck during the period of admitted doping violations. Lloyd Stephenson reported on accepted amendments to the Competition Rules that affect Master LDR: An imaging system (i.e., Lynx camera) will now be required at the finish line for all Master LDR Championships; the M60+ team division will now score five runners in cross country events; the cross country team apparel rule has been extended to cover teams in road championships. Don Lein reminded all Master runners that Master records can only be set in USATF sanctioned events. Don Lein announced that the Master LDR budget for 2013 is the same as 2012 less 5%. No total amount was given. Athlete of the Year and Master Hall of Fame voting was available online this year. The Master Age Group Runner of the Year Award was renamed the Master Age Group Road Runner of the Year. Tom Bernhard was appointed new Masters LDR Hall of Fame Chair. The 2013 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships are scheduled for Porto Alegre, Brazil. Nine national Championships were held as part of the 2012 Master LDR Team Grand Prix including three cross country events and six road races.

2013-2014: At the **USATF** annual meeting in **Indianapolis, IN**, the Masters LDR Committee was instructed to move their elections back to the year that begins each new Olympiad (2016, 2020, etc.) in order to conform to the Organizational Services requirement. The apparent lack of a 2011 Masters LDR officers' election was noted although several individuals remembered holding an election by acclamation in 2011. No such record exists in the minutes. It was pointed out that the current officers should have only served 2 year terms 2010-2011 and there should have been an election for 4-year terms at the 2011 annual meeting. The committee moved to re-elect the current officers (Chair Don Lein and Vice Chair Bill Quinlisk) to serve 3 year terms until elections could be held in 2016. The 'official' minutes of the 2011 annual meeting were amended to read that the terms of officers 'elected' in 2011 would run through 2016. Marian Lein was elected to replace Madeline Bost as Secretary. Pam Fales was appointed to serve as unofficial Treasurer - the office of Treasurer had been removed from the Master LDR Operating Procedures. After a suggestion made by Brian Pilcher to Don Lein, the Masters LDR Committee established an Individual Grand Prix starting in 2014. Scoring rules developed by Madeline Bost and Bill Quinlisk with input from Paul Carlin were approved. No prize money was available. The 2014 WMA Indoor T&F Championships were scheduled for Budapest, Hungary. The 2014 NCCWMA Outdoor T&F Regional Championships were scheduled for San Jose, Costa Rica, on August 21-24. Ten national Master LDR Championships were held in 2013 including three cross country events and seven road races.

2014-2015: At the 2014 **USATF** annual meeting in **Anaheim, CA** the Masters LDR Committee selected Paul Carlin and Lloyd Hansen to head up an Athletes Advisory Committee and lead the Masters LDR Growth Initiative. It was announced that special elite performance medals would be awarded at all 2015 road championships on an age graded basis. Bill Quinlisk offered a comprehensive report from the non-stadia events held at the NCCWMA regionals in Costa Rica in August, 2014. He opined that "the non-stadia events did not rise to the same level of organization and production as did the stadia events. I would not put the non-stadia events that I observed on a par with any of our USATF National Masters LDR Championship events". He also directed attention to the poor U.S. participation numbers in the non-stadia events. Several USATF Competition Rule proposals were approved that directly affect Masters LDR. One change permits Masters LDR, including cross country, to award to non-U.S. citizens, including Permanent Residents, who are member athletes of USATF, separate non-championship medals whenever they would otherwise displace a U.S citizen eligible for awards. Another change reverses an earlier amendment and returned the number of scoring members in M60+

cross country teams to three rather than five. The road mile was returned to the list of record eligible Master events. The 2015 WMA Outdoor Championships is scheduled for Lyon, France. Mary Rosado was selected to serve as Masters LDR team manager and delegate for the entire event. Bill Quinlisk was chosen as our other delegate to attend the WMA general assembly meeting. Due to budgetary constraints he will only be funded for his transportation and one day hotel accommodations. A very healthy eleven national Master LDR Championships were held in 2014 including three cross country events and eight road races.

2015-2016: At the 2015 **USATF** annual meeting in **Houston, TX** Lloyd Hansen reported on the Masters LDR Growth Initiative accomplishments in 2015 and goals for 2016. He announced that special elite performance medals were awarded at all 2015 road championships. Bronze medals went to runners who age grade between 80 and 85%. Silver medals were awarded to all finishers who age grade between 85 and 90%. Gold medals went to those at 90% and above. Paul Carlin was contracted by the USATF national office as a part-time employee to better integrate our growth initiative with USATF management and generate Associations' support. Lloyd suggested that one of the goals for 2016 would be to improve the quality of medals and awards. Additional reports were offered by Don Lein and Lloyd Hansen – Championships Report and Bids, Tom Bernhard – Hall of Fame and Athletes of the Year, Mary Rosado – L&L, Bill Quinlisk - Grand Prix and Cross Country, and Andy Carr – Records. The 2016 WMA Outdoor Championships were scheduled for Perth, Australia. The back-to-back outdoor championships were necessitated by a move to even-numbered years. WMA Indoor Championships would move to odd-numbered years beginning in 2017 in Daegu, South Korea. Ten national Master LDR Championships were held in 2015 including three cross country events and seven road races.

2016-2017: Masters LDR Chair Don Lein indicated that he is a candidate for LDR Division Chair and for a seat on the Board of Directors and will not seek re-election. At the 2016 **USATF** annual meeting in **Orlando, FL** Mary Rosado was elected Chair of Masters LD, Lloyd Hansen was elected Vice-Chair and Paul Carlin was elected Secretary. Paul Carlin and Lloyd Hansen presented a report of the Masters LDR membership initiative. Masters LDR Hall of Fame Chair indicated that Administrator and Volunteer nominees would be included in the Legends ballot. The Masters LDR Executive Committee met in Syracuse, NY in October, 2016 at the site of the 5k Championships. Thanks to Race Director David Oja for providing accommodations. The 2017 WMA Indoor T&F Championships were scheduled for Daegu, South Korea. The 2017 NCCWMA Outdoor T&F Championships were scheduled for Toronto, Ontario, Canada on Aug. 11-13. Nine national Master LDR Championships were held in 2016 including three cross country events and six road races.

2017-2018: Colleen Magnussen, Mike Neir and Przemyslaw Nowicki were selected to receive the Otto Essig Award for meritorious service to Masters LDR at the 2017 **USATF** annual meeting in **Columbus, OH**. They developed the online scoring programs for the Masters LDR team and individual Grand Prix. Paul Carlin resigned his Secretary office. He has accepted a part-time contract with the USATF national office to represent the interests of Masters LDR. Doreen McCoubrie was elected to complete Paul's term as Secretary. Lloyd Hansen hosted a very successful weekend retreat for the Masters LDR Executive at his home in Provo, UT in June, 2017 to develop priorities and goals. A report was presented by Lloyd at the annual meeting. A GP Championships report and discussion on bids received was led by Lloyd Hansen and Paul Carlin. The 2018 GP schedule was amended to finish in November and not include the 2018 Club XC. The 2018 Club XC will be the first race of the 2019 GP. It was proposed that an awards' ceremony for the 2018 GP be held at in Spokane, WA at the conclusion of the 2018 Club XC Championships. With the November end date for the 2018 GP, time would be available to order banners and prepare checks and certificates prior to the awards ceremony in December. Masters XC Rep. Bill Quinlisk indicated that the Spokane LOC was very supportive of the extra awards ceremony and would make a hotel banquet room available. The 2018 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships were scheduled for Malaga, Spain. Mary Rosado and Lloyd Hansen were chosen as delegates to represent Masters LDR. Nine national Master LDR Championships were held in 2017 including three cross country events and six road races.

2018-2019: The 2018 **USATF** annual meeting in **Columbus, OH**, was a Rules' year. Masters LDR submitted several amendment proposals through their Rep to the Rules Committee Tom Bernhard. The most significant change now allows Masters LDR to use gun time, net time and/or a combination of both at their championships. The Committee suggested that when available, net times be used for the age graded results. Net times have been used for Master record purposes since 2002. Bill Quinlisk will Chair an Ad-Hoc Team Eligibility Sub-Committee to examine the current "Grandfather Clause" situation and possible changes to Competition Rule 341.8 dealing with team eligibility. There will be a call for volunteers and the Masters Executive Committee will select a sub-committee of five or seven total members to report back to the Masters LDR Committee at the 2019 annual meeting. In the interim, a moratorium was placed on any new "Grandfather Clause" exceptions. Lloyd Hansen resigned as Vice-Chair due to family issues. Bill Quinlisk was elected to complete Lloyd's term of office. The WMA World Indoor T&F Championships were held in Turin, Poland in March, 2019. The NCCWMA Regional Outdoor T&F Championships were scheduled for Toronto, Canada in late July, 2019. Nine national Master LDR Championships were held in 2018 including three cross country events and six road races.

2019-2020: With a drop in the number of Masters LDR Championship bids being submitted, the Masters LDR Executive Committee instituted a survey prior to the annual meeting of **USATF** in **Reno, NV**. The 25 question survey was directed at member Master runners who had participated in one or more of the Master LDR Championships in the last several years. Opinions were solicited to determine reasons for participation and whether or not changes would affect individual and team participation. Topics included: prize money and awards, location and cost of travel, entry numbers, media coverage, race size and course, race distance and athlete hospitality. Survey results, prepared by Paul Carlin, were reviewed by the Executive Committee. 2019 was an L&L year and much time was consumed fending off a unilateral proposal from Masters T&F to take away one of the two Masters LDR reps for WMA events. The issue was finally tabled. Reports were presented by Mary Rosado (WMA and USADA), Tom Bernhard (Hall of Fame and annual awards), Andy Carr (record ratification) and Bill Quinlisk (Cross Country and Championships). The 2020 updated version of the age grading tables provided by Alan Jones with assistance and data provided by Tom Bernhard will be released soon. They will include age graded tables for the road mile. Bill Quinlisk presented a proposal from the Ad-Hoc Sub Committee to amend Rule 341.8 on team eligibility. After much discussion, the proposal was defeated by one vote. It was proposed and accepted that the moratorium on any new "Grandfather Clause" exceptions be continued. The vote showed a need to properly identify the eligible voting delegates and active athlete delegates to the Masters LDR Committee at the start of each annual meeting. The Executive Committee will develop a plan for the 2020 annual meeting to settle all credential disputes. The 2020 Grand Prix championship schedule was announced including the 2020 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships scheduled for Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Nine national Master LDR Championships were held in 2019 including three cross country events and six road races.

2020-2021: The Covid-19 pandemic caused the cancellation of all Master Grand Prix events in 2020 except for the 12/14/2019 Club XC in Bethlehem, PA and the 1/18/2020 USA XC in San Diego, CA; both of which predated the pandemic. The 2020 WMA Outdoor T&F Championships scheduled for Toronto, Ontario, Canada were also canceled. The very successful 2019 Club XC produced record numbers of Master participants. 691 master men, 288 master women for a record total of 979 master finishers. Another record was set when 171 complete master teams scored. The annual meeting of **USATF** scheduled again for Reno, NV was cancelled. Instead the meeting was held online only as a **virtual meeting** with just a few tech glitches at the Committee meetings. After a lengthy roll call of delegates and selection of active athlete delegates, the updated Masters LDR Operating Procedures were unanimously approved. This was an election year and Lloyd Hansen was elected Chair in an uncontested election. The incumbent Chair Mary Rosado chose not to run for re-election. Bill Quinlisk was re-elected Vice-Chair with Doreen McCoubrie re-elected Secretary. The amended Operating Procedures reinstated the office of Treasurer and Pam Fales was elected to that office. There were eight rule proposals that affected Masters LDR and Masters XC and all were approved. The most significant established an absolute deadline for changes to athlete's club affiliation prior to all Master LDR championship events including cross country. Changes must now be finalized prior to the close of online event registration. The late

Bill Roe received the Otto Essig Award. The Masters LDR portion of the Hall of Fame balloting was expanded. New categories were added as a separate ballot. In addition to the Active and 'Legend' Road Racing ballots; an Active and 'Legend' XC ballot was instituted as was a separate Contributors category ballot for coaches, officials, race directors and administrators. New inductees to the Masters Hall of Fame included: Active Road – Marisa Sutera Strange and Doreen McCoubrie, Legend Road – Debra Wagner, Active XC – Madeline Bost, Legend XC – Tom Dalton, and Contributor – Bill Roe. Originally, there were seven national Master LDR Championships scheduled for 2020 including three cross country events and four road races. Only one cross country event was held in 2020. All other events were cancelled due to the pandemic. This was a very strange year.

2021-2022: USATF, Orlando, FL?

2022-2023: USATF, Orlando, FL?

Send comments, corrections and additional information to:
Bill Quinlisk, USATF Master Cross Country Representative
crosscountry@usatf.org