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## Big C Relays is back — and we need sponsors

**U**SA TRACK & FIELD ALASKA hosts this year's much-anticipated Big C Relays, April 5-6, 2019, the premier invite indoor track meet of the season for Alaska high school runners and unattached athletes alike. The meet was canceled in 2017 and 2018 due to the Dome collapse, but now is reborn.

Oh what an event it is going to be! Organizers are working to bring up a pro-level contingent of racers to put on an exhibition race, and competitors will vie for the title of Fastest Alaskan, Pentathlon Champion, and Lord of the Rings, among other events.

Sponsors are needed to help put this great event together. As a nonprofit, we rely on the generosity of our community and sponsors to help host events such as these. Varying funding levels are available, from \$8,000 to \$500 (name a race after your company!), but every penny counts and is appreciated. For more information on the Big Cs, go to [bigcrelays.com](http://bigcrelays.com). For sponsorship package details, contact Shane Metcalf at [smeaqmetcalf@gci.net](mailto:smeaqmetcalf@gci.net) or go to the donation link at [www.athletic.net/TrackAndField/School.aspx?SchoolID=22192](http://www.athletic.net/TrackAndField/School.aspx?SchoolID=22192). Many thanks from USATF-AK!

## USATF Alaska's 2019 Board of Directors

At USATF Alaska's annual meeting last fall, the following were named to its 2019 Board of Directors:

**President:** Jason Hofacker

**Vice President:** Melissa DeVaughn Hall

**Secretary:** Chris Waythomas

**Treasurer:** Felice Schilling

**Directors:** Shane Metcalf, Ric Wilson & David Todd

### President's message

## USATF Alaska starts the year with goals for growth

**H**APPY 2019! There is a lot to be excited for in USATF Alaska Track & Field in our upcoming year. We ended 2018 by going to the USATF annual meeting and then coming home and hosting a Hershey/USATF Run Jump Throw event. We achieved Provisional Accreditation as an Association this year. We only have a few areas to complete to become fully accredited. That is one of our goals for 2019.

The annual meeting, held in Columbus the first weekend in December, was informative and allowed us to make some great connections with other associations. It is always encouraging to find out that everyone is dealing with the same issues across the nation. There were lots of great discussions and ideas.

We are going to be making a big push for officials and membership this year. Shane Metcalf, USATF Alaska Officials chairman, is going to be having officials training sessions leading up to our high school track and field seasons. He will be having one in Juneau on Jan. 8 and is also looking to hold a training session in Fairbanks on either Jan. 14 or 28. Be on the lookout for more details, and times and dates that will be near you. If you would like to see an officials training in your area, please contact us and we will make it happen.

Our Hershey/USATF Run Jump Throw event was a lot of fun. The event was held Dec. 17, on a night when it was freezing rain, which affected attendance. Still, the kids who showed up to the Dome had a great time. A big thank-you goes to Sterling Johnson and the USATF National Staff who came up from the Lower 48 to put this event on for us. We will be looking to do more of these in the future.

Get your USATF membership done now in anticipation of our Summer Track and Field series and many other new events for 2019. Visit [www.usatf.org/Products---Services/Individual-Memberships.aspx](http://www.usatf.org/Products---Services/Individual-Memberships.aspx). Membership is just \$20 for youth and \$30 for adults, or \$50 for clubs and organizations. The benefits include entry into all-comers and championship races; support and insurance for clubs and organizations; rout certification for sanctioned races; and more.

Check out our web page for events near you and information about USATF: [www.alaska.usatf.org/](http://www.alaska.usatf.org/)



Jason Hofacker,  
USATF Alaska president