



USATOWA

The Official Newsletter of the United States Amateur Tug of War Association

February – March 2016



2016 Indoor Events

USATOWA has held two indoor pulling events this winter. The final event will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2016. On January 9, 2016 a membership dinner was held after the competition. A great way to finish up the day and welcome in the 2016 competition schedule.

Four weight classes were held at each event. The M580K, O600K, M640K and Co-ed 3x3.

Peosta IA Competition results: 1/9/16

580K – Mt Vernon, DJ's, Powertrain

Coed 3x3 – Oregon, Powertrain

O600K – DJ's, Mt Vernon, Power Train 1, PowerTrain 2

M640K – Mt Vernon, PowerTrain, DJ's, Oregon

Peosta IA Competition results 1/23/16

580K – DJ's, Mt Vernon, PowerTrain

O600K – DJ's, PowerTrain, Mt Vernon, Oregon

640K – DJ's, Mt Vernon, PowerTrain, Oregon

Co-ed 3x3 – Mt Vernon, Oregon, PowerTrain, Muddy River

Peosta IA Competition results 2/6/16

580K – DJ's, Mt Vernon, PowerTrain, Oregon

600K – DJ's, Mt Vernon, PowerTrain

640K – DJ's, Mt Vernon

Co-ed 3x3 – GLD, PowerTrain

950 – DJ's, Mt Vernon, Oregon, PowerTrain



Next Indoor competition is March 19, 2016 following the Annual Membership meeting. Weigh in 3:00 pm to 3:30
Pulling at 4:00 pm.



USATOWA Scholarship

USATOWA will be offering two \$500 scholarships this year to be awarded to deserving members of USATOWA. The scholarships will be available to anyone attending a 2 or 4 year school. Please find the application on USATOWA.com after March 1, 2016. The winners of the scholarships will be awarded in May 2016. Please share with individuals who may be interested.

[USATOWA 2016 Scholarship Application](#)

SNOWMAN - PULL

February 20th, 2016

Registration starts at NOON!

TUG-O-WAR starts @ 1 pm

Come and See if you are as
STRONG as a **SNOWMAN!**

Teams of 8: **\$ 5 per person entry fee**

PLEASE, REGISTER by Friday, February 6th and
each team member will receive a FREE GIFT TOKEN

(good for Saturday February 20th, 2016 ONLY!)

to be Redeemed @ the Corner Tap in downtown Stockton.

Pre-registration allows us to anticipate numbers & order medals, but last minute teams also welcome!

We will be
PULLING

@ the Stockton Park.
(Football Field)

Divisions:

(need at least 2 teams per division)

Adult - Male & Female

High School Age - Sports Teams & other Groups Welcome

Middle School - Coed (PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED)

Elementary - Coed (PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED)

**Proceeds Support the
Stockton Veterans
Memorial.**

For more Info Please Contact:

John Scott: 815-541-8784

bluucode@gmail.com



Members of winning teams will each receive a MEDAL!



On **July 9th, 2016**, the Friends of Allyson Norland Scholarship (FANS) will hold their second annual fun run and rope pull. Funds support scholarships at Oregon High School in Oregon, WI. Allyson Norland was an enthusiastic, first-year member of the Girls Love Dirt tug of war team. She and her brother Steven truly devoted themselves to tug of war, practicing three nights every week with both Girls Love Dirt and the Mt Vernon tug of war team. Allyson quickly learned the sport and was a fine athlete. She enjoyed competitions in Monticello, Monroe and Milwaukee, with a final appearance in the open competition at World Championships in Madison. Allyson was eager to start indoor practice in 2015, and enjoyed a practice in late January 2015 with her team. She was studying for the college entrance exam and had so much ahead of her. Allyson was tragically killed in a car accident on February 11, 2015. FANS was created to honor her life and love of tug of war and running alive. Funds raised at the inaugural event last year will be distributed in \$10,000 of scholarships to her graduating class this spring. Help us keep her memory alive by participating in the 5k run or 2

mi walk and of course the tug of war! Register online: <http://www.fansrun.org/index.html>

Date: July 9th, 2016

Time: Run/Walk 9am Tug of War 10am

USATOWA National Board Minutes 1/23/16

Please find the link to the minutes:

<http://www.usatowa.com/Newsletters/NationalBoardMinutesJan232016Final.pdf>

USATOWA Annual Membership Meeting Agenda:



USATOWA Annual Membership
Meeting Agenda
Colony Brands
9843 Kapp Court
Peosta, IA

President Welcome

Vice President Report

Recap of 2015 year
2016 Tournament Schedule
2016 Nationals Report

Treasurers Report

2016 Budget

Secretary Report

International Report
2016 TWIF Congress

Chief Judge

Committee Reports

Bylaws Committee

Present by-law covering our voting procedure.

Discussion of the present by-law:

Section 6. Unless decided otherwise, Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern all proceedings of USATOWA. Proxies for any meeting or issue may be delegated in writing to any other person entitled to vote at a membership, National Board or EXCOM meeting.

The above statement is in our present by-laws.

Scholarship Committee – Scholarship applications available. Committee announced.

Equipment

Youth Development

State Associations

Newsletter/webpage – bids for newsletter

Elections: Nominations from the National Board – Nominations will open again at AGM

Vice President – Joe Hunter

Secretary – Misty Johnson

Chief Judge – Harold Heindel

Old Business –

Ideas to promote our sport

New Business –

*Non – sanction events support

*Discussion from the National Board: Discussion on what determines “members entitled to vote” in Article VIII Section 2 of bylaws. Currently, “members entitled to vote” is defined as those who have paid their current-year membership by March 1st. Concern that continuing with this definition could result in a voting population that is unfamiliar with our association. Another concern included the short period in which the Secretary has to count the number of eligible votes per team prior to the annual Membership meeting. Definition of “members entitled to vote” for purposes of voting at the annual Membership meeting will be an agenda item for the 2016 Membership meeting. Ideas and rationale include:

Definition	Rationale
Paid member as of last sanctioned pull of prior year	A more informed voting membership, having been a member of USATOWA for a year prior to voting at the annual Membership meeting. Avoids the rush of receiving and counting all the new memberships before the March 1 st deadline
Paid member as of last sanctioned pull of prior year, PLUS, must also be current year member as of March 1st	A more informed voting membership, having been a member of USATOWA for a year prior to voting at the annual Membership meeting. Demonstrates a continued, vested interest in USATOWA.

Reference: Article VIII Section 2. The officer or agent having charge of the membership records of the Association shall make, at least twenty (20) days before each meeting of the general members a complete list of the members entitled to vote at such meeting or any adjournment thereof, arrange in alphabetical order with the address of each general member. This list for a period of ten (10) days prior to such meeting shall be kept on file at the registered office of the Association and shall be subject to inspection by any member in good standing at any time during conventional business hours. This list shall also be produced and kept open at the time and place of any membership meeting and shall be subject to the inspection of any member during the entire duration of the meeting. Members shall be noticed at least thirty (30) days in advance of any membership meeting.

Meeting will be held at:

Colony Brands

9843 Kapp Court

Peosta, IA

Meeting starts promptly at 10:00 am.

Membership applications are to be paid by March 1, 2016 to Treasurer Nyhus.

If you are voting by proxy for this meeting you must sign a document to the person voting for you! No exceptions – only agenda items are to be voted on by proxy.

USATOWA Membership Application USATOWA membership applications/lists must be submitted to usatowamembers@gmail.com -Secretary Johnson by March 1, 2016. If you are a returning member, please note it is not necessary to complete form. If you are a NEW member you must complete the form. Dues are \$15 for students – high school and younger and first year members. \$30 for returning members. Money for the dues is to be sent to Treasurer Ginny Nyhus – 3189 Linden Circle Prior Lake MN 55372.



The Irish Tug of War Association is deeply saddened by the recent passing of their past President Eddie Hubbard on January 30, 2016. Eddie was a lifelong servant of the sport serving on many boards and President of the Irish Association in both 2009 and 2013. Eddie is best known in Tug of War circles for the many years he spent announcing competitions. He had a natural ability to keep crowds informed and interested in what was happening on the rope.

Eddie will be greatly missed by the World Tug of War community.



Rosemary Smith of Wales recently passed away on January 24, 2016. Rosemary was a hard working ambassador of our sport. She served on the TWIF technical commission as well as Secretary of the Wales Tug of War Association.

Rosemary helped USATOWA with our World Championships 2014. She walked into our office, rolled up her sleeves and said what can I do? She was a delight to work with and a valuable asset to make sure we didn't miss a beat!

RIP Rosemary, we will miss your smile and infinite wisdom of our sport.

USATOWA 2016 Schedule may be found at this link - <http://usatowa.com/schedule.html>

Feb 20	Stockton IL				Snowman Pull
May 21*	Elko, MN	<u>Bill Gallager</u>	11:00 - Noon	12:30 PM	
May 28-29	Alma, Michigan	<u>Shelby Richardson</u>			Celtic & Highland Games
June 18*	Greeley, IA	<u>Dave Kruse</u>	10:30-Noon	12:30 PM	
June 25*	Oregon, WI	<u>Shelby Richardson</u>	10:00-Noon	1:00 PM	
July 1	Embros, Canada	<u>Joe Hunter</u>	9:00-10:30	11:00 AM	Canada Day Highland Games
July 2	Stockton, IL	<u>Shelby/John Scott</u>	10:30-Noon	1:00 PM	
July 9	Oregon, WI			10:00 AM	FANS Scholarship Pull
July 23*	Monroe, WI	<u>Joe Hunter</u>	9:00-10:30	11:00AM	Nationals
Aug 13*	Kasson, MN	<u>Bruce Ebnet</u>	10:30-12:30	1:00 PM	
Aug 13	Le Craire, IA, Port Byron, IL	<u>Kari Long</u>		12:30 PM	Tug Fest
Aug 20-21*	Milwaukee, WI	<u>Brenda Frary</u>	10:00-11:30	Noon	Irish Fest
Aug 27*	Stockton, IL	<u>Shelby/John Scott</u>	10:30-Noon	1:00 PM	
Sept 3*	Brooklyn, WI	<u>Shelby Richardson</u>	10:00-Noon	1:00 PM	
Sept 16-17	Davenport, IA	<u>Shelby Richardson</u>			Celtic Highland Games

Sanctioned events noted by *



United States Tug of War Association Membership Application

Membership Status (Please check one):

New Member (\$15) High School Member (\$15) Returning Adult Member (\$30)

Club Name: Choose Club Name

Name:

Address: Enter street address

City, State, Zip: Enter city, state, and zip code

Home Phone: **Cell Phone:** (XXX-XXX-XXXX)

Date of Birth: (MM/DD/YYYY) **Email:**

Gender: Gender. **Year started:**

This is an application to become a member of the United States Tug of War Association. This application MUST be completed and accepted before full membership can be granted. The USATOWA is a not for profit organization. Please read the following conditions before you sign.

In consideration of my participation in the sport of tug of war the undersigned independently and collectively and on behalf of himself/herself, his/her heirs, legatees, personal representatives and all those claiming by or through him/her, contest to and does hereby discharge, release, and hold harmless the United States Amateur Tug of War Association from any and all claims, actions, losses, damages or expenses for personal or bodily (including death) and property loss or damage incurred by him/her or arising from or in connection with his/her participation in the aforementioned association. Any Individual whose initials do not appear on this form will not be considered for membership and therefore, disqualifies that individual from participation.

By initialing the form here you are agreeing that you have read the foregoing and are of legal age to consent to this waiver.

If the applicant is seventeen (17) years or under, fourteen (14) years or older, this application must also be initialed by his/her legal guardian or parent.

Date Filled Out: (MM/DD/YYYY)

Signature of USATOWA officer

Date

Please email completed membership form to: usatowamembers@gmail.com

Please mail dues/fees to:

Ginny Nyhus USATOWA Treasurer

3189 Linden Circle

Prior Lake, MN 55372