



Maine Association of USA Track & Field

2018 Track & Field Annual Awards Banquet

USATF-Maine Association welcomes each and every one of the master and youth athletes, parents' guests, coaches', officials and board members. As well as the USATF-Maine **NEW** 2018 Youth Track & Field Championship Record Holders and those athletes who participated and placed in the top 8 of their individual events at the 2018 USATF Hershey National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships that was held at *North Carolina A&T University, Greensboro, NC.*

Welcome to everyone, and thank-you for attending the 2018 Awards Banquet.

At 2017 National JO's Champions, data was late in receiving for the 2017 Awards banquet, so they will be recognized at the 2018 awards banquet.

Those 3 athletes that finished in the top 8 from USATF-Maine Athletes were; Rowan McDonald (9-10) 1500m RW placed 3rd with a time of 9:08.83, Jarrett Flaker (15-16) 400m Hurdles placed 2nd with a time of 54.52 sec and Travis Snyder (15-16) in the Pole Vault event. Travis placed 5th over all with a height of 4.30m.

~~ The 2019 USATF Youth Outdoor National Championship will take place in Durham, NC. ~~~

2018 USATF Hershey National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships.

There were quite a few Maine youth members who attended the 2018 USATF Hershey National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships. The following 4 athletes finished within the top 8 place winners.

8&U Boys Shot Put: Nicholas Deschambault, placed 7th over all with a distance of **6.72m** (22.00.75 feet).

9-10 Boys 1500m Race walk event: Daniel Smith placed 2nd with a walking time of **9:13.96mins.**

11-12 Girls 1500m Race walk event: Sarah Bush placed 8th with a walking time of **8:38.00mins.**

11-12 Boys 1500m Race walk event: Rowan McDonald placed 2nd with a walking time of **8:54.92mins.**

Congratulations to all who attend and placed in the top 8 finishers of their individual events.

2018 USATF Youth National Championship

15-16 – Girls 1500m Race alk event : Isabelle Trefts placed 1st with a walking time of **17.28.45 mins.**

~2018 USATF-Maine Youth State Championship meet records there were 6 new records~

For the first new record broken lasted for only a year. We begin with the 11-12 Girls 400 gram “turbo javelin” event, **Maranada Pert** from the **Blue Hill TC** broke **Angel Huntsman** distance of 87’11”, **to a new meet record with a distance of 109’ 01”**.

Now we go to an 8-year-old record that was set or tied from past years. In the **Girls 13-14 High Jump a tie** - was set by **Josie Harrington** from the **Wiscasset TC**. She’s tied with a number of girls, but back in 2010, Tia Jackson from the Old Town TC also tied the height of **5’02” height**.

Now we have one ten year old record broken in 2018 at our USATF-Maine Youth State Championship meet.

First ten 10-year-old record broken is in the **13-14 Girls Pole Vault event**. The old record height was a height of **5’02”** set by **Lindsey Folsom** from Augusta TC. In 2018, 10 years later, a new height of **9’06.25”**, was set by **Leah Frazee**, representing the **Brewer TC**, with a new height record of **9’06.25”**.

The next broken record was set back in **1997 – 21 years later, yes, 21 years**. **Back in 1997, in the 13-14 Boys Triple Jump Event**, **Clyde Moody II**, from the Lakers TC jumped a distance of 40’ 03”. Over the years many number of young men, tried to break the old standing record.

August 2018 the old record of 37 years was broken by, Nigel Katende from the Lewiston TC, Nigel showed “his stuff”! Nigel set a new triple jump record with the jump of 40’6.25”! Nigel wasn’t done setting records that day. Back in **1981** for the **13-14 Boys 400m dash**, **John Stovall** from the Scarborough TC set a record time of 54.4hsec. Now that automated timing systems are being used,

Nigel ran a new time of 54.26sec in the 13-14 Boys 400m dash! How many years will this record stand????

Now for the last record set **25 years ago** in the **13-14 Girls 4x100m Relay**. Girl members from the **Portland TC**. **set the record time of 54.71 sec. back in 1993**. The 4 young ladies were Puschock, Van Leonan, Dionne and Murphy.

Fast forward to the year of 2018, 25 years later. Representing the Gorham TC, are: Alyvia Caruso / Kyla Piacitelli / Emma Green / Sydney Connolly. All four of these young ladies ran a new record time in the 4x100m Relay. The new record time is: 54.61sec.

Congratulations’ to all athletes for such representation at USATF National meets as well at all of USATF-Maine Youth Developmental events.

There are still many records that was set back in the 1970’, 1980’s and 1990’s still waiting to be broken!

I just wonder at the 2019 USATF-Maine Youth State Championship Meet how many “old records” will remain intact. Only time will tell.

~Way to go athletes!!! ~

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~2018 Combined Team point awards~

Small Club Team Point Award: **Augusta Recreation** with **110** combined team points.

Coached by; **Kevin Russell, Jeff Bilodeau**

Medium Club Team Point Award: **Windham Recreation** with **139.33** combined team points

Coached by; **Phillip Jackson**

Large Club Team Point Award: **Panther TC Combined** team points of **251pts.**

Coached by; **Dan Roy & Others**

Master Athlete of the Year Award: There are quite a few deserving master athletes who participated at our developmental meets, as well as our championship meets for the open and master athletes. The last time a master athlete was given the award was when **Buster Byrnes** was still present. **Buster** mentored open and master athletes as a coach and Buster even participated in the jumping and throws event, throws being his favorite.

For 2018 Master Athlete of the Year is: *Arthur L. Murray Jr.*, from the **Lewiston** area.

~2018 USATF – Maine Certified Official’s Award~

Don Berry – USATF-Maine Officials Certification Chair to present the **2018 USATF – Maine Certified Official’s Award** is awarded to 5 individuals.

1. *To be awarded at a different time* - 2018 USATF – National Level
2. *To be awarded at a different time* - 2018 USATF – National Level
3. *To be awarded at a different time* - 2018 USATF – National Level
4. *To be awarded at a different time* - 2018 USATF - National Level
5. *Martin “Marty” Kahler* – Master Level

~2018 USATF-Maine Volunteer of the Year Award~

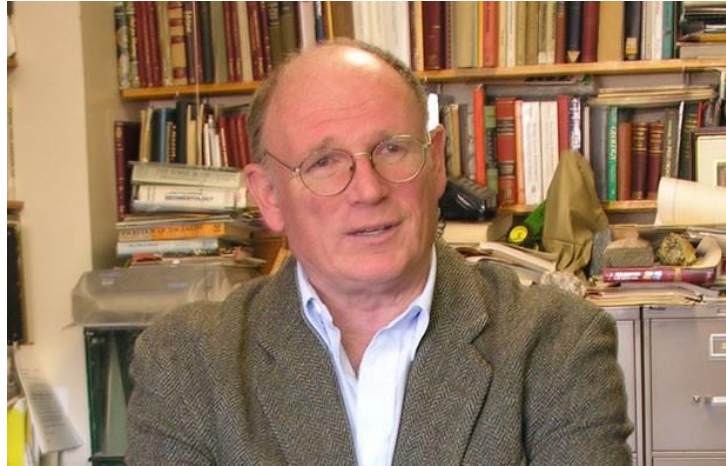
Presented to:

Tavi J. Norton

, For her years of commitment in supporting the association as beginning a past board member of USATF-Maine, a parent, coach, an official and an individual willing to step in when and where needed.

~2018 USATF-Maine President's Award: ~

Was presented to the Eastler Family



Dr. Thomas "Tom" Eastler

Posthumously for his numerous years of Dedication & Support to the sport of Track and Field / Race Walking and Cross Country

and for His Support to the Maine Association of United States Track & Field, over the many years.

As a USATF-Maine Master Level Official, Coach with Maine Race Walkers, a husband, a parent and grandparent. Rest in Peace.

September 2018

The 2018 USATF-Maine annual meeting to take place after the awards banquet concludes and guests and USATF-Maine Registered Members is invited to attend.

~~Thank-you Youth, Open and Master athletes, parents, coaches and guests who attend this year's Awards Banquet. ~~

Valaree Foss – USATF - Maine – President – 2017-2018



Dr. Thomas “Tom” Eastler

FARMINGTON — Thomas Eastler, who helped make racewalking a high school sport in Maine and contributed to its popularity throughout the state and nationally, died Thursday at age 73.

The Farmington resident, who was also a professor of natural sciences at the University of Maine at Farmington for 41 years, was a USA Track & Field official for 30 years and coached racewalkers from around Maine, including two of his children who went on to the Olympic trials and two Olympic games in racewalking.

Now, Maine is one of only two states where racewalking is a high school sport — the other is New York, though only girls can participate there.

“He was the father of the racewalk,” Michael Burnham, assistant executive director of the Maine Principals’ Association, said Friday. “He was certainly an ambassador for the sport, and the entire MPA community is saddened by his passing. He was a wonderful gentleman who impacted the sport of track and field.” FARMINGTON — Thomas Eastler, who helped make racewalking a high school sport in Maine and contributed to its popularity throughout the state and nationally, died Thursday at age 73.

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Along with New York, Maine is the only state that offers high school athletes the chance to compete in the racewalk. The sport is defined by two main criteria that distinguish it from running slowly: first, that the athlete maintain constant contact with the ground with at least one foot; and secondly, that the leg remain straightened from the moment of first contact with the ground to the point it passes under the body.

Eastler died at his home in Farmington from complications of cardiac and kidney disease, his family said. His love of racewalking dates to his days as a graduate student at Columbia University in New York City in the late 1960s, where he was visiting a local gym and spotted a man practicing.

“My dad was always interested in athletics, and he was in the gym and saw a man doing a really funny walk,” said Eastler’s daughter, Gretchen Fishman, of Boxford, Massachusetts. “He was always a curious, intellectual man, so he went up to the guy and said, ‘What are you doing?’”

That guy, it turned out, was Shaul Ladany, an Israeli Holocaust survivor, world record holder and two-time Olympian who in 1972 survived the Munich Massacre, an attack on Israeli Olympic athletes during the Munich Olympics.

It was Ladany who taught Eastler to racewalk in New York City, and he competed there recreationally before moving to Maine in 1974 to teach at the university and live on a farm.

He passed his love for the sport on to his children and became an advocate for racewalking as a high school sport across the state, working in the early 1990s to get the MPA to recognize it as an official track and field event.

He also published a children’s book, “Racewalking? Fun!” that has been distributed by USA Track & Field and in schools across Maine.

“Getting that advancement to take place with the MPA and getting racewalking to be a competitive piece of Maine’s high school track and field, that was a major goal of Tom’s and it was accomplished,” said Don Berry, a longtime friend and the officials liaison for both indoor and outdoor track and field with the MPA. “It was one of those really amazing things that happened in our lives as far as the sport is concerned.”

Pic 1 Thomas Eastler, left, supports his son Kevin Eastler, pictured in the Air Force shirt, during a racewalk around the year 2006.

Pic 2 Thomas Eastler, left, pictured in 2003 with racewalking athletes and his son, Kevin Eastler, third from right.



Bangor Daily News – August 2018 and **Photos courtesy of Gretchen Fishman**
RACHEL OHM STAFF WRITER