

## 2017 Combined Events Annual Report

Thirty-six hearty souls started, as normal, not all finished. Meet was highlighted by the strong performance of Erika Pierce in W45 with a new American Record 4663 which also contained a 937-point 60mH effort. Erika smoked a 9.89 60m hurdle time.

In the M40, Mike Kuoppamaki scored 5253, exceeding the published American Record. Mike also had over 900 points (920) in hurdles flashing over the barriers in 8.71 seconds.

Note: Mike's is second all-time to Ken's 1998 mark (Ken had over 900 in hurdles and Pole vault).

Jeff Watry  
Co-Chair (Indoor)

The decathlon and heptathlon championships were held in Slippery Rock, PA on June 24/25.

There were 54 athletes registered and 52 who started the competition. Great facility, friendly and knowledgeable staff from Slippery Rock and superb weather.

We had the largest group of women decathletes ever with six ladies who started and completed the competition. Five competed in the heptathlon.

Barbara Warren was the first W70 American to compete in a decathlon and set the AR with 4,921 points. Stephanie Colby completed the first ever W35 decathlon for another AR while tearing an achilles tendon during the pole vault.

Jeferson Souza was the WMA pentathlon champion in Daegu and set a M40, AR with 3915 points.

Noel Ruebel completed the grand slam of USATF combined events. Noel competing in the M60 age group won the heptathlon in Kenosha, WI; the indoor pentathlon in Albuquerque, NM; the outdoor decathlon in Slippery Rock, PA, and the outdoor pentathlon in Baton Rouge, LA. Noel also competed in the USA vs England Challenge in Sheffield England in September.

It's easy to train for one or two events but we train for ten.

The combined events committee was successful in purchasing/acquiring over 30 pole vaulting poles in various lengths and weights for all levels of competition. We raised almost \$5,500 in donations and have successfully paid off the acquisition debt, which was more than \$9,000. These poles will be available at National Championship meets in the future.

The combined events committee started the 2017 fiscal year with a budget of \$6,000 and a surcharge carry over of \$1,350. The 2017 expenses are \$6,224.80 to date, leaving a balance of \$1,125.20

**2018 schedule:**

Indoor Heptathlon – Kenosha, WI. - January 27/28

Indoor Pentathlon – Landover, MD - March, 16

Outdoor Decathlon – Grass Valley, CA – June 31 - July, 1

Outdoor Pentathlon – Spokane, WA – July, 26

WMA Decathlon/Heptathlon – Malaga, SP – September 4/5/6/7

The Combined Events Subcommittee reinstated the annual combined event athlete of the year award for men and women. The award is the “Rex Harvey Combined Event Athlete Award”. The 2017 recipients are W55 Vickie Fox and M40 Jeferson Souza.

Bill Murray

USATF Masters

Co-Chair Combined Events (Outdoor)