

**Dan Gordon**  
**1021 West Hortter Street**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19119**

February 25, 2009

Dear Norm

Enclosed is our USATF team membership application. I would like to appeal to you to have our club membership be retroactive to the Ugly Mudder race last Sunday. The Wissahickon Wanderers have been club members of the USATF for many years. We make an active effort to encourage club members to join the USATF. I believe we have almost 20 USATF members now when there were probably none just a few years ago. All of our entrants listed the Wanderers, #92, as their club affiliation.

It was strictly through an oversight that the club membership fee was not paid on a timely basis for 2009. My bookkeeper had the form filled out, but had thought that the application was not due until March. Once that misconception occurred, no reminder was given (as occurs with so many expirations) so that we could correct our mistake. The fact that all of the USATF individual members from the club noted our club membership certainly demonstrated our intent to sign up for club membership.

I am sure you do not want a team to sign on late in the running season and then suddenly vault toward the front of the competition if their runners have scored well. However, with the Wanderers this has not been, nor will it be the case that we will vie for the top team. We have been second to last for each year we have joined the team competition, and I will bet the ranch the highest we will finish this year is second to last. However, our runners want to feel like they are part of a team effort. We had 11 runners compete on our team in the Ugly Mudder, and they will be disappointed that their results will not be counted toward the team competition.

We signed up as a team several years ago on the recommendation of Chuck Shields who said he was trying to promote team participation in the USATF competitions. I agreed with Chuck's position, and have urged club members to sign up for the USATF so that we could compete as a team. Denying our results from counting in the Ugly Mudder, in what was obviously a clerical oversight, would discourage rather than promote USATF involvement.

I hope you will look favorably on our appeal to have our results from the Ugly Mudder included in our team results or to at least review the situation with other USATF board members. If you have questions or need more information or would like to discuss it further, please call me at 215-849-9080. Thank you for reviewing my appeal. Enclosed please find club payment for the 2009 season.

Sincerely,

Dan Gordon