

## PA Race Walk Committee Report – May 2010

By Art Klein, Chair

### **PA Youth Showcase Talent at US World Cup Trials, World Cup and West Region 15k Championship**

Tyler and Nicolette Sorensen continued their winning ways at the US World Cup Trials held in Ronkonkoma, NY on April 11. Tyler, Age 16 placed 2nd in the Junior Men's 10k with 45:04. Nicolette, Age 14 was 2nd in 57:04 in the Junior Women's Division. By his top three finish Tyler earned a berth on the team that would represent the US at the 2010 IAAF World Cup of Race Walking in Chihuahua, Mexico from 15-16 May. Because of the minimum age requirement of 16, Nicolette was considered ineligible for that competition.

In Mexico, Tyler performed impressively placing 18<sup>th</sup> in 47:54 under hot conditions and high altitude. The points scored by the US team brought them to a sixth-place overall finish.

The West Region 15k Championship was held on 16 May in Riverside , CA. Lila Haba, age 14 toed the line with over 50 walkers on a cool , overcast day. Although she is accustomed to walking 3,000m in her age group (Silver medalist at the Junior Olympics in 2008 and 2009) , Lila accepted the challenge to test her stamina on a loop course in Fairmount Park. She was the youngest athlete competing and finished in the middle of the pack in approximately 1 hour and 47 minutes.

### **PA Masters Showcase Talent and set new records at USA Masters 15k Race Walk Championship**

The Masters Championship was held concurrently with the West Region 15k Championship. Walkers from as far away as New York and Florida arrived to compete against clubs from all over the United States. <sup>Four</sup> Five walkers represented the Pacific Association: James Beckett (Marin Racewalkers), MJ Baglin ( Pacific Racewalkers Organization) and Ron and Louise Walters (Sierra Racewalkers). PA Race Walk Judges Art and Becky Klein were also on hand to ensure that seven judges were present for championship conditions.

Louise Walters finished her race in 1:39:11 setting a new record for the 70-74 age group.