

USATF FL Assn. MUT Chair Report – 12/7/15

Please find below the 2015 MUT Chair report (effect. 10/10/15)

A conversation regarding the upcoming 2016 Association championship in the Everglades, took place on 10/26/15, with Bob Becker, meet director. It was determined that as the agreement to hold the race was in place prior to the election of a new MUT chair, the race would take place and would remain the championship for 2016. It was also decided that further exploration into alternate locations in the state would take place for 2017. The 2016 FL Assn MUT Championship is on 2/20/16, at Fakahatchee Strand Reserve State Park in Copeland, FL. It's a 50m/50k/25k Trail race. Race information can be found at: <http://evergladesultras.com>

A site that has an Ultra of interest is the Wolfson Childrens' Hospital Challenge, which is a fundraiser. Currently, the race is a 55K Individual and Team event, as the "55" is symbolic to the Hospital however, conversation is ongoing to help establish this race as 1) a USATF sanctioned event and 2) a future Association and potentially National championship. The change that will need to take place is the actual distance, as 50K is considered the standard, not 55K. Wolfson's Challenge staff are excited about the possibilities, and are in the process of certifying the course, and if possible, will sanction the event for this upcoming year. (1/30/16) Race information can be found at: <http://www.wolfsonchildrenschallenge.org/Ultra-Marathon-General-Information--Jacksonville-FL.html>

USATF is bringing their Annual Meeting to Orlando, FL in 2016! 11/30-12/4 we will be in Orlando in the Disney area, and at the MUT Council meeting in TX, discussion arose about hosting a special trail run for event attendees. FL Assn will host the run, but it's non-competitive, and will be available to any attendee of the Annual Meeting that wishes to participate. Details to come.

During the USATF Annual Meeting in Houston, TX, the MUT council met on 12/4-5/15. Please find the minutes below.

***Note: there was an amendment to the USATF regulations pertaining to MUT approved on Sunday, 12/6/15, in the Closing Session:

REG. 13

Amend Regulation 13-D-2-a by adding a new subparagraph "i" and renumbering the subsequent paragraphs:

2. Mountain/Ultra/Trail Running Council:

a. Duties and responsibilities: The Mountain/Ultra/Trail Running Council shall:

i. Discipline: Specifically and without sport committee oversight have authority to conduct programs for all events exceeding the marathon distance regardless of venue, and for all out-of-stadium/off-road events, except those which fall under the term "cross country running" at any distance, including those events falling under the broad categories of mountain, ultra, and trail running.

This pertains directly to the inclusion of snowshoe/snow running that was discussed during the Council meetings.

USATF's Mountain Ultra Trail Council – annual meeting – Houston, TX December 3-4, 2015

First meeting on Thursday, December 3, called to order at 2:31PM in the Holly Room at the Hyatt Regency.
** items are formatted by agenda topic, with the date of discussion indicated in parenthesis.*

ADMINISTRATION:

- 1) Welcome** - introductions and attendance and format of the meeting presented.
- 2) Minutes** - review and approval of minutes from the 2014 annual meeting (Anaheim, CA)
Roy Pirrung motioned to approve minutes, George Leaf, second. All were in favor. (Addressed 12/3/15)

Introductions by all in attendance Thursday 12/3/15.

Nancy Hobbs, Howard Nippert, Richard Bolt, Traci Falbo, Edwin Roberts, Wayne C Davis, Tina Klein, Brent Ayer, Jim Peterson, Joe Prusaitis, Roy Pirrung, Joyce Prusaitis, Chris McWatters, Noelle Giannuzzi, Craig Yotte, Jim Gilmer, Annette White, Tom Derderian (USATF NE president), Eric Blake, Andy Wacker, Peter Maksimow, Martise Scott, Doug Kotti, Andy Carr, Demertrio Cabanillas, Jim Garcia, Steve Taylor, George S Leaf, Ben Vail, Jon Molz, Terry Mullane, MM Merrill, Jim Estes, Bill Roe, Yen Darcy, Frank Lombard, Callum Neff, Lindsay Toussant, Karl Newman, Kate (MT Association)

Some of the national office staff including Lindsay Toussant, Karl Eagleman, and Jim Estes were available for comments at the outset of the meeting. Lindsay handles the processing of reimbursements and is one of our main contacts. (Addressed 12/3/15)

Jim Peterson Report (Addressed 12/3/15): (Sports Science), substance abuse report will be on official documents library:

- Russian/Kenyan (Chebet-4 year suspension) Scandal
- Nike OR scandal, but Rupp-most tested athlete in 2014 and clean
- USADA-use of performance enhancing drugs higher number than Diabetes Type I. PED's not just restricted to athletes...people take for many reasons
- WADA-urging PED trafficking-should be criminalized -working with Chinese government
- Dietary Supplements-remain unregulated
- Energy Drinks-potential Blood pressure issues
- Gene Therapy-not much progress, but is up and coming
- Athletes responsibility for what goes in and out of their body
- WADA-Terry Cunningham-recidivism- usually if dope once, likely will recur
- Positive & Negative affects of PED's can last longer than the 2-4 year suspension
- Mo Farrah is suspended. Is still competing in non-sanctioned races, and is wanting to coach (needs to be listed on IAF list of coaches of PED's)
- Italian coach-25 athletes on the list of investigation for PED's
- Cryotherapy-studies indicate help relax, but feel better, doesn't really help repair muscles.
- Concerns of concussion is bringing more kids to the sport of cross country
- Discussion of Mental toughness: Matt Fitzgerald book-How Bad Do You want it?, US Olympic Committee-mental training for performance

(LDR) (Addressed 12/3/15):

Nancy brought up new rules discussed at LDR meeting:
new LDR rule 252-Trail Running Rule
new M.U.T. rule 254-Trail Running Specific

Nancy discussed snow running (with or without traction devices) and the proposal to include this facet into our discipline. There is a rule (tabled from last year), and some L and L wording that is being considered in committees and will be discussed over the next two days. (Addressed 12/3/15)

3) Finances – budget updates for 2015/16 – anticipate, but must verify \$20,700+- increase for teams in 2016. Discussed funding concerns. Traci Falbo presented at the AAC Event Leaders Meeting this morning in regard to funding concerns. Karl Eagleman said he would verify budget numbers for the council. (Addressed 12/3/15).

4) Rules within IAAF – trail and mountain (Addressed 12/3 and 12/4).

OPERATIONS:

1) Recap of Exec Committee work through year - exec committee – Maria Dalzot, Roy Pirrung, Howard Nippert, Nancy Hobbs, Richard Bolt, Traci Falbo, Mike Wardian, Eric Blake, Max King, Semick, Brandy Erholtz, Jon Olsen. A brief review of the duties of council and exec committee were discussed. Committee meets via conference call generally once per month to review various issues and discuss M.U.T. business between annual meetings. Jon Olsen is stepping down from the council at the end of 2015. Alex Varner and Joe Fejes will be added 1/1/16 officially. (Addressed 12/3/15)

2) **Social Media/Marketing Update** - Richard Bolt (Addressed 12/3/15):

50k team is in Doha, Qatar. Social media since 2009-Twitter account, USATF M.U.T. Facebook page, USATF 24-Hour Facebook page. Goal is to spread the word and promote the athletes. Raise visibility within USATF, and be “the” source of M.U.T., 8K followers on Twitter, 4-5K on FB, ATRA (American Trail Running Association), whose mission is to represent and promote trail and mountain running, is a non-profit helping Mountain teams with fundraising efforts. Helped connect athletes and races. M.U.T. has led many successful and creative fundraising programs including, for the IAU World Trail Team – Trail Butter fundraiser – specific red white and blue trail butter, and ice bandanas (Howard Nippert) for the 24 Hours Team, Ellen Miller organizes a winter uphill race in Vail, Colorado and raised more than \$4000 in 2015 and anticipates raising \$5000 in 2016 for the US Mountain Running Team. Various ideas come from creative individuals in our sport.

Collegiate Running Association - Steve Taylor & Jon Molz presented updates about the organization. Initiative to promote mountain and trail running to encourage younger runners to get involved earlier in the sport. Held two races in 2015 on the trails/mountains: USA Mountain Champs served as CRA Mountain Running Championships the past two years, first in Lincoln, NH in 2014 with the Loon Mountain race and in 2015 with the USA Mountain Championships in Bend, OR (increase in participation number from 25 to 52 college athletes from 2014 to 2015). Prize money for college students of all ages – undergraduate and graduate. Eligible by taking one college class. Indiana Wilderness Run occurred at White River Park on a new network of trails in downtown Indianapolis, IN. Last year \$16k prize money; 2016-\$32k of prize money planned for college students. Also helping students as an avenue to stay in the sport. (Addressed 12/3/15):

- 3) Zero Tolerance policy – Teams and Championships: PED’s. Usage hasn’t been that predominant thankfully in the M.U.T. group. At our national championships, there could be drug testing as well as at World Championship events, international team members could be tested. (Addressed 12/3/15):
- 4) Team Staffs: Executive Committee selections: Mountain; 100km; 24 Hours. Named 2017 team and 2017 mountain champs already named. Team staffs listed (USATF site under Mountain, Ultra, Trail), as well as criteria/standards to be on the team. Howard maintains 24 hour & 100k standards, 50 mile JFK, and 50 mile national championship. If you know of a performance that meets the criteria, please notify Howard. Team selection criteria is listed as well as staff. IAU World Trail Championship selection criteria listed (Cayuga 50 Mile race director Ian Golden offered to donate \$1,000 for both the male and female winner for airfare should they accept their spot on the team as the event will be one of the team selection with the winners – provided they are USA citizens and as such, eligible to compete for Team USA – receiving an auto selection spot). Eric Blake spoke in regard to resume spots to make up the remainder of the teams. Nancy brought up team size (for each team) and course distance differences in regard to men/women (for the mountain team). This topic will be discussed at the WMRA meetings in Monaco next month. (Addressed 12/3/15):
- 5) M.U.T. at state and regional level – incorporating a M.U.T. program at the state and regional level (*To be addressed 12/4/15 in an open forum.)
- 6) Runners of the Year – recipients named – awards announced at annual breakfast on Saturday; discuss process for 2016 awards and criteria. Someone to tabulate and take charge of this topic. Thanks to Joyce and Joe Prusaitis for providing the trail running awards (four total). We had more people voting than ever this year. We welcome more people to participate in voting in the future (designee from association is eligible to vote). If anyone is interested in getting M.U.T. business updates throughout the year, contact Nancy or Howard to be added to the Yahoo Group. (Addressed 12/3/15):

CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- 1) Liaisons - discussion of duties before, during, and after championships. Review process for getting medals, race numbers, back tags, finish tape and banners. Review expectations for generating PR, social media channels, event photography and distributing timely results. Discuss reimbursement and the process. (Addressed 12/3/15)
- 2) Review bids for 2016 and beyond

Championships approved at 2014 USATF Annual Meeting in Anaheim:

2016-Bandera 100k trail – Bandera, TX
2016 Rocky Raccoon 100 mile trail – Huntsville, TX
2016-50k road at Caumsett – Long Island, NY
2016-North Coast 24-Hours

2016- Trail Half Marathon - Lake Padden Bellingham, WA
2016- Trail Marathon – Moab, UT

Championships whose bids will be considered tomorrow:

100k road (Mad city) - 2016
50 mile trail (Cayuga Trail) - 2016/2017
30k trail (Mad Moose) 2016
50k trail (Headlands) - 2016
100k trail: (Bandera) - 2017-2018
100 mile trail (Rocky Raccoon) - 2017-2018

Joe Prusaitis has offered to be our Championships Chair starting January 1, 2016. Paul Kirsch stepped down as Championships Chair, and was thanked for his work in this role.

- 3) Junior awards at championships – open/individual and team. Discussed minimum age requirements to compete in events. (Addressed 12/4/15)
- 4) Team initiative – TNF in 2015 Brand Competition/USA Team Invitational: 12/5/15 (Altra, Hoka, Nike, The North Face, Salomon will compete) @ TNF 50 miler Saturday, December 5. USATF requirement not required, neither US citizenship. Press release, *Runner's World* article out. Getting some good coverage. The event is not sanctioned through USATF because we weren't requiring citizenship/USATF membership and the event is covered via TNF for insurance. Bill Roe brought up there is precedence with green card athletes being able to compete at national level with club teams. (Addressed 12/3/15):

MOUNTAIN: (Addressed 12/3/15):

- 1) World Mountain Championships - Callum Neff (Canadian Mountain Running Team), discussed possible course in 2018 for bid – Kicking Horse in Golden, Canada. There has only been one World Mountain Championships in North American – 2003 in Girdwood, Alaska. At the World Mountain Champs in Wales this year, juniors: Allie Ostrander won gold (and continues posting excellent results as a freshman at Boise State), and Levi Thomet won silver (and led the junior men to a silver team medal). Their performances provided excellent press coverage and further solidified our connection to high school and college cross country. 2016 Selection Criteria has been discussed to have senior team selected at one venue – champs in Bulgaria September 4, 2016 on uphill course
- 2) WMRA World Long Distance Championships - USA Team report 2015 – Richard from Zermatt – team for Long Distance Championships 2016 – 5 men/5 women/1 staff – Slovenia on June 18. Peter discussed being on the team (he received a berth via resume) and was second American finishing 15th. In 20th (Mario Mendoza). Podium amazing experience, but lack of funding made the trip financially difficult.
- 3) Youth International Cup – Czech Republic 2016; no youth for 2015 team
- 4) NACAC Mountain Champs (12th in Canada 2015) – selection 2016 team. (2016 host will be Mexico near Guadalajara on July 24) North America, Canada, Mexico, Caribbean. Richard discussed it as a good development program and we have had several juniors on the team in past years.

ULTRA: (Addressed 12/3/15):

- 1) World Championships 100km – Winschoten 2015; team selection for 2016: (now every other year events, because sponsors/race venues pulled out. Had trouble securing venues). (100k now even years)
- 2) World Championships 24 Hour - Italy 2015; team selection Criteria - 2017 IAU 24 Hr- TBA 100k (now every other year events, because sponsors/race venues pulled out. Had trouble securing venues). (24- Hour now odd years). Standards were adjusted in 2015. Qualifying window 18 months prior.
- 3) IAU Trail Championships – recap 2015 in Annecy, France; team selection 6th edition in Portugal, October 29, 2016. World Mountain championship is growing. Ultra trail is big in the world, but small on federation level. There is a lot more progress which needs to be made for top tier ultra trail. First World Championship ever held in 2015. Lots more attention has come since the first World Championship. Down the road, this will likely draw the most sponsors and most money. Challenges IAU/IAAF bringing championships to brands.

Ultra Trail issues discussed: Callum Neff discussed Canadian issues. Canadian runners get zero funding. Mountain teams are separate from Athletics Canada. (Addressed 12/3/15):

Standards: When creating standards: look at auto-qualifiers from comparable courses with good field of competition and highlight our national championships by having auto-qualifiers. (Addressed 12/3/15):

- 4) IAU 50km Road Championships – 2015 team selection and report; 2016 – selection criteria. First World Championships ever. Races are gaining legitimacy.
- 5) IAU label designation – events in USA can apply for bronze, silver, gold label
- 6) IAU (International) Meeting 2016 – every other year.

- 3) Records – update from Andy Carr (including course at USA 50 Mile Champs and noteworthy performance also the ages 80+ for records at 24 Hours, etc.) Juniors and record-setting performances in the ultra category (presented on 12/4/15)

Motion to recess from Doug Kotti, second from Demertrio Cabanillas, all in favor. (12/3/15)

Friday 12/4/15, 9AM-12:50pm Session – Raintree Room

Called to order 9:10AM

Attendees: Edwin Roberts, Joe Prusaitis, George Leaf, Carl Grossbard, Ed Neighbour, Chris McWatters, Steve Taylor, Joe Sarver, Mark Dennett, Douglas K Kotti, Jason Bryant, Eric Blake, Noelle Giannuzzi, Yen Darcy, Wayne C Davis, Verity Breen, Phil Greenwald, Peter Maksimow, Richard Bolt, Nancy Hobbs, Howard Nippert, Traci Falbo, Roy Pirrung, Andy Wacker, Gary Morgan

Review Championship Bids Awarded Previously:

Bandera 100K Trail: Jan 9, 2016
Rocky Raccoon 100 Mile Trail: Feb 6, 2016
Caumsett State Park 50K Road March 6, 2016
North Coast 24 September 17-18, 2016
Lake Padden 1/2 Trail October 15, 2016
Moab Trail Marathon November 6, 2016

Additional dates on the calendar for 2016 World Championships
World Long Distance Mountain Champs June 18, 2016
World Mountain September 4, 2016 Bulgaria
IAU World Trail October 29, 2016 Portugal
100K Road TBD
50K Road Doha TBD
NACAC Guadalajara, MX July 24, 2016
Youth International Mt. Running Cup, Czech Republic (June)

100k Road April 9, 2016 - Mad City 100km in Madison, WI

Bid forthcoming from Tim Yanacheck who has put on the championships for many years. Motion to approve pending proper documentation and signature of bid from association.
George Leaf motion, Ed Roberts second. Approved (passed unanimously)

100 Mile Trail Champs: February 4-5, 2017 February 3-4, 2018

Rocky Raccoon Chris McWatters present packages for 2017/2018
\$4000 Prize packages
\$1000 for 100 Mile Trail “Best”
Motion to approve, Ed Roberts, Second Carl Grossbard (passed unanimously) Awarded for 2017/2018
Additional Discussion of RD responsibility for Liaisons (lodging, food, etc) and explanation of what \$500 application fee to USATF covers.

100 Km Trail Champs: January 7-8, 2017 & Jan 6-7, 2018

Bandera 100k Chris McWatters present packages for 2017/2018
\$4000 Prize packages
Motion to approve, Ed Roberts, Second Carl Grossbard (passed unanimously) Awarded for 2017/2018

50K Trail Champs: August 27, 2016

Tamalpa Headlands 50K

Reviewed and supported thru Executive Committee

Howard (Liaison in 2015 to the event) and Richard (social media at the 2015 event) spoke in support of the event. \$5000 prize money awarded among top three men and women - \$1200, \$800, \$500

George Leaf Motion to approve, Second Roy Pirrung (passed unanimously) Awarded for 2016

50 Mile Champs: June 4, 2016 and June 3, 2017

Cayuga in Ithaca, NY

\$7000 total 1500, 100, 500 1-3 and 500 top masters

Motion Roy Pirrung Second: Peter Maksimow. Awarded for 2016

30k Trail Champs: July 30, 2016 July 29, 2017

Pikes Peak Ultra (Bear Creek Park) Colorado Springs, CO

minimum \$2000 prize for 1-5

homestays available

Discussion whether 1 or 2 years awarded since relatively new race.

Motion to accept 30k bid Ed Roberts. Second: Traci Falbo. Awarded for 2016 and 2017

Mountain Running Champs: July 3, 2016

Loon Mountain Ski Area, New Hampshire

Proposed distance 10k for men and women

\$1000 prize money, hoping to have \$3000 prize money

homestays

Discussion of course distance, (world champs is an uphill year Bulgaria 11.8k 3780' of climb for men and 8.8k 3360' of climb), course profile of Loon is up, some down, and flat (2014 total climb: 10.6k 3000' for men and 7.7k 2780' elevation gain for women). Will sort out the exact course distance later with RD, as he is flexible in distance.

Richard made a spreadsheet back to 2007 in regard to matching national champs vs. world champs; 7/8 ours have been shorter by non-trivial distances. Historically our national champs have been 5-6 min shorter for men. Collegiate Running Association will have their mountain championships concurrent with this race (provide \$6000 for collegiate runners). Discussion that the same weekend is the USA track trials, potentially taking away athletes competing at Loon (primarily 5k/10k/steeple).

Jim Garcia made the motion to accept the bid if at least \$2000 in prize money. Roy Pirrung Second. Bid Approved unanimously provided minimum \$2000 prize money. (**Race Director Paul Kirsch confirmed this support by email post-approved bid*).

50k Road Champs: March 5, 2017 and March 4, 2018

Caumsett, NY (also 25k concurrent though not a championship designation)

RD: 10 year...very successful. Continues to get more elite runners. Best times have been on this course.

Airport transfers, hotel, food post race provided to elite athletes.

\$2000 total prize money and additional \$1000 if break American Record.

Don't have official bid (he presented with three years last year)

Motion to accept bid pending receipt of proper documentation, which includes signature from the association, made by Roy Pirrung, Second Traci Falbo. Bid Approved unanimously based on verbal presentation.

50 mile Road Champs:

We received no bids prior to the Annual Meeting for this distance. Door County 50 Mile required USATF membership for all participants in 2014 and 15 when hosted the championships. Event registrations have been dropping the past two years since it has been a championship. Currently don't have a bid from Door County, but indication that a bid would be presented if some changes were acceptable, including less prize money and not require USATF membership. We received emails from the RD Sean Ryan to this effect on Thursday. We did receive a fantastic bid from Tussey Mountainback last night after an email from the RD asking if we had a bid. Discussion to defer a decision on a 50 Mile awarded championship for 2016. Tussey's bid is \$5000 in prize money. 5:28 CR men, 6:24 CR women, some limited travel funds, rooms up 20 athletes

up to 4 nights. 82% gravel. Not entirely road. Motion made by Jason Bryant to table bid for the executive committee to review both Door County and Tussey. Second Howard Nippert, passed unanimously.

SNOW RUNNING Discussion:

Different audiences view “snow running” as something different than what USATF does. The way to approach is “Trail running with appropriate footwear for snow” with guidelines for such appropriate footwear. Will snowrunning at some point want funding and resources?

Base it off equipment for the conditions.

Rules committee views things compared to track and field (section on guidelines, language for rules in relation to trail running from IAAF, making sure wording changed so not requiring whistles or safety blanket. Instead, RD can specify what equipment may be needed. Nancy talked to Steve Vaitones (USATF NE), who was concerned about insurance regarding poles and other things. Can look to the outside for insurance if needed. L&L (broad definition of M.U.T., because was still existing as subset of LDR...now has jurisdiction of M.U.T. events)

Howard brings up discussion about funding. Do we include this subgroup? We are already in a shortfall...Do we add? We are only discussing a national championship, not the group wanting funding. Snow running is often what “trail” runners do in the winter. Run on the same trail, but which is snow covered.

Discussion in regard to phasing them in. 2016 US Snowshoe Championships will be held in Ogden (not USATF). Bill Roe discussed endorsing the event.

Andy brought up part of USATF regional linkage vs. national linkage. Worried about asking for funding and adding something new. Basically just looking at a run with snow equipment. Not looking at a world team, funding or additional support.

Phil Greenwald from Rules committee:

Separate trail and snow. (combining them together got thrown out in Rules).

Exclusively Trail: IAAF language. See rule 242 (for start language). Aid stations-too complicated so simplified...Shall be sufficiently spaced out so autonomous, but taking in account for health and safety. Trail races (definition) on variety of terrains within a natural environment, sections of pavement have to be less than 20%, no elevation/altitude specifics required. Course marked well enough to not deviate from it. Can recommend safety equipment to avoid issue of distress, may use hiking poles, such as hiking poles. Wording- “may” is permissive, “should” is a recommendation, “shall” is obligatory. Medical - standard language. Race assistance only at aid stations. 254 or 252 (rules)

Status of snowshoeing. L&L - Bill Roe – use language that wouldn’t disallow snowshoes. If allowed, then we add rule 257 to write snowshoe language.

Discussion of snowshoe races, sanctioning races, insurance. Phil suggests getting himself, Bill, and Nancy together for further discussion.

Motion to recess until 2:30 by George Leaf Second Traci Falbo.

Friday 12/4/15: Afternoon 2:30-4:50 Raintree Room

Attendees: Ben Vail, Virginia Brophy Achman, Wayne C Davis, Mickey Piscitelli, Chris McWatters, Larry Aelsevda, Joe Prusaitis, Carl Grossbard, Noelle Giannuzzi, Jason Bryant, Howard Nippert, Traci Falbo, Nancy Hobbs, Richard Bolt, Edwin Roberts.

Jack Wickens Athlete Biz:

Former USATF Board Member

Bring visibility of top athletes to fans.

Hardcore fans already there, but many fans don’t know much about it.

Web platform has a Goal: Best athlete-centered platform of all sports

Started 1.5 years ago

Personal web presence for athletes. Personal stories, pictures, videos, blogs

Most athletes have significant needs for income. Empower athletes for income opportunities.

Market talents (tips, coaching, appearances, etc)

Four health care companies have expressed interest in hiring athletes

A year ago, specific to track and field. Traci and Roy inquired about M.U.T. athletes to join. Now Traci Falbo, Camille Herron, Maria Dalzot, Joesph Gray, and Pam Smith involved/have pages.

Free to invited athletes

New feature: each athlete may have own store on their page (shoes, apparel, sponsor) to promote what they like via Running Warehouse. Athletes get 5-10% commission on items bought thru the page from their site. So far, 50 athletes have "Store" set up.

More ideas to come.

Total number of athletes 135

Limited now to top 20-25 ranked M.U.T. people (World Championship Team members offered, as well as Notable National Championship performances have been invited)

Write regular column "Track Shorts" which describes weekly performances (story, photos, anecdotes)

Create summary weekly about post for the week.

Records Report (Andy Carr)

107 LDR Pending marks – approve more, rather than defer to next year

57 approved. 5 denied

26 ultra marks 23 approved

Ultra marks get proper paperwork to get marks certified

Camille Herron 50 Mile mark – course at Door County (as point to point), not record standard, but USATF keeps world "bests" (non-record standard course, but beats current standing American Record)

Joe Fejes 6 Day Needs Course measurement certificate

Zach Bitter no paperwork came from RD

Master's 12 Hr mark "pending" to Approved

Records all available on Document Library

80+ year-old record for 24 Hours was discussed.

Bona fide competition is part of the criteria.

If no record exists for an age group, is there a policy for how far one must run in order to be considered.

Junior Recognition of ultra records

Part of the record, but not broadcast

Recommendation of Council that "We do not promote or condone records or National Championships" for athletes in Junior division (specific at the ultra distance and we passed a motion a few years ago that juniors were not permitted in our championships above 25km). Need to write and submit new rule to change wording from "All Divisions" to "Men's and Womens LDR and Masters"

Rule 267 Events in which records are recognized.

Jason Bryant will take on project to rewrite rule with help of Andy Carr, Joe Prusaitis and Howard Nippert

Begun process of more rapid ratification of records. Not just done at Annual Meeting, but can be done at any point during the year. Posting records much more often (three to four times per year) to post ratified records. (At closing session, records get "reported" rather than "voted on" as records committee "ratifies." General closing session is just notified.

What constitutes bona fide competition?

Case-by-case basis.

In general, must have 3 competitors in the event to be considered bona fide competition.

Discussion was open among the attendees to discuss State, Regional, Mountain, Ultra, and Trail items (advice and success stories from associations with M.U.T. programs)

Joe Prusaitis discussed the structure of South Texas M.U.T. and how he has developed a program there.

Owned one race per month during the year. 5K to 100 Miles in two categories (Ultra, and Sub-ultra)

Required anyone in series to be a current USATF member. Anyone can run race(s), but only points went to USATF members.

Membership grew exponentially in South Texas USATF Association.

Created awards system including 30 other races. Membership grew 300 people that year.

Third year- 600-700 people.

LDR in South Texas now reproducing series to increase their membership

Race Directors don't have any additional work. Series points are allocated based on finish at specified races by Joe who conducts the series. Clubs compete against each other and individuals vie for series points for series awards.

Jason Bryant (North Carolina Association)

LDR series existed and they rolled M.U.T. into series as "trail/mountain" race. LDR series was in existence.

Jason (North Carolina) is LDR chair. Jason attended NC USATF meeting and was appointed for his work with NC race directing.

Associations have requirements for accreditation and if someone will do the legwork, it will often be welcomed and sometimes provided some resources.

Networking and piggybacking off existing races with USATF helps both causes.

Richard Bolt discussed a new initiative that will be conducted at the 2016 Western States 100 Mile Race through ATRA. Referred to as the "Googletrekker Expedition." Google Maps of things other than roads. Google opened program to outside organizations. Richard applied to use the "trekker backpack" through a program at Google. The proposal was accepted to track the entire WS 100 course. Partnered with the board of directors of WS for permits, and has talked with Ironfar for feature stories live from the trekking. Athletes will join and make 3-4 day trek. Will be there at WS with Google backpack. Application for use of backpack available on Google website.

U.S. Trail Running Conference- Estes Park, CO. All trail running (Wednesday, Thurs- Fri- Race director days), Saturday will offer specific content for trail runners and those interested in the sport. Vendors, shoe companies, demo opportunities. Dates for the fourth annual conference are September 28 – October 2, 2016 and also include a 5k road race in downtown Estes Park to celebrate Elk Fest, and a trail race on Sunday to round out the conference. Contact Terry Chiplin, activeataltitude@gmail.com.

Carl Grossbard (Greater Long Island Running Club- GLIRC)

Three races are used to determine top Ultra Runners of the Year

Long Island Association and President GLIRC

4500 members in Long Island Association

Ed Neighbour New Jersey- awarding two state championships to races in NJ. Ed is LDR division chair and takes M.U.T. assignment. Also President of NJ Association.

Richard Bolt - Oregon Association. There was no M.U.T. program in USATF Oregon Association when he relocated from New England. He showed up at annual meeting, and offered to start an Oregon Mountain Running Series. Richard suggested that one can work within existing structure of races to develop attraction to M.U.T. athletes into USATF.

Doug - South Carolina. The SC Association has between 3,000 and 4,000 members. Large Youth presence. More parents not allow kids to play football and therefore seeing growth in track. Mountains in South Carolina as well, coastal area to "midlands" lots of trails, state park system. Hills in northern part of state.

Noelle Giannuzzi- Florida M.U.T. Chair. Persistent to convince people that joining USATF is beneficial. North Florida has nice trails. Tallahassee, Everglades also have nice trails. Getting races sanctioned in FL, with ideas of M.U.T. Association Champ and perhaps future National Championship.

Women's LDR Secretary Camille Herron and Tony Migliozi both win individual gold at the IAU World 50Km World Championship today and both were recognized during Womens LDR meeting and Men's LDR meetings, as well as AAC meeting.

IAU Labeling program discussed. The program offers guidelines for events. Receiving a label directly relates to funding distribution for IAU World Champs – there is a dollar value for performance marks made at

labeled events to receive funding at the championships. Gold-silver-bronze labels are offered. Bronze is free (fill out paperwork). An important aspect of the label is to have verifiable qualifying performances on a certified course, which meets the labeling specifics. Details on the IAU website. Lin Gentling is the America's Rep to the IAU and can be contacted for help in applying.

IAU and WMRA meetings held concurrently in Monaco in January of each year. This year's meetings are in early January and Nancy will attend the WMRA meetings, Lin Gentling the IAU meetings. With the inclusion of trail in the IAAF rule book, there is the assumption that ITRA will be involved in a similar role to the IAU and WMRA related to trail. Nancy will provide a report from the meetings in Monaco.

Motion to adjourn Noelle Giannuzzi, Second Chris McWatters, all in favor. Adjourned at 5:02PM.

Thanks to Traci Falbo for taking minutes and the attendees for their input.

This concludes the 2015 MUT chair report. I respectfully submit this report to the FL Assn. President Robin Beamon Brown and Secretary Rod Larsen.

W/R, Noelle Giannuzzi