

BCA ROAD RUNNING COMMITTEE – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 13th, 2007.

6pm Sport BC, Room 104, Main Floor 1367 W. Broadway, Vancouver, BC

Attendance:

In Vancouver: Geoffrey Buttner, Clifton Cunningham, Jake Madderom (Secretary), Frank Stebner (Chair), Jerry Tighe, Greg White (BCA Board Rep) and Maurice Wilson.
On the phone: Rick Jenkner and Bob Reid (Treasurer)

Note: Some of the motions and suggestions below will require BCA Board or AGM approval.

1. Acceptance of Agenda

Geoffrey/Rick moved the acceptance of the agenda items 1 to 8 only. Carried.

2. Review and acceptance of Dec. 06, 2006 RR Minutes

Jake/Clif moved the acceptance of the Minutes.

Carried

3. Review and Acceptance of the March 28, 2007 minutes

Rick mentioned that the second paragraph in item 3 of the AGM Minutes should have been "...and road relay championships." instead of "...road running championships."

Clif/Rick moved the acceptance of the minutes as amended.

Carried

4. New BCA Sanctioning policy

Frank stated that the new BCA Sanctioning policy is now in effect and asked for comments. Concern was expressed that the on-line forms for sanctioning events were not available. Jerry said that he has a programmer ready to do the required work. As soon as the source code and appropriate passwords are transferred to that person, work will get started. Should be finished in about three weeks. Jerry will contact Larry Harper for status. Frank volunteered to help with the testing the online system. Jerry mentioned that there are many trail and mountain runs applying for sanctioning, not too many new road races to date.

5. Road Running Calendar of events (online & printed)

Frank has gone through the paper version of the Calendar and has found lots of errors. Jerry stated that the BCA Board has formed a Committee to determine how to produce a more timely and better 2008 Calendar of Events. Greg mentioned that we should forward any suggestions to that committee.

Some discussion took place concerning having only an on-line calendar. Geoffrey said that Brian had stated at our last meeting that much important non-calendar information was in the printed version.

Frank and others suggested that we should base the 2008 version on the information in the 2006 calendar. It was much more complete than the current 2007 calendar.

Rick mentioned that our goal should be to get all of the events sanctioned.

Jerry said that we need to have a cut-off date in September in order to produce a printed calendar for Christmas.

Frank suggested that we get rid of the fee for non-sanctioned events, use the 2006 detail and contact the race directors by e-mail for date confirmation.

Clif suggested that we circulate a Word document among the Road Running Committee members in order to get all of our recommendations together and pass that document on to the Board Calendar committee within two weeks. Geoffrey agreed to start the process.

Bob suggested that the sanctioned events should be highlighted and contain all of the appropriate information and that the non-sanctioned events should contain only the date of the event, the name of the event and a contact phone number. He also suggested that we need to re-organize the categories in the calendar and add a BC Championship designation and separate listing.

Bob suggested that we need to get all of the races back into the 2007 on-line calendar. As soon as the forms are ready, he will add the Island races.

6. BCA Road Running Championships, Distance, Hosting Grants, cost of medals, eligibility. Recommendation (Motion?) to change 20k champs to an 8kK Champs

MOTION - Bob/Clif - That BC Athletics establish the 5K, 8K, 10K, Half Marathon, Marathon and Road Relay as the Road Running Championship Events. Amended by Clif to include "to be implemented in 2008".

Amended motion was Carried.

Much discussion concerning the road running championships took place.

Rick suggested that all participants in a championship event should be eligible for the medals. Bob agreed, mentioned that many high performance athletes are not necessarily competitive members of BCA. Bob suggested all BC residents should be eligible. He gave an example of a 12th place finisher winning a BC Championship medal in a 10K championship. He also stated that the championships should be awarded for two years (like the cross country event currently) and that prize money should be provided by BC Athletics like that provided for the cross country championship. He suggested that by doing that, the events will obtain more status among the elite athletes and that BCA would get more publicity.

Greg mentioned that we need to change the BCA by-law that limits the hosting of championship events to member clubs.

MOTION – Clif/Frank – That the by-law limiting the hosting of championship events to member clubs only be changed to include all sanctioned events.

-Carried.

(Secretary's note – By-law was changed in 2005 to allow non-profit societies and/or approved organizing groups to host the championships).

MOTION – Rick/Jake – That the eligibility for Road Running Championship medals be extended to BC Athletics members of any membership type. Prize money will only be awarded to competitive members.

- Carried.

A discussion took place concerning the various races that could be championship road running events in 2007.

MOTION – Bob/Jake – That we nominate the Victoria Full and Half Marathons and the Haney to Harrison Relay as three more 2007 championship events.

Carried

Bob will fill out the championship form (as soon as the link is fixed) to propose the Pioneer 8k in January as the 8k championship.

MOTION – Bob/Jake – That BC Athletics work towards creating a plan that would provide prize money, a hosting grant, medals and travel expenses for champions to travel to National Championships. Standards for prize money and travel expenses need to be set.

Carried

Rick mentioned that they have implemented some awards in the Interior Road Running Series based on age graded results. There has been good acceptance of the awards to the overall winners of individual races and for series awards. There was a general discussion expressing support for age graded medals at the BC Road Running Championships. The consensus of the Road Running Committee was that at least three medals should be provided on an age graded basis.

7. Road Race records – Provincial and National

Clif mentioned that he had difficulty determining the Provincial and National Marathon and Half Marathon records.

The Road Running Committee recommends that the BC Athletics Board establish records (or “Bests”) for our championship distances and that the Board propose to Athletics Canada to do the same for the events that have National Championships.

Jerry mentioned that Tom Hastie has been elected to the Athletics Canada Board and that Danny Daniels continues on as Vice Chair. That should help with BCA communications with Athletics Canada.

Maurice agreed to take on record keeping for BC (with some help) but indicated that we do need to establish firm criteria for acceptable events (certified courses, not downhill, start/finish within limits, sanctioned etc.)

8. Road Race official. Need Sub-committee to meet with Officials

Frank, Jerry and Maurice have had some discussions with the BCA Officials. Frank would like someone to meet with John Cull to discuss road race officiating requirements.

Bob indicated that some specific tasks can best be performed by BCA Officials but that most clubs can handle the majority of jobs with current volunteers. He said that an official protest committee was required to deal with problems such as athletes breaking the rules on the course and that there was a requirement to check all age group times.

Frank and Clif agreed to form a committee to meet with John Cull.

Motion – Frank/Clif – that the events for the 2008 Timex Series be chosen by November 2007 and that all the events must be sanctioned.

Carried

Frank asked for any other business.

Greg mentioned that as the Board rep he had been asked by the Board that the Road Running Committee should attempt to fill the vice – chair position by August. He also said that the Board had approved the directors and executive of the Road Running Committee.

He also suggested that we should liase with the Run Canada Committee. Jerry said that would be relatively easy since two of the three members are from BC (Jerry and Tom Hastie). Concern was expressed over the lack of action from the Run Canada Committee. Jerry indicated that they have very little funding and only meet via teleconference. He did say that significant time was spent on Road Running at the last Athletics Canada meeting.

Greg also brought forward the idea of banning headphones from races. He said the USATF did that this year and that triathons ban them with a DQ penalty as a safety issue. Rick mentioned that the Okanagan Marathon did ban headphones but did not enforce the rule.

Jerry will check with our insurance company for any implications.

The committee congratulated Jerry Tighe on his new position with SFU and suggested that he was welcome to join the BCA Road Running Committee as a voting member. Jerry reserved answer to a later time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32

Note:

*Future Meetings- Mid-September. Mid-November (For BCA AGM motions)
Dates to be confirmed.*