

## Report to the 2012 BC Athletics AGM

Maurice Wilson

### General Observation

Care should be taken in making year on year comparisons. Data over 5+ years will reveal more meaningful trends. An extended period of data is not yet available.

### Sanctioned Events

#### 2011 Objectives

- Increase the number of sanctioned road and cross country/trail events by 10%, by directly approaching unsanctioned events.
- Increase the number of participants in sanctioned events by 5%, through the sanctioning of more events and the growth of existing events.
- Relocate the Haney-to-Harrison Relay and Ultra to Whistler.

#### 2011 Review

The addition of a number of new, or previously unsanctioned road races helped offset a decline in participants at major events such as the Sun Run and the Victoria Marathon.

The discontinuing of the Island Cross Country Series reduced the number of sanctioned cross country events.

The Haney-to-Harrison Relay & Ultra was successful relocated to Whistler, although participation was down 20%.

	Events in BC		Participants (approx)	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
Sanctioned Road Races	89	98	121,500	120,000
Sanctioned XC/Trail Races	49	46	7,500	7,500
Unsanctioned, Timed Road Races	60	50	25,000	21,000
Unsanctioned, Timed XC/Trail Races*	50	40	10,000	8,000
Unsanctioned, Untimed Charity Runs/Walks	100+	100+	50,000+	50,000+

\* Does not include school competitions.

24 of 144 sanctioned road or cross country/trail events waived the BCA insurance and provided their own alternate insurance.

### Observations

- Decline in participants at some destination events (e.g. Victoria Marathon), attributed to combination of economy (cost of travel, accommodation, etc.), and growth of mass participation cycling events (Gran Fondo, Tour de Victoria, etc.) that are gentler on the body than marathon running for older athletes.
- Rapid growth of participation in obstacle course style runs (Spartan Run, Warrior Dash, Tough Mudder, etc.). Particularly attractive to younger ages (20 – 39). But outside BCA's scope to sanction.
- The Vancouver Sun Run remains the largest running event in Canada.
- The Emperor's Challenge in Tumbler Ridge is BC's largest off-road race.

#### 2012 Objectives

- Re-grow participation in the Whistler 50 event.

## Race Series

### 2011 Objectives

- Approve and implement series support policy.
- Work with series organizers to encourage race series participation through promotion and incentives.

### 2011 Review

Series	# Events		# Participants	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
Provincial Road Running	13	15	67,532	70,512
Lower Mainland Road Running	10	11	4,196	5,192
Vancouver Island Road Running	8	8	5,250	5,388
Interior Road Running	12	11	1,975	1,730
Northern Road Running	10	10	1,424	1,264
Lower Mainland Cross Country	9*	10*	2,189	1,874**
Vancouver Island Cross Country	3	-	103	-
Interior Cross Country	6	5	606	450

\* In the Lower Mainland CC Series JD's run 6 events, Jnr/Snr/Mst run 9 events.

\*\* One event remaining.

### Observations

- Road running series on the Island and the Lower Mainland are healthy. Participation elsewhere in BC is declining.
- Declining participation in the cross country series in all areas of the province is a concern.
- Many clubs and associations are struggling to find volunteers to organize events, coordinate series, and manage clubs.

### 2012 Objectives

- Evaluate our cross country program and develop a strategic plan.

## BC Championships

### 2011 Objectives

- Brainstorm ways to increase participation in BC Championships.

### 2011 Review

Road Running Championships were held at the 5K (Vancouver), 8K (Saanich), 10K (Vancouver), Half Marathon (Gibsons) and Full Marathon (Victoria) distances.

Road Championships participation:

	Jnr M		Jnr F		Snr M		Snr F		Mst M		Mst F	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
5K	1	1	1	0	4	10	3	6	23	30	5	14
8K	1	0	0	0	14	4	5	7	15	10	4	1
10K	1	0	0	1	17	26	13	20	17	51	13	30
Half	0	0	1	0	3	10	2	5	16	17	6	12
Mar	0	1	0	0	5	10	9	4	29	16	15	6
Total	3	2	2	1	43	60	32	42	100	124	43	63

Cross Country Championships participation:

Age Group	Male		Female	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
9 year olds	17	23	31	22
10 year olds	16	21	18	26
11 year olds	17	23	25	22
12 year olds	13	16	22	24
13 year olds	9	15	13	14
14 year olds	10	12	7	13
15 year olds	12	5	11	7
Youth	11	18	16	15
Junior*	25	19	16	8
Senior	22	18	23	25
Master	50	50	11	13
Total	202	220	193	189

\* Some Youths ran up in the Junior race.

## Observations

- Relatively few of our members choose to contest our championships.
- Clubs are generally not contesting the club team component of the cross country championships.
- Participation by some age groups in the cross country championships makes team selection for nationals challenging.

## National Championships

### 2011 Objectives

- Successful hosting of the Canadian Cross Country Championships.
- BC representation at all National Championships.

### 2011 Review

Championship	Top 10 Men	Top 10 Women
10K Road	4 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> individual; 1 <sup>st</sup> team	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> individual; 1 <sup>st</sup> team
Half Marathon	None	None
Marathon	None	None
Junior Cross Country	8 <sup>th</sup> individual; 1 <sup>st</sup> team	4 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> individual; 1 <sup>st</sup> team
Senior Cross Country	1 <sup>st</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> individual; 1 <sup>st</sup> team	4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> individual; 1 <sup>st</sup> team
Masters Cross Country	1 <sup>st</sup> (M35), 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> (M40) 3 <sup>rd</sup> (M45) 1 <sup>st</sup> (M50) 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> (M55) 1 <sup>st</sup> (M65) 3 <sup>rd</sup> (M70) 1 <sup>st</sup> (M80)	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> (F35), 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> (F40), 1 <sup>st</sup> (F45), 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> (F50) 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> (F55)
Junior Mountain Running	None	None
Senior Mountain Running	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> individual	None

## Observations

- The restructured Timex Road Running Series has created good BC representation at the 10K championship.
- The Half Marathon championship was the same day as the Sun Run.
- No BC athletes showed interest in running the Marathon Championship in Ottawa.
- Thanks to Maureen de St Croix (Ocean Athletics) and Jerry Tighe (Hershey Harriers) for hosting the 2011 Canadian Cross Country Championships.
- Our team success in the Cross Country Championships is partially due to Ontario not declaring teams.

## 2012 Objectives

- Build on the success of the 2011 Canadian Cross Country Championships.
- BC representation at all National Championships.

## International Representation

### 2011 Objectives

- 25% BC representation on National teams.

### 2011 Review

Event	Canadian Team Size M/F	BC Athletes on the Team M/F
NACAC Cross Country Championships	11/11	1/2
World Cross Country Championships	11/7	1/1
NACAC Mountain Running Championships	5/0	1/0
World Mountain Running Championships	6/4	2/2
World Championship Marathon	0/0	0/0
Chiba Ekiden Relay	4/4	0/1
Total	63	11 (17%)

## Observations

- There was no World Half Marathon Championship in 2011.
- There will be no World Cross Country Championship in 2012.

## 2012 Objectives

- 25% BC representation on National teams.

## Road Rankings / Quality Performances

### 2011 Objectives

- Work with Athletics Canada to develop comprehensive road rankings that are inclusive of all eligible performances by all BCA competitive members.
- Encourage events to reward performance as well as participation.

## 2011 Review

Distance (Cutoff)	Certified Courses				Uncertified	
	Performances, Male/Female		Athletes, Male/Female		Performances, Male/Female	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
5K (16:00/18:30)	40/32	45/41	32/22	30/26	1/1	2/0
8K (26:30/30:00)	27/22	34/28	23/16	24/20	0/2	1/0
10K (33:00/38:00)	48/40	49/41	32/22	33/22	9/6	6/4
Half (1:14:00/1:24:00)	25/18	37/27	14/14	24/22	14/13	12/14
Marathon (2:45:00/3:10:00)*	35/28	28/19	29/25	21/16	0/0	0/0
Total	175/140	193/156	68/52	71/56	24/22	21/18

\* Marathon season incomplete.

## Observations

- An increase in both the number of quality performances, and the number of athletes (men and women) recording them.
- The AC road rankings are setup, but not all events/provinces are submitting results. Determining the eligibility of performances for rankings (e.g. if the certified course was run) is also challenging.

## 2012 Objectives

- Continue rankings work.

## BC High Performance Opportunities

### 2011 Objectives

- Continue refinement of the Timex BC Road Race Series to be inclusive of as many top races as possible.

### 2011 Review

The most competitive BC road races, using a competitive measurement that scores the top 20 male and female performances:

	2010		2011	
	Event	Competitiveness	Event	Competitiveness
1	Sun Run 10K	35,074	Sun Run 10K	35,054
2	TC10K	34,061	TC10K	33,479
3	Scotiabank Vancouver Half Marathon	32,877	Scotiabank Vancouver Half Marathon	33,050
4	Prairie Inn Pioneer 8K	32,809	St. Patrick's Day 5K	32,910
5	Bazan Bay 5K	32,565	Bazan Bay 5K	32,880
6	Victoria Half Marathon	32,507	Victoria Half Marathon	32,628
7	Longest Day 5K	32,177	Longest Day 5K	32,179
8	Vancouver International Half Marathon	32,004	Victoria 8K	32,085
9	Harry's Spring Run-Off 8K	31,999	"First Half" Half Marathon	32,060
10	St. Patrick's Day 5K	31,873	Vancouver International Half Marathon	31,817
	Average	32,795	Average	32,814

## Observations

- St Patrick's Day 5K was significantly more competitive this year.
- The TC10K and the Vancouver Marathon were on the same day, resulting in a decline for both events.
- Notable that two races in the Goodlife Fitness Marathon event made the top 8.

## Membership

### 2011 Objectives

- Brainstorm ways to increase membership.

### 2011 Review

Off-track membership remains similar to 2010. Approximately 25% of the BCA membership (1200 members) are predominantly road, cross country, or trail runners. Approximately 50% of these are Training members, 20% are recreational, and 30% are competitive (all ages).

## Observations

- Clubs are struggling to find volunteers to coordinate club activities and oversee operations, making the succession of clubs and events challenging.

## Road Course Certification

### 2011 Objectives

- Continue to encourage all courses that may produce noteworthy times to be certified by making race directors aware of the benefits of certification.

### 2011 Review

12 courses were certified either for the first time or were recertified (19 in 2010).

6 active measurers (10 in 2010).

	Sanctioned		Unsanctioned		Total	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
Active certified courses	57	60	15	19	72	79
Uncertified courses that recorded times meriting inclusion in BC rankings	5	8	8	3	13	11

\*Note, some events include races at multiple distances.

## Observations

- Some previously certified events have changed their routes but have not recertified the course, making performances ineligible for rankings or records.
- A number of courses that were measured following the initial push for certification 10 years ago are becoming due for renewal (or certification will otherwise expire).

## 2012 Objectives

- Continue to encourage all courses that may produce noteworthy times to be certified by making race directors aware of the benefits of certification.

## Events Attended in 2011

- Prairie Inn Pioneer 8K (BC Champs)
- "First Half" Half Marathon
- St Patrick's Day 5K
- Harry's Spring Run-Off 8K
- Dave Reed Spring Classic (BC Champs)
- April Fool's Run Half Marathon (BC Champs)
- Vancouver Sun Run 10K (including expo) (BC Champs)
- Times Colonist 10K (including expo)
- Vancouver Marathon (including expo)
- Mothers Day 5K
- Longest Day 5K
- Scotiabank Vancouver Half Marathon (including expo)
- Kelowna Midsummer 8K
- Summerfast 10K
- Squamish 10K
- Richmond Oval 10K
- Royal Victoria Marathon (including expo) (BC Champs)
- BC Cross Championships
- Canadian Cross Country Championships
- Road Running Committee Meetings (x3)
- Cross Country Committee Meetings (x1)
- BCA AGM & Meetings
- AC AGM & Meetings (x2)
- IRA Meetings (x1)
- LMRRS Meetings (x1)

## Guidelines Published

- Officiating Guidelines for Road and Cross Country / Trail Races
- Guidelines for the inclusion of Para-Athletes in Road Races