

BCA Road Running Committee Meeting
7:00pm - Thursday, June 8, 2023
Ring Central Video Conferencing



Championships on June 24th will be the ninth event. Male overall needs to run four events to score and the top 20/25 have done this. For female 8/25 have completed four and 16/25 have completed three events. Kevin is in contact with the latter set of athletes to ensure they qualify by competing in their fourth event.

Lower Mainland Road Race Series (Kevin) indicated that the website was down but is back up now thanks to Frank. Two events are completed but we have no results.

Action item (Frank) – to follow up with these Jared regarding results in order to get the rankings tabulated. He indicated that Jared knows how to compute the results.

Action item (Frank) – to discuss with Jared and then approach David Parker to see if he'd be willing to take on the LMRRS results tabulation in addition to that of the Super Series as well as a compensation package for his time. Kevin suggested that we get this done fairly quickly.

Lower Mainland Road Race Series (Frank) – no change since last meeting. Longest Day 5K is next event that is approaching. Numbers look good with a combined 1,000 for the combined 5K/10K events.

Interior Running Association Road Race Series (David) – 9 events (with one being added this year, a 5K on Canada Day in Peachland). Five of the 9 have been completed with the next being on June 18th a half marathon. Looking to get all of this year's events certified with the exception of 13-miler (actually 12.7 miles - but is BC Athletics sanctioned) that formerly was point to point but is not an out-and-back. One idea that they are doing as a pilot project is giving runners credit for races if they come out and volunteer for other races in the series – as they are having challenges with volunteer numbers. They have two award categories, 'participation' and 'age group' to which the volunteering effort can count towards. David is also part of an effort underway to bring back the marathon to Kelowna, perhaps in 2024? There is also an unfortunate situation coming up where there are two half marathons in the same weekend in the same city; one is a wine destination event that is not sanctioned. Its too bad that the events could not have been spread out over the calendar instead of being held the same weekend. Kevin expressed an idea to have the event directors work in advance with hoteliers in the area to present a fixed weekend rate package as a possible incentive to draw in out-of-town athletes to the event(s). Jordan indicated that they have been able to lock in prices for the Race Director's conference. Eric said that the challenge RunVan is having with volunteer retention is that there is an older generation that normally steps up to carry out a lot of duties. As that goes away there becomes a gap - basically a lack of volunteers. So they have come up with a community award (a payment basically to the organization and not the individual) to bring in a large group of volunteers to assist with an event. The groups are looking for funds; they see it as a fundraising opportunity. Kevin mentioned the challenge with track and officiating; older officials are "aging out" and there is no one coming in to fill the void.

Action item (David) – David will investigate the weekend rate package concept and get back to Kevin.

5. BC Championships and Awards (Kevin)

- Application form for review (2024-25 host)
Kevin located the selection process document including mandatory requirements and event scoring. Question becomes do we keep this moving forward or do we simplify? Jordan spoke about the reasoning behind past decisions and weighting of the scoring in the event that race directors or boards were to question the logic. David indicated that the current application that exists online on the BCA website under “Event Directors” is a 2018/2019-dated application. Eric indicated that some of the wording needs to be updated on the form to reflect the fact that covid happened (as this would impact the scoring over the last 5 years...). Jordan recommended a submission deadline of July 16th at 11:59pm this year and recommended circulation for a week’s time within the Committee via email and then virtually come together for a meeting to get the scoring completed prior to the August long weekend. Announcement decision immediately after the August long weekend.
Action item (Kevin) – to send out the existing application for Road Running Committee criteria for comments. Kevin will collect/batch these comments and send them out to the Committee again and schedule a meeting to discuss and formalize the document by mid-June.
Kevin would also like to consider BC Master’s Championships (following the IAAF 35+ age consideration)
- BC race records
Who keeps these records and ensures that they are updated? David believes that the Masters Committee keeps their records updated for both Road and Track & Field. In order to clean up the past records Kevin is suggesting that we put a note into the newsletter reaching out to athletes to see if they feel that their record has been missed. These inquiries in turn can be followed up upon and passed along the BC Athletics Board for approval. Current process is that record applications come to Kevin along with a certificate signature from the event race director. They then get ratified and passed by the BC Athletics Board.
David mentioned that there are discrepancies existing between Canadian and BC Masters rules for establishing road records. The former requires not only course certification but 1 meter/kilometer elevation change and greater than a 50% separation. He also mentioned that the masters Committee will be presenting to the BC Athletics Board shortly a resolution stipulating that for BC Masters records the athlete must have residency in BC. At present that is not the case.
Action item: Kevin suggested that for our next meeting a further discussion on the residency requirements for BC road records.
- Awards update
This is the junior and senior M/F road runner of the year award awarded in February
Action Item: Put to next meeting a discussion of the selection criteria and perhaps decide if an independent committee is needed to make these award decisions. We

would however need RR Committee participation in order that the existing performance-based system is considered as one factor with the awarding. Kevin willing to chair it.

- Website update

Jordan recommended that this is more of a strategy piece as to the website's look and feel. Some provincial organizations have a more "mobile" feel to their websites whereas the BC Athletics website is strictly desktop-oriented.

6. Update Race Director Conference (Jordan)

- Format, date, speakers, location, etc.

Taking place the last weekend of October (the 27th and with a full day on the 28th). BC Athletics and Triathlon BC are the hosts (and perhaps Cycling BC will be joining as well as Triathlon Alberta). Working alongside the City of Burnaby, keynote address on the Friday night at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts along with a social aspect. Saturday is full day of programming – also including a social aspect. Tourism Burnaby will be hosting a Saturday evening event. Burnaby hosting a pumpkin fun run on the Sunday. Shadbolt Centre has a 110-seat theatre-style seating room which will be used and there will be a virtual component to the conference as well. Price point and keynote speakers for the Friday night to be announced shortly.

City of Burnaby will be helping to bring in speakers with sport hosting experience from other municipalities to discuss how to best promote an event and to discuss sport hosting grants that are available to events that often go overlooked.

7. New Business (All)

- Open for discussion

Kevin – Whistler 50 is October 14th this year. Some schedule shuffling involved with cross country that was sorted out - primarily a date change for the BC Cross Country Championships. Participation numbers for Whistler 50 are high (for October 14th) and thus another reason not to alter the Whistler 50 date.

- Committee's direction for 2023-2024

8. Next Meeting

- Date: TBA

Action Item: Eric mentioned possibly meeting to discuss a virtual meeting (by email) to discuss criteria for selection for Championship events on June 16th and a follow-up meeting as to who will host (most likely in August).

- Meeting Chair: Jared

9. Meeting Closure

- Motioned: Jordan Seconded: Frank
- Meeting End Time: 9:19pm