

Q1 Minutes

In Attendance: Jared, Jordan, Clif, David, Jake, Eric, Bob, Frank, Geoffrey

Regrets:

Guests:

1. Review and Acceptance of Agenda (All)

- Motioned: Jordan Seconded: David
- Meeting Start Time: 7:06pm

2. Review Last Meeting Minutes and Action Items (All)

- Motioned: Jared Seconded: Jordan
- Follow Up needed on the action items:
 - Clif - sent out the press release to the Committee for the Island Virtual Series.
 - Clif - updated Super Series Race Directors that existing plans will be pushed into the future until we return to normal again.

3. Update COVID-19 Current Regulations and Restrictions for Sport (Clif)

- viaSport is currently at Phase 2 with Restrictions
No real changes to report since the beginning of 2021
Adult - training has changed since December from groups of 4 up to 10
Youths & Hi-Performance- up to groups of 50 (that includes everyone on site in support)
latest regulations posted atop BC Athletics website under COVID Update
No mass gatherings at this time; permission would have to come from the local municipality in conjunction with the local health authority
 - No competition – timeline (none has been issued, perhaps in future Phases)

4. BC Championships and Series Update (Clif/Frank/Bob/David)

- What is the status of the 2021 Road Running Series
 - Super Series (Clif) - Events doing their own thing (most virtual, a few canceled)
 - Championships (Clif) – pushed to next year (those that were to host this year are slated to do so in 2022)
Action Item (Clif) – To discuss with scheduled hosts, if they would like to host in 2022 if possible. If modified events are possible, look at possible hosts for 2021 Championship in fall.
 - Interior Virtual Series (David) - 249 registered runners for the Series which includes a \$15 Series registration fee. Two of the eight events (spanning February to late August) have taken place. The third is underway now with a 1 week window to compete and submit times (the intent being that it can be run anywhere but attempting to match the existing course description). No 1st/2nd/3rd/age prizing. However there are draw prizes and results posted online. Two other events posted online, that are not BCA-sanctioned trying to move

Road Running Committee Quarterly Meeting

7:00pm - Thursday, April 8, 2021

Video Conference



forward with June events in area. Also, a couple of trail events at Ski Operators planned for mid and late summer.

- Lower Mainland Road Race Series (Frank) – Ice Breaker and St. Patrick’s Day canceled, April Fools is virtual in April, Longest Day in June is virtual, and Scotiabank Half listed as a virtual race. Of the remaining events on the schedule Eastside 10K is indicating a virtual event and Turkey Trot may go with a combine in-person/virtual race. Series results will likely not be tabulated for awards
 - Island Series (Bob) – All virtual, a Run and a Photo challenge. For each event the run can take place on any course during a 1 week window on the calendar around the same date as the event was to take place. There will be some Series awards and draw prizes (further info can be found on islandseries.org)
 - Times Colonist (runsport.ca) is also virtual and can be run on any course between April 16th and the 25th (including a 5K division).
 - Royal Victoria Marathon (has changed back to its original name, runvictoriamarathon.com). Tentative date for in-person is October 10th and virtual Royal Victoria Marathon Royal Flush - (May to September), a five race opportunity with prizing (Marathon, Half, 5K, 10K, and 1 Mile).
 - The Series itself seems to be drawing half the number of participants of a regular Series.
 - The Thetis Lake Series – dates have been set for those and will be on website.
 - BC Cross Country Championships (if it goes) is for October 23rd.
 - Magical Mile (to be certified) on Labour Day is on a paved rail bed, staggered starts, half mile out and back, seeded times with fastest runners going out first.
- Awards update (postponed for this year)

5. Update Race Director Virtual Conference (Jordan/Jared)

- How was the virtual experience - Jordan indicated that it was not overall taxing: two separate evenings for an hour – separated by 1 week.
- Speakers, attendees, feedback, etc. -

Jordan indicated the first night primarily focused on communication and the overall flow of information of incidences (a.k.a. incident command structure involving municipalities, clinicians, etc.) and how this could possibly be brought to smaller events. The second night had a speaker from the States to discuss strategies in hosting live events during COVID which are pragmatic and scalable to smaller events without the overhead costs of rapid testing or policing. More reliance on social contracts, distancing, questionnaires, etc.

Jared mentioned that the first night there was a Vancouver Fire Captain giving his helpful perspective as a safety expert at a road running event and not from the Race Director’s point of view. On the second night there was discussion of the COVID Coordinator who pre-arranged in the event agreement that race attendees could not come early, had to leave shortly thereafter. Good takeaways from both.

Eric’s takeaways from the observation of a larger event is that as Race Director you should have a level of authority underneath you to address and fix issues that inevitably

Road Running Committee Quarterly Meeting

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Video Conference



occur (which BMO VM has in place). Also – the scaling back on services during COVID. If younger unvaccinated high school students are the primary source of volunteers the need exists to cut back on services to runners if the volunteers are not available.

Overall great feedback on the two 1-hour event format and possibly considering doing this again in the fall

Clif mentioned upcoming Athletics Ontario Race Directors Conference - a midday Sunday and Tuesday late afternoon event with a \$20 charge.

6. New Business (All)

- Open for discussion

There was a brief discussion brought up by Frank about enforcing vaccinations to participate in an event. Clif countered that as an Association, BC Athletics could not enforce this, if an individual event wanted to it would be up to them. Eric mentioned that there is legal counsel on his Board and he will ask this this question (from the standpoint of RunVan).

Discussion on what is the eligibility for future sanctioning? Clif mentioned that In Club Performance Trials are currently being permitted and when Mass Gatherings resume and event would need permissions from the city and health authority, are compliant with PHO orders and insurance limitations.

On Track events are taking place, in club performance trials (amongst their own club members) and are open for records as long as they are sanctioned and officiated. Meets and competitions (multi-club) are not currently permitted. Officials are currently limited to their own clubs.

BC Athletics hosted a high performance 10K and half marathon trail, at the Mission Raceway on March 26th called “On a Mission”, 14 elite runners (5 in the half and 9 in the 10K) by invitation:

Half: Lucas Bruchet 63:12 and Malindi Elmore 72:16

10K: Thomas Fafard 29:43 and Erica Digby 33:34

...also a race walking event with 5 athletes (4 of which qualified for the Pan Am Games)

Eric mentioned that RunVan has assisted the Sun Run with the shipment of items for virtual event race participants, most recently the Sun Run. RunVan has a sizeable warehouse and has experience doing this if any organization is looking for assistance or knowledge on this.

- New committee member recruitment ideas?
- Committee’s direction for 2021 with no in-person events
 - Do we set goals?

7. Next Meeting

- Date: end of June – week of June 21st

Road Running Committee Quarterly Meeting
7:00pm - Thursday, April 8, 2021
Video Conference



- Meeting Chair: Eric

8. Adjourned

- Motioned: Eric Seconded: Jake
- Meeting end time: 8:13pm