

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT BCA ROAD RUNNING COMMITTEE AND
BCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD JULY 12, 2006**

1. Attendance

In Vancouver: Tom Hastie (Chair), Maurice Wilson, Frank Stebner, Geoffrey Buttner, Larry Harper, David Polisi, Greg White, Brian McCaldar, Jerry Tighe, Ann Kirk (Recorder).

On the Phone: Tom Dingle and Rick Jenkner.

Regrets: Bob Reid, Jake Madderom and Diana Hollefreund

2. Documents Circulated

- . Agenda
- . A BC Road Running Sanctioning Fee Proposal (June 16, 2006 Draft)
- . BC Athletics Executive Committee Response to the Road Running Committee Proposal (June 21/06)

3. Agenda

- The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss:
 - . the problems with the current sanctioning model that cause events not to seek sanctioning (as detailed in the proposal)
 - . what the objectives are in developing solutions to the problems
 - . proposals to resolve the problems with the objectives in mind
 - . increase annual Road Running membership and as a result membership revenue
 - . increase the number of sanctioned Road Running Events and as a result increase the Annual and Day of Event Membership Revenue
 - . increase the programs and services for Road Running in B.C.

4. Summary of comments/questions/concerns raised during review and discussion

- Maurice highlighted the problems with the current model as outlined in the draft proposal and noted these were not just his or the Road Running Committee views but came from opinions of a multitude of Race Directors throughout the province.
- Other provinces (NS, Man., Sask.) have DOE memberships for varying fees (i.e. \$2, \$5). Alberta and Ontario have blanket sanction fees per event (i.e.\$100) and all participants in the event are considered DOE members. Alberta DOE membership numbers are used in submissions for government grants. DOE members are reported in BC but government does not count them for grant purposes.
- Instead of adding \$3 DOE, Race Directors would prefer to reduce the entry fee by \$3 for BCA members
- Currently less than 50% of Road Races in BC are sanctioned (not including "fun runs". Although the number of DOE members has increased as the sport has grown, the proportion of participants in sanctioned events is declining.
- Sanctioning should be separate from insurance (as outlined in the draft proposal)
- Many organizations sponsoring events already carry their own insurance.
- In the USA and most provinces there is allowance for optional insurance.
- Race Directors do not feel they receive value from BCA for sanctioning their events. *(A view no shared by the BCA Executive)*
- The BCA Calendar of Events is produced too late. Some big events held early in the year do not get promoted through the Calendar which is one reason they do not sanction their events.
- The Road Running community feels that it is creating the Road Running scene in BC, not BCA
- If you want events sanctioned, need to convince Race Directors the value of sanctioning.
- DOE is not just insurance, BCA does not make a profit from insurance. The DOE monies returned to BCA are used to pay for the insurance, promote athletics, coaching, officiating and send athletes to events, etc.

- The cost for private insurance is much higher per person (up to \$1.60) than BCA insurance (15 cents) but because BCA insurance is included in the \$3 DOE it appears higher to Race Directors.
- The problems outlined in the draft proposal are not new issues but the BCA Board has done little over the years to resolve them.
- The Objective of the Road Running Committee should be similar to other BCA committees (i.e. to strengthen the organization.)
- The Objective of Road Running is to increase the number of sanctioned events, raise the standard of events and have quality events.
- BCA has not received any complaint from a runner re: the \$3.00 DOE fee.
- The very small percentage of BCA members in relation to the total number who participate in Road Running indicates that for some reason a great number do not wish to be members.
- Need to educate Race Directors that sanctioning is an opportunity to reinvest in the sport.
- Need to ensure that BCA insurance is competitive so that Race Directors will use it.
- Maurice indicated there is assurance from several Race Directors that if the draft proposal is accepted they would sanction their events.
- To strengthen the organization, how does BCA recoup (and grow) the required funding to meet budget needs?
- BCA needs some assurance that the draft proposal would generate sufficient revenue. There is no guarantee that the figures quoted in the draft proposal would generate the required funding.
- The sanctioning fee portion of the draft proposal needs to be validated and there may be room for adjustments in this area (i.e. increase in the per person sanction fee).
- If BCA can provide insurance cheaper than anyone else, why wouldn't Race Directors want to use BCA sanctioning?
- Smaller events (that would likely pay less under the draft proposal) would probably continue to sanction their events and if larger races sanctioned their events the new sanction fees would increase revenue to offset the reduction in DOE fees under the present model.
- If a new model does not get accepted what happens? – Fewer events will be sanctioned resulting in a shrunken bottom line?
- Event organizers want to see direct value.
 - . There should be BCA presence at road running events. (*The Board is addressing this issue – pop up tents and signage have been purchased for use at events and BCA Board members are being encouraged to attend events*).
 - . BCA could purchase and rent out equipment, i.e. a clock
- Road Running Committee should come up with what they perceive to be realistic viable “value”.
- Draft proposal recommends a minimal per person sanctioning fee plus option of a fee for insurance but no DOE.
- Do not consider charging more for sanctioning just to offer additional services. Could offer optional pay for value added services.
- Should BCA acknowledge non-sanctioned events? There is currently BCA policy (passed by the membership) in place dealing with this issue.
- Consider generating revenue by providing insurance for clinics.
- Consideration needs to be given to how any changes in the Road Running Division would affect other BCA Divisions and what resolutions would need to be passed by the membership to make the changes.
- Do the same policies have to apply to all BCA Divisions?
- Need to ensure that private insurance provides liability coverage for all participants. Also that BCA is covered. No sanction issued until adequate insurance coverage is confirmed.
- Need to confirm with Sport BC Insurance if there would be any ramifications to BCA under a new scenario re: insurance.

- Would be a BCA administrative challenge to ensure that the event organizing committee has the level of insurance required and names BCA as an additional insured for the event so that the coverage is the same as at present.
- If the costs of supporting the association are shared across events as much as possible there will be more support from Race Directors of sanctioned events to encourage other Race Directors to sanction their events.
- Under a per participant sanction fee charge, can all participants be considered members and these numbers reported to BC government and could government be encouraged to look at these increased numbers favourably relative to increased grants? Government has a set criteria for what constitutes a member. However, if there was a significant increase in participation figures, this might be beneficial.
- To create additional scenarios need to consider:
 - . what would sanction fee need to be to generate sufficient revenue for budget purposes
 - . what would insurance fee need to be to cover actual costs
 - . what are the existing services (or perceived services) we have and what are the new services which could be generated.

5. **Action**

- a) Obtain information from Alberta and Ontario (who offer optional insurance) how they ensure the insurance coverage is sufficient. ***Referred to the BCA Staff***
- b) Work on ways to ensure that the Calendar of Events can be produced/distributed earlier (by January 1 at the latest but preferably earlier) ***Referred to the BCA Executive and Staff***
- c) Determine the “value” that Race Directors want from sanctioning. (Under new proposal, probably just promotion through the BCA Calendar of Events and opportunity to get cheaper insurance) ***Referred to the Road Running Committee***
- d) Determine what affect any new Scenario would have on other BCA Divisions and what actions would be required to amend BCA Policies, Procedures, Rules, Regulations, etc. ***Referred to the BCA Executive***
- e) Confirm with Sport BC Insurance any ramifications to BCA should there be a new scenario re: insurance coverage. ***Referred to the BCA Staff***
- f) Reconfirm assurance from Race Directors of some larger non-sanctioned events that if there was a change in model (i.e. sanctioning fee based on set amount per person and an optional insurance fee in place of DOE)that they would likely sanction their races. ***Referred to the Road Running Committee***
- g) The draft proposal (with GST added) to be the base Scenario “A” from which to work in producing additional Scenarios based on further research and options.
- h) GST to be added to Scenario “A” and figures in Scenario “A” to be validated. ***Referred to BCA staff***
- i) Consider amendments to Scenario “A” or propose other new Scenarios. ***Referred to the BCA Executive and Road Running Committees***
- j) Do a direct survey to Race Directors. Determine who else should be requested for input. ***Referred to the BCA Executive and Road Running Committees***

k) Work towards having a resolution ready for presentation at the 2007 BCA AGM (Jan/07) with a view to having a new model in place for implementation April 1, 2007. *Referred to the BCA Executive and Road Running Committees*

l) General Time Line:

- Work on “Actions” with report back to another joint meeting in August
- At the August meeting:
 - establish a detailed time line to completion and determine the necessary actions required to meet the time line
 - look at proposed Scenarios and try to agree on a basic framework.
- BCA Board to be given update report at the August 19 Board Meeting.
- Pass Resolution re: the new proposal at the Fall Road Running Division AGM for consideration at the 2007 BCA AGM. Resolution to be referred to the BCA Board for discussion at the November 19 Board Meeting. Resolution to be referred to the Track & Field Division for input.
- Board to discuss the resolution at the November 19 Board Meeting and indicate their recommendation for AGM consideration. *Referred to the BCA Executive and Road Running Committees*

NEXT JOINT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16 - 6:30pm
SPORT BC ADMINISTRATION CENTRE

Respectfully submitted
Ann Kirk
14/07/06