



**DIVISION REPORTS
SEPTEMBER 2017 EDITION**

Upcoming Events:

- 9.4 USATF 20km Champs (New Haven, CT)
- 9.16-17 USATF 24 Hour Champs (Cleveland, OH)
- 9.30 USATF Half Marathon Trail Champs (Hayward, WI)

From the Desk of the Chair, Mike Scott:

August featured most of the world's best gathered in London at the IAAF World Championships. Team USA's distance runners made quite the mark on the medal standings, highlighted by the incredible 1-2 finish in the women's steeplechase by Emma Coburn and Courtney Frerichs. I was cheering gutsy medal runs by Amy Cragg in the marathon, Paul Chelimo in the 5000, Evan Jager in the steeple, and Jenny Simpson in the 1500.

I had the opportunity to personally observe two of America's great road races this month: Beach to Beacon 10K and Falmouth Road Race. Both are exceptionally organized events that feature world class fields but with all the hospitality you'd expect from the small cities that host them. One of the highlights of Beach to Beacon was seeing the history of American women's marathoning – Joan Samuelson, Deena Kastor, and Shalane Flanagan – all together in Cape Elizabeth!

Two important qualifying windows open on Sept. 1:

2020 US Olympic Team Trials – Standards and full qualification procedures may be found at:

<http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2020/U-S--Olympic-Team-Trials---Marathon/QualifyingStandards.aspx>

2018 IAAF World Half-Marathon Championships in Valencia, Spain. Details are posted at:

<http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2018/IAAF-World-Half-Marathon-Championships.aspx>

Men's LDR Report

Upcoming event for our Road Circuit Championship is the 20k New Haven Road Race on September 4th. The current standings are as follows 1st) Leonard Korir 75pts 2nd) Sam Chelanga 65pts 3rd) Shadrack Kipchirchir 40pts. There are only three events remaining after the 20k and they are the 10 mile, 5k, and Marathon championships.

Women's LDR Report

As the summer comes to a close, WLDR continues to prepare for the fall championships. The first being the New Haven 20k on Labor Day which will be held in conjunction with the 40th running of the race. We will also be offering our top finisher an opportunity to represent the US in the world half marathon championships next year.

Continuing in the fall, the circuit will pass through Minneapolis (10 miler, October 1st), New York City (5k, November 4th) and ends on the west coast in Sacramento with the marathon on December 3rd.

We continue to work with the National office to prepare the RFP for the marathon trials. We hope to find a resolution soon. We also are considering options to restructure the Grand Prix for the future to make a series that specializes in races of like distances (a short series of 1-4 miles) or a longer series of 15k to marathon, with potentially an overall championship similar to the 12k we had a few years ago. We are still in the preliminary stages of investigating this but would welcome any recommendations.

Masters LDR Report

The Masters 1 Mile Road Championship was held on Friday evening August 25th as part of the Crim Weekend of Racing in Flint Michigan. At this time, the field is not set, but it is likely that among those entered on the men's side, the defending Champion, John Gardiner, will battle Kevin Castille, the current Masters Club XC champion and David Angell, winner of the 8K and 10K Championships this year, for the overall Masters title. On the women's side, defending overall Masters Champion, Tammy Nowik, will try to make it three in a row. She will be challenged by the 2016 bronze medalist, Melissa Gacek, and Renee Tolan, who just took the Masters win last month in the Liberty Mile in Pittsburgh. Sabra Harvey, record breaker on the roads and track, is the strong favorite to take the Women's Age Grading crown, emblematic of relative supremacy across age divisions, as she did the last time she competed here in 2015. Castille is favored among the men, but Tom Bernhard and Todd Straka will challenge. Read about the results in next month's issue of this newsletter.

The USATF Masters 5K Championship will be held in Syracuse, NY on Sunday October 1, with the Men's

race going off at 8:50 a.m. and the Women's race at 9:50 a.m. This Championship has been hosted by the Syracuse Festival of Races since 2007. Race director David Oja has announced that this will be his last year to host the Championship. This championship attracts more entrants each year than any other; this due in part to the course being conducive to records and PR's. But also to Dave Oja and family for putting on an athlete-centered event that is known as a class act. Do not miss this last chance to compete in Syracuse. Entry information is at: <http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2017/USATF-Masters-5-km-Championships/Entry-Info.aspx>.

The USATF Masters 15K Championship will be held for the fifth consecutive year as part of the Tulsa Federal Credit Union Tulsa Run. It is scheduled for Saturday, October 28 at 8:50 a.m. This marquee event is celebrating its 40th anniversary. Come be part of history and help to commemorate this special occasion. A hooded long-sleeve t-shirt and special 40th anniversary medal will be given to each participant. This event has the richest prize purse on the 2017 USATF Masters Grand Prix circuit and features a catered pasta dinner for Championship entrants following the Technical Meeting on the evening before the race. Entry information is at: <http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2017/USATF-Masters-15km-Championships/Entry-Info.aspx>.

The last two cross country events on the 2017 USATF Masters Grand Prix are:

October 15 – Masters 5 km Cross Country Championship in Boston, Mass. at historic Franklin Park; the site of numerous high school and collegiate championships over the decades. The web site is: <http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2017/USATF-Masters-5-km-Cross-Country-Championships.aspx>

December 9 – National Club Cross Country Championships in Lexington Kentucky. The web site is located at: <http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2017/USATF-National-Club-Cross-Country.aspx>.

Finally, several of our LDR athletes attended the NCCWMA Championships held in Toronto, Canada on August 11 through August 13, 2017. It is also the first time that masters athletes were allowed to wear the same uniform as Team USA in London. Over 350 masters attended. Since the venue was chosen late because the original bidder of the meet pulled out shortly before the meet, there were no non stadia events. However, that did not stop our LDR athletes from competing.

On Friday evening after the last event, the General Assembly for the regional World Masters Athletics took place where elections were held for various positions,

including the presidency. Candidates from Mexico were elected president and secretary. In addition, Toronto was selected as the site for the next regional championship in 2019. Our chair Mary Rosado and Phil Greenwald were the LDR delegates at the General Assembly and also doubled up as team managers. The vice chair Lloyd Hansen shadowed the chair during the proceedings. Thank you Karl Eagleman and Zack Raubuck from the national office for their hard work outfitting the masters athletes. They spent many hours indoors insuring that athletes received the proper sizes and they did it with a smile. Thank you from all of us.

Mountain/Ultra/Trail (MUT) Report

It is a busy month with two USATF National Championships upcoming. September 16-17 is the 24 Hour Championship in Cleveland, OH. September 30 is the Half Marathon Trail Championship in Hayward, WI, and the NACAC Mountain Running Championships on September 24 is in Golden, BC, Canada. Team USA will have three men and three women on the team led by Richard Bolt.

In the spirit of supporting our championships as well as our team selection races, we are working with the national office to secure banners sporting the USATF MUT logo.

The WMRA held elections in July at the annual Congress meeting and Jonathan Wyatt (NZL) was elected as president. Nancy Hobbs was re-elected to another four-year term as treasurer, Sarah Rowell (GBR) and Georgio Bianchi (ITA) join the Council as at-large members alongside the re-elected Wolfgang Munzel and Andrzej Puchacz (POL). Tomo Sarf (SLO) formerly an at-large member becomes Secretary.

While in Premana, Italy in July and August for the World Mountain Running Championships and Long Distance Mountain Running Championships, there was a meeting between ITRA, WMRA, IAU, and the IAAF related to the out of stadia events and the future vision of an IAAF World Mountain/Trail Championships (as early as 2020-21). Discussions will be ongoing.

Selection criteria are posted for Team USA to the 2018 World Long Distance Mountain Running Championships: <http://trailrunner.com/trail-news/2018-world-long-distance-mountain-running-championships-team-usa-selection-standards/>.

Cross Country Report

Upcoming 2017 Championships:

October 15 USATF Masters 5km Cross Country Championships (Boston, MA)

December 9 USATF National Club Cross Country Championships (Lexington, KY)

Association Cross Country Champions Travel Grant Program:

The popular travel grant program for men's and women's association cross country championship teams returns for the 2017 season. The winning club men's team and women's team at your USATF Association Cross Country Championship are each eligible for \$500 in reimbursements for travel to the 2017 USATF National Club Cross Country Championships in Lexington, KY on December 9. Details, deadlines, and the required form may be found under the link "Grant Program" on the event page at <http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2017/USATF-National-Club-Cross-Country.aspx>.

Road Running Technical Council Report

None submitted

Athletes Report

None Submitted

From the Board

None Submitted