



DIVISION REPORTS
November 2017 EDITION

Upcoming Events:

Nov 4 USATF 5km Champs (New York City, N.Y.)
Nov 4 USATF Marathon Trail Champs (Moab, Utah)
Dec 3 USATF Marathon Champs (Sacramento, Calif.)
Dec 9 USATF Club CC Champs (Lexington, Ky.)

From the Desk of the Chair, Mike Scott

The busy autumn Long Distance Running season continued in October!

In between enjoying long runs on the trails under the lovely New England fall foliage, I've had the opportunity to witness some truly outstanding racing:

I saw the top collegiate harrier teams clash at Notre Dame, University of Wisconsin, and University of Louisville and am already anticipating my return to Louisville for the NCAA D-1 Championships!

After a busy weekend in Wisconsin and Kentucky, I hopped into my car and drove up to Boston's Franklin Park to watch New England Association host the USATF Masters 5K Cross Country Championships. USATF New England's leadership was "all hands on deck" to execute an outstanding championship event under lovely fall weather.

Earlier in the month, I was treated to a great footrace down the homestretch of the USA 10-Mile championship in St. Paul when Shadrack Kipchirchir narrowly edged Lenny Korir for the men's title and finish just ahead of Sara Hall and Natosha Rogers in the Equalizer Bonus at the Medtronic Twin Cities 10-Mile.

Finally, I was on hand to watch Galen Rupp win the Bank of America Chicago Marathon, the first American man to accomplish this feat since 2002. In the same race, teammate Jordan Hasay became the second fastest American female marathoner with her 2:20:57 effort.

In November, I will be in NYC for the USA 5K Championships & TCS NYC Marathon, then Tampa for the Road Race Management meetings, followed by the aforementioned trip to Louisville for the NCAA Championships. Be sure to say hello if you see me at one of the events!

Men's LDR Report

The USATF Running Circuit had an amazing finish at the Twin Cities 10 miler. The race came down to Shadrack Kipchirchir winning over Leonard Korir, both finishing in 47:33. The equalizer was just as impressive in the overall race. Kipchirchir ended up taking Sara Hall in the last few steps for that win.

The current top three circuit standings are as follows: 1.) Leonard Korir 111 points 2.) Sam Chelanga 80 points and 3.) Shadrack Kipchirchir 62.5 points.

There only two remaining events, the New York Road Runners 5k and the Cal International Marathon. Please stay tune for amazing races.

The Men's LDR is accepting applicant from coaches who wish to manage the World Half Marathon team heading to Valencia, Spain March 24, 2018. We ask that applicants must have experience in coaching professional athletes or has coached at a NCAA school for 2 plus years. We will consider applicants who have experience racing at world championship level. Please have your information emailed to the MLDR committee no later 11/25.

Women's LDR Report

The 5k and marathon are the remaining two championships. NYC for the 5k on November 4 and Sacramento for the marathon on December 3.

We are still trying to look at the circuit and which races have bid for the future and ways to add excitement and or higher incentive to our top athletes to attend the championships. That will be a big topic at convention for both the men and women.

The Olympic Trials marathon is still our big item that I do not have much official info on yet. We are very close to having the RFP ready to go out. I have not heard who is going to bid. I am hoping with the bid forms coming out in the next two weeks that we could have some bids in by convention so we could have discussion with those potential hosts.

Mickey is heading to Road Race Management in November to help reach out to potential bidders who will be there.

Masters LDR Report

October was a terrific month of racing for Masters LDR athletes. Starting with the 5K Championships at the Syracuse Festival of Races on October 1, where Kevin

Castille won in a smoking 14:29; which took down one of the Age-Division American Records of LDR legend, Bill Rodgers. The women's race was closer with Syracuse's Sascha Scott holding off Philadelphia's Christy Peterson by a single second in 17:50!

Although a cross country event, the USATF Masters 5 km Cross Country Championships on Boston's famed Franklin Park course, is a part of the Masters Grand Prix. The B.A.A.'s Aaron Price [Men 40+], the Greater Lowell Track Club's John Barbour [Men 60+] and the Craft Concept Racing's Ginger Reiner [Women] exercised their home field advantage, taking the individual wins. But it was the team races that brought out nearly 400 runners for the Championships. On the Men's side, except for the 60+ category won by the Shore AC [NJ], it was New England teams repelling all boarders, with the Boston Athletic Association, the Greater Springfield Harriers, and the New England 65Plus Runners Club taking the 40+, 50+ and 70+ Team Championships Outsiders had a better showing in the women's races with the upstate NY Genesee Valley Harriers, the Philadelphia Area Athena Track Club and the San Francisco Bay Area's Impala Racing Team taking championships in the 40+, 50+ and 60+ divisions.

The month wrapped up with the 15K Championships hosted by the 40th running of the Tulsa Federal Credit Union's Tulsa Run. It was the largest field in our five year run of Championships in Tulsa with over 150 athletes entered. The runners braved unseasonably cold 35 degree temperatures with double digit winds and a tough, hilly course to post fast times and with many close races. Kevin Castille again took the Men's race in a runaway, defeating John Gardiner, defending champion, and bettering Bill Rodgers's posted American Record with a 46:21. Last year it was Melissa Gacek and Fiona Bayly 1-2 with Bayly getting her revenge this year, topping Gacek in 58:46.

The last event of the year on the Masters Grand Prix circuit is the National Club Cross Country Championships in Lexington KY on December 9th. Last run there in 2012, this is a great opportunity for Masters Harriers, Track Clubs and Running Clubs from the middle of the United States, to test themselves against the best teams from across the country.

Entry Information is at:
<http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2017/USATF-National-Club-Cross-Country/Entry-Information.aspx>

The Entry Form for Masters athletes is here: <https://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2017/USATF-National-Club-Cross-Country/Entry-Info/Entry-Information.aspx>

The Club Cross Country event will serve as the last event on the 2017 Masters Grand Prix circuit and the first event on the 2017-18 circuit. Going forward,

Masters LDR will run its Grand Prix from November 1 until October 31 of the following year. Wrapping up early in the calendar year will allow us to distribute awards and prize money in a ceremony to be held each year in conjunction with the Club Cross Country event. So the Event this year counts 'double'; the points are the final points for 2017 and the initial points for 2017-18. Don't miss it!

The 2017-18 Masters Grand Prix will include:

Dec 9 USATF National Club XC Champs (Lexington, Ky.)
Feb 3 USATF XC Champs (Tallahassee, Fla.)
Mar 17 Towne Bank Sharock 8K (Virginia Beach, Va.)
Apr 29 James Joyce Ramble 10K (Dedham, Mass.)
June 3 Dexter-Ann Arbor Half Marathon (Ann Arbor Mich.) [bid submitted]
Aug 18 Atlanta's Finest 5K (Atlanta, Ga.) [bid in preparation]
Aug 24 HAP Crim Michigan Mile (Flint, Mich.)

Mountain/Ultra/Trail (MUT) Report

Team News: Two more athletes, Kathryn Ross and David Sinclair, were selected in October for the 2018 USA Long Distance Mountain Team, which was held in Flagstaff as part of the Flagstaff Sky Race. Two additional athletes will be selected for the team at the USATF Marathon Trail Championships in Moab, Utah, on November 4. Two more team members for the USA Trail Team will be selected at the North Face Endurance Challenge in San Francisco on November 18.

The MUT Executive Committee will hold another meeting by phone before the annual meeting to select USA Team Staffs for 2018 (and 24 Hours for 2019 as it is held every other year alternating with the 100km road champs), and review championship bids. The committee anticipates a mountain championships bid, half marathon trail, 50km trail, and 10km trail. Other bids will be entertained for additional distances at the annual meeting. The USATF 30km Trail Championships will be held on July 28, 2018 in Colorado Springs, Colo., hosted by Mad Moose Events. This bid had been a two-year bid 2016/2017, but the date conflicted in 2017 with the World Mountain Running Championships and was thus diverted to 2018 which the MUT Executive Committee approved during their October 4 conference call.

A highly successful US Trail Running Conference was held October 11-14 in Estes Park, Colo. A post-event recap here: <https://trailrunner.com/trail-news/us-trail-running-conference-inspires-engages-and-entertains-highlights-from-this-years-event/> Both Richard Bolt and Nancy Hobbs attended and were involved in the organization of the Conference. Next year's Conference will be held August 28-31, in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Traci Falbo wrote an excellent article for Ultrarunning magazine sharing the MUT story - <https://ultrarunning.com/featured/a-primer-on-mut-and-usatf/>.

USATF MUT-branded banners were first displayed at the USATF Half Marathon Trail Championships and again at the Flagstaff Sky Race. This branding really helps create awareness of our program. Look for the banners at the USATF Marathon Trail Champs in Moab.

Cross Country Report

The XC council has awarded the bid for the 2018 Masters 5k Cross Country Championship to the Niagara Association. They will be hosting the meet on September 23, 2018 at Delaware Park in Buffalo, N.Y. It will be run in conjunction with the Can-Am Masters XC Challenge.

Road Running Technical Council Report

None submitted

Athletes Report

A group from AAC met with the Development Committee in Phoenix, Ariz. October 14-15. They talked about 2018 & beyond opportunities.

In 2017 there were 192 athletes in the Tier System or Talent Protection program. There are 70-80 athletes in the Development Program, mostly made up of Field events or distance events.

Proposals are being made to continue to help the athletes fund travel and competitive opportunities especially in 2019 when World Championships are later in the fall.

At the Annual Meeting, AAC is hoping to be able to stream or broadcast our meeting so that more athletes can be involved.

From the Board

None Submitted