



**USATF**

## LONG DISTANCE RUNNING

**DIVISION REPORTS**  
**February 2021 EDITION**

### ***From the Desk of the Chair, Mike Scott***

January has been a busy month with all six of our committees and councils meeting to finish planning 2021 championships and programs and looking ahead to 2022. Read on for lots of updates!

Congratulations to RRTC Chair David Katz: the World Athletics Council appointed David as a Technical Delegate for the Olympic Games Paris 2024!

This week the BAA announced that the Boston Marathon will take place on Monday, October 11. This will be the day following the Chicago Marathon! All six World Majors will take place between September 26 and November 7.

### ***Men's LDR Report***

The Men's LDR Executive Committee met on Tuesday, January 12 for the first time since the Annual Meeting.

The committee is currently reviewing and updating the committee roster, posted here:

<https://www.usatf.org/governance/committees/long-distance-running-division/men-s-long-distance-running-committee>

If you have corrections or would like to be involved, please contact Blake Boldon at [blake.boldon@drake.edu](mailto:blake.boldon@drake.edu). For clarity, you need not be a man to serve on the Men's LDR Committee. All who would like to be involved should express interest as appropriate.

On an on-going basis, the committee is working closely with the Women's LDR Committee to review and solicit bids for Championships in 2021 and beyond. More information about 2021 championships will be announced soon after contracts are finalized by national office staff.

These three items are the most significant and time sensitive for the committee to address early in 2021:

1. Selection criteria for the 2022 Half Marathon Championship Team
2. Selection criteria for the 2022 World Championship Team (marathon)
3. Olympic Trials
  - i. Bid process

- ii. Qualifying standards
- iii. Qualifying window

The next meeting is scheduled for February 9.

### ***Women's LDR Report***

Here are some highlights of the first Women's LDR Committee meeting at which I served as Chair. Sincere thanks to our secretary, **Ms. Camille Herron**, for her diligence and attention to detail. We are fortunate to have her!

The **Women's LDR Committee** had its first meeting of 2021 on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. We used a free Zoom account with a 40 min time limit for the meeting. We are happy to report that Zack Raubuck, Senior Manager-Events and our WLDR liaison, has arranged for us to have all future monthly meetings via Zoom with no time restrictions. Thank you, Zack!

Although it was intended that future meetings would be held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7PM Eastern, a few committee members have conflicts that cannot be resolved, so we will be more flexible with the day/time. The WLDR Executive Committee has three new athlete members, **Ms. Molly Seidel**, **Ms. Sara Hall**, and **Ms. Sally Kipyego**. Ms. Seidel and Ms. Hall were able to join for the meeting.

**2021 National Championships:** Ms. Piscitelli had a telephone conversation with USATF Events Coordinator, Mr. Zack Raubuck. The only Championship currently confirmed to happen in 2021 is the Grand Blue 1 Mile on April 20th. Ms. Piscitelli discussed other possible Championships.

**Ms. Katie McGregor** asked if there was a deadline for accepting USA National Championship bids and when does the committee normally discuss qualifying standards and call for bids for the Olympic Marathon Trials. While we normally get bids before the annual meeting and no later than Feb. into the year, we are being more flexible this year on when we accept bids. For the Olympic Marathon Trials, we normally review and discuss qualifying standards during the year after the Olympics (which would have been the 2020 Annual meeting). We normally get host bids the following year (which would normally be the 2021 meeting and announced in early 2022). With the Olympics delayed a year and the current uncertainty with events, we haven't yet begun these discussions.

**Athlete Development Program:** The Athlete Development Program (ADP) is a program we had in the past to financially support up-and-coming runners for USA National Championships. The program became defunct a few years ago. However, it is still mentioned as part of the Championship Bid Packet. The consensus of the membership and athletes is to leave this as part of the Bid Packet and let the hosting events decide if they would like to support athletes. We could also get the word out to the Associations about offering an ADP.

**Conflict of Interest Form:** Our Laws and Legislation Liaison, **Ms. Claire Tafelski**, is working on creating a Conflict of Interest Form for our WLDR members.

**Safe Sport:** **Ms. Piscitelli** mentioned there was a Safe Sport talk taking place on Tuesday 1/13 at 8:30pm

Eastern. USATF has updated and posted the Safe Sport Compliant list, which can be used for finding Officials who are compliant for meets/events:

<https://www.usatf.org/safesport/safesport-compliant-list>.

\*\*The Zoom meeting abruptly ended at 7:39pm Eastern due to the 40 min time limit (we thought the limit was 45 min). However, some members were able to log back in to finish the meeting. **Ms. Piscitelli** provided the following (with minor edits by Secretary **Ms. Herron**).

**Old Business:** When the USATF 2020 Annual Meeting came to its conclusion, it was understood that as of 1/1/21, the Mountain/Ultra/Trail (MUT) Council would have the authority to ratify their own pending records within their sports discipline – that they would no longer have to look to either LDR Committee for approval. In December, we (Women's LDR) had tabled Item 11 (48Hr Open American Record performance) because it would then, in the new year, fall under the authority of the MUT Council.

### **Masters LDR Report**

**Join us on February 11 at 7pm Eastern for our next Masters LDR Ambassador Call.** Our race directors will share the latest information on the 2021 races. We will also hear from Amanda Scotti, the Publisher and Editor of the National Master's News. [Click to Register for the call.](#)

We have 5 championship events on this year's schedule:

- **USATF Masters 1 Mile Championships on June 12 as part of the Rochester Mile in downtown Rochester, NY.**
- **USATF Masters 12k Championships on September 19 as part of By Hook or By Crook 12k in Sandy Hook, NJ.**
- **USATF Masters 5k XC Championships on October 17 near Boston, MA**
- **USATF Half Marathon Championships on November 14 as part of the Syracuse Half Marathon in Syracuse, NY.**
- **USATF Club Cross Country Championships on December 11 in Tallahassee, FL.**

Points for the 2020-2021 Grand Prix can be earned in each of the first four events. **The Grand Prix individual and team awards will then be awarded at a special award event in Tallahassee on December 11.**

We have already begun work on our 2022 Masters Grand Prix schedule and plan to have a full schedule of high-quality events, with much more geographic diversity. Importantly, we are committed to publishing the entire 2022 schedule by October 2021. The 2022 Masters Grand Prix schedule will kick off with the 2021 USATF Club Cross Country Championships in Tallahassee.

### **Mountain/Ultra/Trail (MUT) Report**

Pending Records Report:

The MUT council voted to deny a women's open 48-hour record due to a pacing issue, with a written statement provided to the runner in case of appeal. Andy Carr from Records presented other records for ratification, which were approved unanimously. A 50k world record is being denied since there was no drug testing on site, which is required by the IAU for world records (this was not a MUT decision, rather a ruling from the IAU).

Upcoming Events:

A notable event occurring that MUT will be paying attention to is the Hoka One One Carbon X 100k World Record attempts scheduled in Arizona on January 23. Notable USATF athletes include Jim Walmsley and Camille Herron.

The current men's 100K world record is 6:09:14 – which is a 5 minute, 56.5 seconds-per-mile pace for 62.2 miles – set by Japan's Nao Kazami in 2018. The women's mark is 6:33:11, set by Japan's Tomoe Abe in 2000.

The current US Records:

US Women: Ann Trason-7:00:48 set in 1995

US Men: Max King-6:27:44 set in 2014

Mountain and Trail Team Selections:

A task force headed up by Richard Bolt including MUT executive committee members, has been formed to create the selection criteria for the Mountain and Trail Teams to compete at the WMRA World Championships in Thailand from November 11-14. The group has been meeting twice weekly since January 10. Data has been gathered from past results in relation to factors such as funding and use of selection races that historically have been part of the selection process. The selection process will be finalized and presented by early February. Selection criteria for the USATF U18 Mountain Team has been posted: <https://trailrunner.com/trail-news/2021-international-u18-mountain-running-cup-team-usa-selection/>

Championship Races:

USATF 50km Road (June 13) and USATF 100 Mile Road (April 26-27) awarded, these are new dates shifting from March and February respectively due to the pandemic. Other bids are being reviewed in the next executive committee meeting on January 27 to include: Half Marathon Trail; Marathon Trail; 50km Trail; 100 mile Trail; 100km Road.

50k Team Selection:

The 50k Team Selection criteria is finalized for the 2021 World 50km Road Championships in Taiwan on October 31.

## 24 Hour World Championship:

IAU 24hour in Romania has been postponed to October 2-3 due to the Covid19 Pandemic. As such, the qualifying window has been extended to May 2, 2021.

### Updates:

- Selection criteria has been approved for the combined World Trail and Mountain Running Championships Team USA - <https://trailrunner.com/trail-news/2021-world-mountain-trail-running-championship-team-usa-selection/>
- 3 more championships approved - September 25 - Birnie Trail Running Festival to host the USATF Half Marathon Championships in Hayward, WI; August 8 - Ragged Mountain 50km to host the USATF 50km Trail Running Championships in NH; and on November 6 - Moab Trail Marathon to host the USATF Marathon Trail Running Championships.
- Jim Walmsley ran to a 100km American Record performance on Saturday, January 23, narrowly missing (by 12 seconds) the World 100km Record. He posted a time of 6:09:26. We'll be getting the performance for review and ratification in February.

### **Cross Country Report**

Cross Country Championships Calendar

Oct 17 2021 Masters 5k Championship, Boston MA

Dec 11 2021 Club National Championships, Tallahassee FL

Jan 15 2022 USA Cross Country Championships, San Diego CA

Dec 10 2022 Club National Championships, San Francisco CA

The NACAC Cross Country Championships have been postponed. They will be rescheduled for late in the year, but a date has not been finalized. The date and procedures to select the team will be announced as soon as possible.

Richmond, VA has been awarded the bid to host the 2023 and 2024 USA Cross Country Championships.

Garrett Heath has been appointed as Championships Coordinator for the Cross Country Council.

### **Road Running Technical Council Report**

None Submitted

### **USATF LDR Records Report**

List of LDR/MUT records ratified at the MUT EC meeting: Items 15-23, performances from 2020 Desert Solstice (AZ) & 2020 Icarus UltraFest (FL)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BhRFgwAGBnqVDOrswbNBa7o-jra9ZzmR/edit>

### Summary:

Pamela Chapman-Markle set 3 F65-69 road records at 12hrs & 24hrs & 48hrs at Icarus.

Jacob Jackson (M40-44), Olivier LeBond (M45-49) & Bob Hearn (M55-59) set multiple age-group track records at Desert Solstice.

### **USATF Return to Training and Hosting Events Guidelines**

The Go-To location for all official USATF guidance as well as scheduling of USATF championships and other events is: <https://www.usatf.org/covid19>

In June USATF released the COVID19 Working Group's guidelines for Return to Training: <https://www.usatf.org/programs/elite-athletes/usatf-coronavirus-2019-covid-19-information-page/return-to-training-guidance-for-athletes-coaches-c>

and on Dec 10 USATF posted an updated Return to Competition (aka, guidance for Event Directors and LOCs): <https://www.usatf.org/covid19/logistical-information-and-guidance-for-event-directors-and-local-organizing-committees>

with some key information about road, cross country, and MUT events.

Here are questions and answers from the June 20 Q&A hosted by President Vin Lananna and the National Office: <https://www.pausatf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/USATF-COVID19-Q-A-Session-notes-June-2020.pdf>

USATF posted an Event Hosting FAQ on July 1: <https://www.usatf.org/programs/elite-athletes/usatf-coronavirus-2019-covid-19-information-page/usatf-event-hosting-faqs>

Please check these documents frequently when you consider hosting events; these guidelines are updated as new information becomes available.