

September 10, 2009

USATF – New England invites you to bid for one of our seven 2010 Road Race Championship Grand Prix races!

Going into its 25th year, the USATF-New England Grand Prix series consists of seven races at distances from 5K to the marathon. Championships are held at 5k, 5 miles, 10k and marathon, two races at distances of 12k through 30k, and a “wild card” which can be a third longer race; a second race at a same 5-30km, or a unique challenge event.

Why be part of the Championship series?

- The race can expect increased participation of **30%** or more (for 1st time championships); some have more than doubled.
- The proven increase in numbers which come with championship designation can help your race with improved publicity and prestige when presenting the events to your community and sponsors.
- The Grand Prix series, a club-based series, draws multiple runners from teams.
- Runners who complete all seven races and earn “Ironrunner” status get awards with race logos.
- Championship races receive **free advertising** in the 2010 New England Runner calendar, on Coolrunning, an entry printed in the USATF-NE newsletter, and other media listings.

What are runners and clubs looking for?

- The 2009 series included events from 500 to 2000 entrants with \$1000 to \$25,000 in prize money and ran between March and October. All races have a chance to be part of the series.
- Team prize money must be limited to New England clubs. Where there is individual money, a portion must be limited to New England-athletes-only. Amounts have varied by race and by year.
- Runners are looking for quality events spread throughout the region and through the year which will offer an interesting, exciting, and fair competition schedule.

What’s needed on your part?

- The race course must be certified for distance to assure record and ranking eligibility
- The race must obtain a USATF Sanction (discounted if event has other insurance).
- There is a \$600 Championship fee
- The race must submit a bid and make a presentation at the Grand Prix review meeting
- Full race requirements and the new selection process are posted at www.usatfne.org/road

Monday, November 2, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Site: Brandeis University, Waltham MA

Napoli Room in the Gosman Sports Center

NOTE: There is a new procedure this year; all races will make presentations on Monday, November 2, and a committee of clubs will present three options for the year’s competition series to be voted on by email between November 10 and November 17. This will allow better scheduling and a more diverse group of member competitors to take part in the voting

Courtney Bird, Men’s LDR chair (courtney.bird@verizon.net) Skip Cleaver, Masters LDR chair (skip@coolrunning.com)
Jim Garcia, USATF-NE V.P. (jg100garcia@yahoo.com) Lisa Doucett, Women’s LDR chair (lisadoucett@comcast.net)

How do the numbers stack up?

- Most races bring in an additional 250 to 300 runners (see chart)
- This amounts to an additional \$5000-\$6000 in entry fees (250 X \$20 = \$5000)
- Most race costs are fixed – Police, Port-a-Johns, Permits, Tents, Facilities, Timing
- The variable costs are still minimal – T-shirts - \$5, Timing-\$1, Food/Water -\$1
- The rights fee is \$600
- The prize money varies. Team prize money is typically at least \$2000
- The cachet of a Grand Prix Championship can bring in more sponsorship and more runners. Many times the sponsor picks up the cost of the T-shirts.