

USATF – New England invites you to bid for one of our seven 2016 Road Race Championship Grand Prix races!

Going into its 32nd year, the USATF-New England Grand Prix series consists of seven races at distances typically from 5K to the marathon.

Why should your race be a part of the Championship series?

- A race can expect increased participation of **25 to 30%** or more for 1st time championships; some have more than doubled. Championships also significantly increase the quality of the field.
- The proven increase in numbers which come with a championship can increase publicity and prestige of the race when presenting the event to your community and sponsors.
- The Grand Prix series is a club-based series and draws multiple runners from teams.
- Runners who complete all seven races earn “Ironrunner” status and get awards with race logos.
- Championship races receive **free advertising** in the 2015 New England Runner calendar, on LevelRunner, an entry printed in the USATF-NE “Exchange Zone,” and other media listings.
- Enjoy an opportunity to meet and work with other Race Directors and share best practices.

Race Directors: We would like to have USATF-NE Grand Prix knowledgeable road race announcers at every event. Contact us about securing one at your event. We may be able to provide financial assistance for this effort.

What do runners and clubs look for?

- Events of varied sizes - the 2015 series included events from 500 to 3,000 participants
- Team prize money – a minimum of \$3,500, distributed to at least the top three finishing open teams, which must be limited to USATF-NE member clubs.
- If there is individual money, a portion must be limited to New England-athletes-only. Amounts have varied by race and by year
- Quality events spread throughout the region from February through November which will offer interesting, exciting, and fair competitions.

What’s needed on your part?

- The race course must be certified for distance to assure record and ranking eligibility.
- The race must have a USATF Sanction (discounted if the event has other insurance).
- A \$600 Championship fee for races up to 1000 runners, \$700 for races of 1001+.
- Team prize money of at least \$3,500 (\$5,000 suggested).
 - A discount to clubs of 10% of pre-entry fees per runner.
- Submission of a bid and presentation at the Grand Prix presentation meeting.
 - If selected, a representative must attend a pre-series Race Directors meeting to review guidelines and activities and have the opportunity to work together to improve all events.
- Full race requirements and the selection process are posted at www.usatfne.org/road.

Presentation of Bids: Monday, November 2, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

Site: Gosman Sports Center, Brandeis University, Waltham MA

The selection procedure (in use since 2009):

- **All interested races make presentations on November 2.**
- **A committee of club reps will review, discuss, and formulate a voting process, for the competition series which members will vote for on online between November 20 and December 4.**
- **Online voting allows better Grand Prix race scheduling and more members to take part in the voting.**

How participation in the Grand Prix can improve your race:

- Most Grand Prix races bring an additional 200 to 300 runners to each race.
- More runners amount to a significant increase in entry fees - at \$35 per entrant, $250 \times \$35 = \$8,750$
- Most race costs are fixed – Police, Port-a-Johns, Permits, Tents, Facilities, and Timing so becoming a Grand Prix race will not affect your bottom line in a big way.
- The variable costs of more runners is still minimal – T-shirts, Timing (if based on number of entries), Food/Water, etc.
- The rights fee is \$600 (up to 1000 runners) or \$700 (1001 or more runners) is collected after your event and is easily covered by the additional entries.
- Prize money varies. In 2016, team prize money is to be a minimum of \$3,500, also easily covered by additional entries.
- The cachet of a Grand Prix Championship can bring in more sponsorship and more runners and improve the visibility of your event in the community. Sponsors may be more likely to cover costs such as T-shirts if there is greater visibility of the race in your community.

Numbers, visibility and prestige – A great package – submit your bid today!

Questions? Concerns? Please contact:

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Jan Holmquist, NE Masters Long Distance Running Chair (jholmquist@usاتفne.org)

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Bid forms available at www.usاتفne.org/road/gp