

# 2016 GRAND PRIX RACE PRESENTATION MEETING ON NOVEMBER 2

## Process to select races for 2016 series

The 2016 Road Race Grand Prix presentation meeting will be held on Monday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gosman Athletic Center at Brandeis University in Waltham MA. This will be the first step in the selection process for the USATF-NE Grand Prix series. The meeting will be open to all 2015 USATF-NE members, presenting race committees, and invited media and guests.

The process allows for more in-depth discussion, schedule organization, and increased participation in the voting.

The process follows these steps:

First is the Monday bid presentation meeting at Brandeis on November 2, the same site for the past few years. All races interested in hosting a championship will make their presentations to the membership. Events will be presented in groups by distance, with questions and answers following the distance group.

There will be no voting on November 2. Instead, a selection committee made up of the three road running chairs and a mix of active and top scoring clubs will discuss the bids, compare races and schedules. That committee will meet in the days after the November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to create a voting process for USATF-NE members via the web. While this meeting will be open to the membership, no questions or comments will be taken from the floor during this later meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be deliberation by the committee.

The voting process will be posted on the USATF-NE website, [www.usatfne.org](http://www.usatfne.org). Online voting by 2015 members age 18 and over will take place from on or around November 20 until on or around Friday, December 4. Voting which results in ties or no clear preference between slates may require a run-off vote. Results will be announced at the conclusion of voting. To vote, members will access the voting page via a link on the USATF-NE website. Voters will be required to enter their individual USATF membership number.

This process achieves several goals:

- The creation of multiple options for the seven race series allows thought to be given to the sport's "big picture". Conflicts with holidays, other major events, and other bidding races can be addressed logically and will ensure a balanced calendar. This process had both the creation of slates of races and the voting of races of same or similar distances to create the Grand Prix calendar.
- The facts on all events can be posted, compared, and discussed in more detail via a posted spreadsheet.
- Online voting allows more individual members to be part of the selection. A weeknight evening meeting prevented participation by those living any distance from the meeting site. In the past, people arriving and leaving over the course of the meeting changed the voting outcome, and voters did not always consider a complete calendar.

Going into its 32nd year, the USATF-New England Grand Prix series consists of seven races at distances typically from the 5K to the marathon. Past championships have been held at 5km, 5 miles, 10km and marathon, two races at distances of 12km through 30km, and a "wild card" which can be a road race at a different distance; or a unique challenge event.

We believe online voting improves the Grand Prix series. The procedure is also posted at [www.usatfne.org/road/gp.html](http://www.usatfne.org/road/gp.html). In addition, the bid applications will be available for viewing at [www.usatfne.org/gp](http://www.usatfne.org/gp). Contact the office, or the LDR chairs below, if you have any questions.

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