

## USATF 2017 Annual Meeting MUT Committee Report

The Mountain Ultra Trail Committee meetings were well attended on both Friday and Saturday. The meetings were led by Nancy Hobbs, Chairperson of the USATF Mountain Ultra Trail Council.

Members of the MUT Executive Board reported that Mountain Ultra Trail (MUT) has been experiencing grow pains. As the sport grows in popularity and more teams are added, the funding has stayed stagnant resulting in less funds going to each of the teams. This is not really unusual and in fact is good. Duffy Mahoney of the USATF National Office stated that the MUT budget was increasing by \$5,000 in 2018.

USATF MUT Teams competing on the world stage with podium finishes at the NACAC Mountain Running Championships in Golden, Canada; World Mountain Running Championships (WMRC) in Premana, Italy; World Long Distance Mountain Running Championships (WLDMRC) in Premana, Italy; International Mountain Running Youth Cup in Gagliano del Capo, Italy; IAU 24 Hour World Championships in Belfast, Ireland; and IAU / ITRA Trail World Championships in Badia Prataglia, Italy. USA Teams won ten medals and eight individual medals. In addition, the USA Women's Team set a world record at the IAU 24 Hour for cumulative distance.

Phil Greenwald, MUT Representative on the Rules Committee gave an overview of the proposed rule changes that relate to MUT. The proposed rule changes were previously accepted by the IAAF and are now proposed for the USATF Rulebook. The discussion revolved around the actual definitions of the individual races, i.e. defining what is a Mountain Race. Mountain races are typically defined by length limits and elevation change requirements.

USATF National Office Liaisons made appearances thru out the two days of meetings. Those individuals were as follows:

- Duffy Mahoney is now the national office liaison replacing the departed Lindsay Toussant. As previously mentioned above, he spoke about the budget. He said that they are also increasing the drug testing at more championships and races.
- Terry Lovely, USATF Warehouse Logistics Manager spoke on issuing and returning team and individual uniforms. Terry replaces Aretha Thurman.
- Vin Lananna, USATF President spoke to the group. Vin advocated that the group should select one or two objectives that the MUT community wishes to accomplish and really focus on it. One suggestion was to get a MUT World Championship to be conducted along with Oregon 21.

Another topic of discussion was regarding Series Races. This could be a regional such as the New England Series where points are accumulated over a series of races or just a series of races over different lengths. George Leaf of the Kentucky Association has approached me to see if Ohio would be interested in being a part of a series that included Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois and Indiana over a variety of distances. Currently Ohio does not have a MUT Championship but we have been trying to find a race that would be interested in pairing up with the Association. The group discussed the benefits of races organizers partnering with local associations. Some benefits are insurance, additional medals, additional

exposure and assistance with promoting the event. This could be a win situation for both the Ohio Association and the Race Organizer.

The approved MUT Championships for 2018 are:

- Bandera ~ 100k Trail on 1/6/18
- Rocky Raccoon ~ 100m trail on 2/3/18
- Jackpot ~ 100m Road on 2/17/18
- Caumsett ~ 50k Road on 3/4/18
- Cayuga ~ 50m trail on 7/21/18
- Pikes Peak ~ 30k trail on 7/28/18
- Ragged Mountain ~ 50k trail on 8/12/18
- Loon Mountain ~ mountain on 9/8/18
- North Coast ~ 24 hour on 9/8/18 or 9/15/18
- Birkie ~ half marathon trail on 9/29/18
- Moab Trail ~ Marathon on 11/3/18

Respectively submitted,

E. Scott Rose

Vice-President. and Web Master