

## USATF Annual Meeting Report – Paige Biglin

### Women's Long Distance Running

- Runner of the Year – Molly Huddle, Contributor of the Year – Doug Allred (Gate River Run/USATF 15km Championship Race Director)
- 2016 Olympic Trials: course will be finalized by 3/15/15 so that athletes running in the 2015 LA Marathon will be able to preview. Tentatively routed as 4x 6 mi loops + 2.2 mi loop. Trials race will start around 10 am Pacific time to encourage spectators.
- 2014 in review: 13 road championships held, which is a record.
- 2015 championships: 12 scheduled at this time
  - Houston Half marathon – January
  - Cross country (Boulder) – February. Will select team to go to China for World XC
  - Gate River Run 15k (Jacksonville) – March 14
  - LA Marathon – March 15
  - Riverbank Run 25k (Grand Rapids, MI) – May 9
  - Twin Cities 1 mi – May 12?
  - New Haven 20k – September 7
  - Tufts 10k – October
- Current championship bids :
  - 10 mile – Cherry Blossom vs. Twin Cities 10 mi
  - 5k – CVS 5k (Providence) vs. ?
  - 8k possible bidder
- Collegiate Running Association (Steve Taylor): NCAA Division 1 rules have changed to allow athletes to accept prize money equivalent to running-related expenses for an entire year (insurance, lodging, mileage to workout, massage...etc).
  - To be eligible for CRA events, runner must be enrolled in at least 1 college class.
  - Last year they held 10k and mountain running championship
- Women's LDR will be seeing an increased budget in the coming year. Discussion of how to spend funds focused how to support emerging elites, strengthen the Athlete Development Program, or provide/subsidize insurance for athletes.
- Association LDR Championships: Discussion of sample grand prix structure, funding of races, budget for prizes, increasing participation.

### Men's Long Distance Running

- Team USA Opportunities for 2015 (also the same for women):
  - World XC Championship in China (3/28) – athletes selected from USA XC Championship in Boulder
  - PanAm XC Championship in Colombia (February) – athletes selected from USA XC Championship
  - Pan Am Games Marathon in Toronto 7/18 – expect that athletes will be selected from performance list

- USATF Foundation (Jack Wickens)
  - 51 grants were awarded in 2014, mostly to field athletes
  - Elite athletes should consider setting up a profile on [athletebiz.us](http://athletebiz.us) to increase exposure and possible funding
- Outstanding male athlete award – Christo Landry, National Level Contributor Award – Frank Gagliano

## **Cross Country**

- Report on 2014 events:
  - December 2013 Club XC in Bend had a large turnout of >1200 runners who gave a good review to the event.
  - 2014 Bupa Edinburgh meet also went well. Chris Derrick was individual champion
  - 2014 USA XC champs in Boulder had a low turnout, probably because it was an off year for world xc
  - 2014 NACAC Champs were held in Tobago. USA won 3 of 4 team and 3 of 4 individual titles. However the experience was marred by the death of a Jamaican runner. Bill Roe reported that the medical staffing and response was adequate but the Jamaican team as a whole was not conditioned for 6-8k races in the heat. The team was understandably shaken up by the event. On a positive note, the USA team received a thank you letter from the Canadian team for assisting a Canadian runner on the way back to an American college.
- Upcoming events:
  - 2014 Club XC in Bethlehem, PA will have a record number of entries. At this time there were >1750 individuals and 101 men's teams! There was some discussion on whether the course could accommodate such large fields at this race and future club xc races. The committee is happy that the event is growing and will be prepared for increasingly large fields in the future.
  - 2015 Bupa Edinburgh - 1/1/15. Senior team will be selected from Club XC top 6 runners, then those with a world championship A standard, top 15 at 2014 USA XC, and then those with "other recent performances of that level." Also note that Bupa organizers are able to directly select an athlete they want to run. Junior teams will be selected by the committee from NCAA, Nike and Footlocker high school championship meets, ideally equally.
  - 2015 will have a PanAm Xc championship (not NACAC). Eventually the goal is to have PanAm XC in non-World XC years (i.e. even numbered years). It will be held in Barranquilla, Colombia, which is a tourist town at sea level on February 21 or 22. The team will be selected from the USA Championships in Boulder. \*This is a very short turnaround time -- athletes who are interested in being selected should bring their passport to Boulder to begin processing! 6 people per squad.

- 2015 World XC in Guiyang, China, March 28. This site is at altitude. Team selected from USA XC Champs in Boulder. Guiyang was the only city to bid on this.
- 2015 Club XC Champs will be in San Francisco, 12/12/15. There was discussion of the recent trend of increasing participants in these races and whether the course could handle the projected field sizes (though the xc committee is pleased that we have so much participation that this is a potential problem!). Members of the LOC spoke about their plans for the course. They are also organizing a food truck festival at the finish!
- Report from Joint Subcommittee for Club XC Site Selection (Bill Quinlisk)
  - There were 3 bidders for 2016: Lexington, Tallahassee, Atlanta. Atlanta was selected but then withdrew. They have re-opened bidding until 1/15/14.
  - Bidding for 2017 is open 2/1/15-7/1/15.
- Rules Consideration
  - Item 9 -- tiebreaker rule, especially in relation to 4-member teams (masters)
  - Item 33 -- the protest period following results posting
  - Item 95 -- masters teams for ages 65+ will move to 3 scoring members
- Association XC Championships and Series Best Practices (Paul Greer)
  - Presented an outline of xc background and how to run a meet
  - Associations should be hosting a XC championship and/or series of races
  - Handout available from Paul Greer for association chairs
- 2016-2017 USA Cross Country Award
  - Site provisionally awarded to Bend
  - Discussion of anticipated low participation in 2016 due to no World XC and conflict with Olympic Marathon Trials.
- IAAF Report (Bob Hersh)
  - China was the only bidder for 2015 World XC.
  - 2017 World XC will be held in Kampala, Uganda. The other bidder was Bahrain.
  - Recently there have been few bids for World XC. Discussion of Europeans emphasizing Euro XC and often not even attending World XC and therefore not bidding to host.
  - Discussion of possibly holding World XC in conjunction with public mass participation race (such as in the World Half Marathon Champs recently)
  - Discussion of possibly adding a masters race to WXC (masters pay their own way) but IAAF lacks a masters committee (World Masters Assoc does championships already)
  - Discussion of idea of adding XC to winter Olympics. IAAF has discussed this but they move very slowly.