



LDR Meeting
Madison Area YMCA
111 Kings Road
Madison, NJ 07940
Tuesday, February 6, 2018 7PM

- I. **Sign-in sheet in lieu of roll call: Attendees:** Mike Barry, Debbie Brathwaite, Bruce Fabrikant, Eva Fisher, Gene Gugliotta, Debbie Hall, Terry Mullane, Scott Linnell, Edward Neighbour, Beth Nelson, Gary Rosenberg, Chris Rinaldi, John 'Chachi' Sabbatino, Reno Stirrat, Ben Teixeira, Mike Walters,
- II. **Introductions**
- III. **Minutes from previous meeting**
 - A. A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 25, 2017 meeting minutes. Minutes were approved.
- IV. **2017 Championship Discussion:**
 - A. Little Silver 5k-Women's Championship- 10-1-17. This event was the Open Women's Championship in 2017 and has been selected to host the 2018 Master's Men 5k Championship. The race was well organized in 2017. There were no issues with the event raised at the meeting.
 - B. 8k XC Readington 10-22-17. The three loop course was noted as a negative. The site has served as a Cross Country Championship site for many years. Other Cross Country sites were discussed.
 - C. Giralda Farms 5k Masters Men-11-12-17. The distance from the parking lot to the race start/ packet pickup was an issue. A representative from the club that hosted the event noted that they had issues getting permission to park in the garage that had been used for multiple years for the race.
 - D. Ashenfelter 8k-11-23-17. This race continues to be the largest race that the NJ Association has an Association Championship.
- V. **2018 Championship Schedule review:**
 - 04/08 Indian Trails 20K All DIVISION
 - 04/28 Clinton Country Run 15K All DIVISION
 - 05/05 Newport 10K OPEN MEN & WOMEN
 - 05/19 Our House 4 Miler ALL DIVISION

- 05/28 Ridgewood Run 10K MASTERS MEN & WOMEN
- 06/24 Lager Run 5K OPEN MEN & WOMEN
- 08/19 Midland Mile ALL DIVISION
- 08/26 USATF NJ 5K Cross Country ALL DIVISION
- 09/09 USATF NJ 12K (Tentative) ALL DIVISION
- 09/16 Newport Half Marathon ALL DIVISION
- 09/30 Little Silver 5K MASTERS MEN
- 10/21 USATF NJ 8K Cross Country ALL DIVISION
- 11/03 Harrington Park 5K MASTERS WOMEN 11/22 Ashenfelter 8K ALL DIVISION

The 12k Championship was originally scheduled for March 11, 2018. The two venues we approached concerning the race which had both served as USATF NJ championship sites in previous years proved unworkable. The one park had made a decision to stop having road running events do to some issues with races conducted there in 2017. The other park had roads that were not in a condition that was safe to hold the event until potholes were repaired. The LDR committee was presented with an opportunity to have the event in Sandy Hook in September. We are moving forward with planning for the event.

VI. 2017 Individual and Team Grand Prix Rule Change Proposal Discussion and Vote

A. Club Team Grand Prix Proposal 1. Proposal would **Exclude** the Road mile from the Club Team Grand Prix. This would not impact the status of the event as an Association Championship with a team component. *Discussions concerning the Road mile for both approving and rejecting the proposal were held. While some felt that the distance was too short to be an LDR Championship it was noted that the Road Mile is an event noted in the Rules of Competition to be conducted by the LDR Division. After a debate the vote was called and while the votes were in the majority to remove the Road Mile from the Club Team Grand Prix the vote failed to meet the 60% threshold required for a change in the rules.*

B. Club Team Grand Prix alternative proposal 1. Proposal was offered to amend the way the teams are scored, limiting each club to a single team per division. *The proposal was discussed and there were concerns raised that this would make the scoring different from any of the other Association Grand Prix Team Championships. The need to have this alternative reviewed in greater detail was also discussed. The vote was called and this proposal did not meet the 60% majority required for adoption.*

C. Club Team Grand Prix Proposal 2: **Masters Women 40-49 and above: Declare 8, Score 4.** David Siconolfi provided data on the number of eligible women runners 40+ per club competing in the Club Grand Prix. While the number did show there were enough to enlarge the team size, it was noted that this number also included women in the 500+, 60+, 70+ and 80+ age groups. It was also noted that the 60s men had this requirement in effect for a number of years and the teams felt that it negatively impacted a clubs ability to field teams, particularly the smaller clubs. The proposal was called and defeated by a majority.

D. Club Team Grand Prix Proposal 3: The Proposal would split all master's divisions into 5 year age groups. The proposal would also make all masters teams declare 6, score 3. *The rationale provided included the fact that in the older Masters age divisions there is quite a performance difference between a 60 year old runner and a 69 year old runner. Discussions raised concerns that there were already too many challenges in clubs fielding teams in the 10 year divisions. The vote was called and the proposal was defeated by a majority.*

E. Club Team Grand Prix Proposal 4: The proposal would create COED teams for clubs within the Club Team Grand Prix along with the scoring criteria. *There were concerns raised that since the Championship schedule was issued and did not contain COED team races that*

Clubs may have already started planning their racing year. The vote was called and the proposal was defeated by a majority.

VII. New Business

A. It was suggested that the LDR committee form a sub-committee to take a look at what other Associations do for an Individual and Club Team Grand Prix and report back to the LDR Committee with their findings and recommendations that could improve our Grand Prix. It was noted that this committee should include representation from multiple clubs competing in our Grand Prix and should be posted on the LDR Page.

B. It was noted that the Grand Prix minis allow athletes to win in each of the I, II and III categories while the Overall Grand Prix removes the award winners from consideration in the minis allowing awards to go to more people. It was suggested that LDR may want to look at restricting award winners to a single category in the minis. Challenges to this would be how would you select which mini the athlete would receive the award. Making the athlete select a mini to focus on for the year would be an administrative challenge.

VIII. Adjourn

A motion was made and seconded and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40PM.