



**LDR Meeting Draft**  
**439 R46 East, Rockaway, NJ**  
**Thursday 7PM , February 23, 2017**

- I. **Sign-in sheet in lieu of roll call: Attendees:** Bob Skorupski, Shore AC; Mark McKnight, Do Run Runners; Mike Barry, Essex Running Club; Ben Teixeira, Clifton Road Runners; Anthony DiFiore, Clifton Road Runners; Charlie Castiglioni, Morris County Striders; Courtney Clark, Rose City Runners; Beth Nelson, Rose City Runners; Scott Linnell, Shore AC; Gene Gugliotta, Raritan Valley Road Runners; John Sabatino, Garmin; Terry Mullane, USATF- NJ; Gary Rosenberg, Garmin; Eva Fisher, Morris County Striders; Reno Stirrat, Shore AC; Karen Auteri, NJ Racing Project; Mike Walters, Geezers; Sheila Courter, Garmin; Ed Neighbour, MCS; Jane Parks, Rose City Runners.

II. **Introductions**

- III. **Minutes from previous meeting**  
Minutes reviewed and accepted.

IV. **2017 Championships:**

- a) Copy of 2017 Schedule Review
- b) 700 Point Category 3 Kickoff weekend March
- c) COED Team President's Cup 5k

Ed Neighbour talked about the championship survey that was sent out and how the LDR committee used the results in determining the 2017 Championship schedule. Comments were made that some of the racers did not receive the survey on the 2016 championships. Based on feedback from this survey standard list of questions will be developed for the Championship and 700 point races for 2017. The survey had a 10 day period for response which was agreed to be adequate. The survey was well received. The results from the survey appear on the USATF-NJ LDR page.

Ed recapped the 2017 Championship schedule starting with an introduction of the 700 Point Category 3 Kickoff weekend.

Two of the three races are new long distance races. A survey will be sent out after the kick off weekend to assess how our USATF runners liked the races. The results of that survey and the survey for all of the Championship races will be used in the selection of the 2018 Championship GP series.

Indian Trails is a new 20K course. There is also a 10k course. The 20K is the 10K with an out and back section to add the additional 10K.

Returning Spring Championships are the Clinton Country Run 15K, Newport 10K and a past Championship, Fred D'Elia Ridgewood 10K is the Masters Men and Women's Championship.

The New Milford 5K received very high reviews on the 2016 survey. Because it falls on the same day as the Masters Track meet there may be some consideration for those running the track meet on the day of New Milford 5K. The New Milford 5K will be the Masters Women's Championship.

Presidents Cup is a team coed exhibition championship. This will be a 700 point race but the team scoring will not be included in the team club championship. Runners can appear on multiple teams. Open teams will be scored on time and the Masters teams will be PLP scored. There will be a Masters team and an Open team and runners can be on both teams if they are Masters runners.

The Lager Run and New Milford 5K were very popular in the survey. The Lager Run is the Open Men's Championship. The New Milford 5k will be the Master's Women's Championship.

Midland Mile will be all categories so that there will only be one mile race on the 2017 Championship calendar.

New this year, each Championship will have an official at the race. This will help ensure the race complies with the USATF rules of competition.

Natirar as 5k XC in August. The 8K is tentatively at Thompson Park. A permit request has been put in with both venues.

Newport Liberty Half Marathon remains the Championship for all Divisions. With the addition of new Category 3 races in the Spring there will be a opportunity in 2018 for new Category 3 Championship.

Little Silver will continue as the Women's Open Championship. The course is nice and the finish on the track. The race held a good after race party at the firehouse.

Shades of Death will be the 700/500 point wild card.

Giralda Farms will host the Masters Men's 5K Championship. There was a suggestion to use the Madison Y 5K course or another course that was not an out and back course.

Ashenfelter 8K Classic is the final race. This race was also very well received in the survey.

## **V. Individual and Team Grand Prix Rule Changes 2017**

- a) Two new rule change proposals were discussed and a vote was held on each.

### **New Rule Change Proposal #1: Edward Neighbour**

Mini Category Three (2015): 12km and above - score a total of five, with a maximum of **Three** championship scores and a minimum of five races total.

*The intent is to increase the participation in the mini category three. Since there are not a lot of 12km and above races in the Grand Prix allowing a third Championship race (currently only two are permitted) to count in this mini Category three series would raise the number of potential finishers in the Mini Three .*

The Rule was discussed and it was felt that it might allow more to compete in the Cat 3 Mini.

**A vote was called and the rule was approved unanimously. The Rule change is in effect for the 2017 Mini 3.**

## **New Rule Proposal #2: Bob Skorupski**

### **Current Rule:**

III. NBGP Scoring

B. The point value of an event indicates the number of points that will be awarded to the first male and female finisher in the event. Points shall then be awarded to all finishers in a race regardless of membership in USATF-NJ on a descending scale down to the minimum point value for that event, separately for men and women, which shall be proportionate to the number of finishers in the event.

### **Proposed Rule:**

*B. The Points shall be awarded based upon a percentage determined by dividing an established record time by the competitor's finish time, and multiplying this percentage by 7 for championship races, and 5 for all other races. Males and females will be scored separately."*

*Reasoning for the proposal: There are a lot of variables to the Grand Prix races which do not provide a level race to race Grand Prix point potential based upon performance due to a number of variables at a particular event such as the number of participants, who shows up to the race (quality of the field of runners participating), the winning time at that event etc..*

*It is proposed to change the way points are earned by creating a plp baseline for the earning of points based on fastest times achieved for a particular LDR distance. The proposed structure would have a maximum point potential of 700 or 500 points based upon Championship/ Non Championship Status but the points would be awarded on a comparison of the time recorded at that event vs. a performance baseline for that distance.*

An analysis prepared by compuscore of Individual Grand Pix Scoring Current vs. Proposed.

*Scoring will be based on how fast you run regardless of how the many are in the field using a single plp base line.*

There was considerable discussion and some concerns that it was too complex for average runners to understand. It also favored flat, fast courses.

**A vote was held and it was not approved by a large margin.**

#### **VI. LDR Sport Committee Elections at May LDR Meeting**

- a) All LDR Sport committee Terms expire June 30, 2017.
- b) Ed led a discussion on what is expected of committee members
  - Chairs of Divisions are NJ representative on National Sport committee
  - LDR Championships Responsibilities at LDR Table and Awards
  - LDR Events and programs to be conducted in accordance with current Rules of Competition and in line with USATF governance.
  - Championship bid review and selection.
  - Remove themselves from decisions that they have a conflict of interest.
  - Develop programs and budget for approval from NJ Association Trustees.
  - Administration of LDR Programs.
  - Responsibilities at Awards Banquet

Ed also said that the NJ Association is proposing to expand the LDR with MUT and XC Chairs and Vice Chairs. He encouraged people to step up to be on the committees.

The General Meeting will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Vacancies on the Executive Committee will be held at that meeting. Both the current President and the Vice President are term limited. The Secretary position is not term limited but the current Secretary might not run again. Treasurer is not term limited. None of the Trustees terms are expiring this year.

#### **VII. New Business**

National USATF races are about to start and there is not a current LDR stipend program approved for this year. There may not be a club stipend because less money available for stipends this year. If there is an individual stipend the PLP performance level may be raised due to the large number of runners requesting stipends in 2016. Currently, the standard is 82% PLP. The Association is looking for a sponsor for the Stipend program.

Garmin will be the Club Team championship sponsor for 2017.

#### **VIII. Adjourn Meeting was adjourned at 8:20.**

Respectfully Submitted  
Jane Parks, LDR Women's Chair