

**Big Sky Distance Summit at Camp Waterloo**  
**August 13, 2005**

**Present:**

Tony Banovich (Blngs), Anders Brooker (Msla), Michelle Richardson (Hlna), Evan Eck (Hlna), Nicole & Ray Hunt (Butte), Kent Hoffmeyer (Kspl), Rick Judge (Hlna), Jacquie Maillet (GF), Jeb & Tom Myers (Klsp), Mark Slater (Bzmn), Jennifer & Jeff Thomas (Hlna), Brian Wieck (Hlna), John Zombro (Bzmn).

**Discussion Topics**

**Montana Cup**

- ❑ The group concurred that dollars from the proceeds of the event should be used to help offset the costs of bus transportation. It was agreed that a bus at no or limited cost per runner could help encourage participation in the race. More discussion will be needed to determine the logistics of how to implement this idea.
- ❑ On a related note, the Bozeman and Butte teams are investigating a bus for the 2005 race in Kalispell that would leave from Bozeman or Butte and would provide transportation to the event. More details to be forthcoming.
  
- ❑ It was agreed that a Masters team championship will be included as part of the 2005 race. The elements of the Masters competition will include the following:
  - There will be Masters team champions determined for both men and women.
  - These will be run as a “race within the race” (i.e. not separate races just for masters).
  - For 2005, the Masters runners can “double-dip” in the Open and Masters competitions.
  - This double dipping will be evaluated in future years and can be eliminated if adequate numbers of Masters runners participate.
  - The Masters team races will be scored 5 deep, with 7 displacing (same as Open competition)
  - The Masters team races will be scored separately from the Open race/runner placing.
  - A to be determined trophy or plaque as a Masters traveling trophy will be awarded to the winning men’s and women’s teams.
  - Masters athletes will wear an “M” or other distinctive number, marking or color on the back.
  
- ❑ Awards will be presented as follows:
  - Consistent with past Montana Cups, the Montana Cup will be presented to the Overall/Open Team Champion (men and women), awards to the individual male and female Junior and Masters Champions, and awards to male and female top 7 Overall (All-Montana Team).
  - New for 2005 will be the following: Traveling trophy for Masters Team champions (men and women), recognition of top 7 men and women Masters and Junior (but no awards other than champion) and individual awards for male and female Super-Masters (50+) Champions.
  
- ❑ Collegiate runners who do not have cross-country eligibility may run on a team. It is the athlete’s choice to run for their hometown or their college town.
- ❑ Collegiate runners with eligibility remaining may run; but, they are will not be included in team scoring and are not eligible for individual awards.
- ❑ Ray and Nicole Hunt will continue to manage the MontanaCup.com site. The Montana Cup will reimburse them for the yearly web-site hosting costs.
- ❑ The host city can allow a course preview (on-site inspection and/or by virtual on-line tour) at their discretion.

**USATF Club Formation**

- ❑ Much discussion occurred regarding the formation of a USATF club that could allow for a statewide team to compete in events such as Club Nationals and National Team Relay events.
- ❑ The club was also considered as the body that could act as the board to oversee the Montana Cup.
- ❑ The role of a statewide club as a liaison to local clubs was discussed.
- ❑ It was recognized that the Moving Comfort – Montana Club was available to represent women’s teams in competition.
- ❑ No consensus was reached regarding a general USATF club.
- ❑ However, all concurred that support of and membership in USATF was important to the health of the sport.
- ❑ Tony Banovich may continue to pursue this item, especially if a master’s team can be put together for Club XC Nationals.

**Future Camps and Summits**

- ❑ All present agreed that the camp was a very worthwhile endeavor.
- ❑ At least one annual camp should be conducted.
- ❑ Ideas for the 2006 camp will be put forward and an email ballot (like 2005) will be conducted to determine date and location.
- ❑ Tony Banovich hereby recommends that all future camps be referred to as Camp Waterloo 20XX to recognize the outstanding job that Ray and Nicole Hunt did in their choice of camp locations and to retain the spirit of the original camp.
- ❑ It was also suggested that a second camp be conducted. It was suggested that this could be a shorter version that had a more of a “business” aspect to it. The desire would be to address statewide running issues and to allow more time for recreation at the primary camp. Tony Banovich will further explore this second summit for 2006.

**Montana Distance Runners Hall of Fame**

- ❑ The discussion was adjourned to allow for hot springs soaks and quick naps before the second run of the day.
- ❑ Tony Banovich will present information to the group at a future date for discussion and consideration.

**Other**

- ❑ Thanks to Anders Brooker and the Runner’s Edge for the water bottles and team relay prize and for his demonstration of support for the camp and the sport in general.
- ❑ Thanks to Jeb Meyer for his initial suggestion of the camp concept and for use of his LCD projector.
- ❑ Thanks to John Zombro for putting together the meal plan.
- ❑ Thanks to Pat Judge for the Saturday night root beer float and Moose Drool run.
- ❑ Thanks to Ray and Nicole Hunt for all the work in coordinating the camp, scouting the site, providing the common tent and marking the run routes and mileage.
- ❑ And thanks to all the athletes who came and participated in a weekend of fun, fitness, camaraderie and laughter.