

Montana Cup Organizational Meeting
Bozeman, MT
February 14th, 2009 - "A Day Of Love"

Meeting Discussion Notes

1. Pre Meeting Run – 9:30 a.m.

Nicole Hunt, Alan King and Tony Banovich had a pleasant one hour run on Bozeman's Linear Park, Sourdough and Sundance Trails. John Zombro, Jeff Thomas, Anders Brooker and Ray & Eon Hunt were lazily napping and eating cold pizza at ZPT. Zombro provided a recap, including raw video, of the Montana Men's Master's Mile held Friday night (February 13th) at MSU.

2. Montana Cup Meeting – 11:00 a.m. – @ Nova Café.

Present (Hometown/MT Cup City) – Tony Banovich (Plains/Kalispell), Alan (Billings), Ray, Nicole & Eon Hunt (Deer Lodge/Butte), John Zombro (Bozeman), Anders Brooker (Missoula), Jeff Thomas (Helena)

As per the 2008 Fiscal report, Helena (Vigilante Runners) will be keeping net proceeds from the race in the amount of \$591.79 \$500 received by John from Helena (Vigilante Runners). \$59.40 has been distributed to Ray Hunt as reimbursement for the Montana Cup website hosting. \$441 remainder to be used as seed money for initial expenses for the 2009 Cup event. As per the 2008 Fiscal report, Helena (Vigilante Runners) will be keeping \$591.79 of the net proceeds from the race, and passed the seed money along to John/Bozeman.

Suggestion to keep passing it forwarded every year as seed money. So, as long as money is left at the end of the meet, \$500 (or as close as possible) goes to the next year's host for the seed money.

Everyone concurred that this was a good idea and should be incorporated in the hosting guidelines/expectation.

Zombro asked how many runners ran for the host city the last couple of years. Consensus was 50 to 60 total (or more) from Missoula and Helena.

Dates of race. Some concern on having it on Halloween day.

Some discussion on having it on the Sunday following Halloween (11/1)

Discussion of what about next weekend and would any be lost to USATF race in Bozeman.

Seemed to be preferred to stay on the traditional weekend.

Stay on Saturday – 1st race at noon.

MT Cup – USATF qualifier issue.

John looking at some advertising/promotional options to help to generate additional interest.

Photos available

Collegiate runners.

Confirmed that collegiate runners on active collegiate cross country rosters (including redshirts) are not eligible – includes if their season is complete; but, they were on that season's team.

Team captain has responsibility to do his/her best to assure that the team members are eligible.

Junior age – 18 versus 19. Idea to align it more closely with high school requirements.

Stay consistent with USATF and IAAF rules and go with 19 & under. Also have 17 years of background of the age groups being 19 under as Junior, over 20 open, over 40 master.

Scoring – all runners score versus top 7 count, only 5 score.

Jeff expressed some examples of runners who didn't necessarily want to run because they couldn't make the top 7 and wouldn't score. He promoted philosophy of Montana Cup being a "Team" event.

Anders raised concept of people he recruited that said, well, I don't want to drag down the team if I'm after the top 7.

Would likely only affect the final score/tally/points – but, not the results/team placing.

Consensus was to leave scoring as is. Only score 5, displace 7, tie breaker on 6.

Nicole (via Ray) raised the issue of a cash or prize award structure.

If host has the ability to make this type of award, then they would have that option. But, overall focus should be on team awards (pizza party, donation to running club.). Lack of individual dollars hasn't significantly omitted runners from competing.

Concern about money moving this race to something that doesn't meet the intent of the founding philosophy of the race.

No seeming objection to prize money; but, not a requirement of race, need to be careful to not violate NCAA rules for juniors. And prize money should not come to the detriment of the overall financial success of the host.

Notes from John Zombro - Cup-People,

Great to see you all this weekend. I really feel the energy in this group and all our efforts to make the event succeed are so rewarding.

I know Tony is sending out a synopsis/minutes of the session, but I thought I would confirm my acceptance of this huge honor and responsibility.

1.) Dewey and I are going to be co-directors of the race, and we'll probably divide some of the duties up and advise you all regarding this as we go along.

2.) We will be faithful to the history and rules of the Cup, and follow the outstanding examples of recent races. We really appreciate all Rick's work in outlining things and helping us to prevent reinventing the wheel. Your offers to serve as resources will be accepted and utilized gladly.

3.) Due to an abnormally large amount of personal, family, and business matters on my plate currently, I will do NOTHING, ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, with the Cup until after April 1st.

Big Gold Tsunami Rules 10/31/09.