



Running Section Meeting Minutes September 20, 2012

Attending: Geoffrey Kent, Jonathan Wyner, Jon Waldron, Terry McNatt, Gordon MacFarland, Stephen Peckiconis, Patrick Bugbee, Gail Breslow

2012 Season Wrap-up:

- There has been good participation in the USATF Grand Prix series, with several iron runners in-the-making, some very strong individual performances, and a few age-group teams in contention for top-tier standing. Go, CSU!
- This year's "subscription series" approach to covering USATF Grand Prix race fees has worked very well to date. Participation levels seem to have remained quite high, and the contributions from the "subscription series" seem to be sufficiently supplementing the amount that CSU covers. We will have a more complete sense of this at the end of the season (i.e., by the end of November).
- Meanwhile, the X-country season is upon us. The Grand Prix championship will be out in Westfield at Stanley Park on November 18. Stay tuned for details.

Winter track:

- Thanks to Jonathan Wyner's efforts, there will be a CSU winter track program at Boston University once again this year. This will be our 5th year at BU, and an added benefit is that we will have a well-known running coach this year: Gabe Sanders, who has coached such renowned athletes as Nick Willis (silver medalist in the 1500 at the 2008 Olympics) and Jonathan Wyner (need we say more). Details to follow, but the cost will be similar to last year (which was \$165), and the season will start Thursday, December 6. Stay tuned for sign-up info. There are a limited number of spots, and this opportunity will likely fill up quickly!

2013 CSU Relay Plans:

- Thanks to Andy Donaldson for organizing our Lake Winnepesaukee Relay team, and for offering to organize a 2013 CSU Relay event as a fun/competitive activity and recruiting opportunity for the Club.
- Thanks also to Tom Dmukauskas and Kristi Cabot for providing a detailed spreadsheet of possible Relay events in 2013.
- The tentative plan is the Green Mountain Relay (June 22-23), which "runs" from Jeffersonville to Bennington VT, a distance of 200 miles. Depending on interest, we might add a fall relay as well. The plan will be firmed up once the USATF Grand Prix Series is finalized in November to ensure there are no glaring conflicts with that weekend.
- Note: Since the meeting, some concerns have been expressed that the small size of the Green Mountain Relay would result in a lot of "alone time" out on the course, and that a larger Relay might be preferable. (Last year the GMR had only 23 teams.). As a next step, I suggest that

after the USATF Grand Prix Series for 2013 is finalized, Andy and Tom could organize a Doodle Poll to assess interest in a variety of relay possibilities for the upcoming year. Sound like a plan?

Recruiting Ideas for 2013 Plans for CSU's 50th Anniversary Celebration:

- We agreed that the indoor winter track and some fun relays in 2013 are a good start
- Jonathan Wyner has offered to coach a "CSU training group" of interested newbie runners who might want to run a spring half-marathon. This is a great way to recruit potential young(-er) and newer runners to CSU. We agreed that the program would need to be advertised and promoted, perhaps at our respective places of employment, on Facebook, in health clubs, at running stores, etc etc. Which leads to....
- Kristi Cabot has volunteered to help with marketing and outreach! If you haven't already done so, check out (and "like") our new Facebook page at Cambridge Sports Union Runners. It is awesome! Feel free to contribute your own posts, as you will see many others have already done.

New Appointments:

- Tom Dmukauskas has offered to take on the role of Membership Coordinator for CSU. Thanks, Tom! (And thanks to Geoffrey Kent for serving so ably in this position for the past several years.)

Upcoming events:

- CSU Annual Recognition Party (Saturday, December 1, at the home of Pat Robinson and Henry Finch in Waban. The event will be catered as usual, with an invitation to BYOB and BYOD (= dessert). Regarding the Dessert Competition, this year there are no restrictions, no categories, No-Holds-Barred! In the spirit of Keeping It Simple, there will be just ONE competition category: "Best Dessert." RSVP to Gail Breslow at gail@csurun.org.
- Stay tuned for information about the winter indoor track. Space is limited!
- On-line membership and payment processing for 2013:
 - Time to renew with CSU! – on-line beginning in November, or in-person at the Recognition Party

Other:

- Profuse thanks to Geoffrey Kent for yeoman's volunteer efforts at the Thursday night Fresh Pond series all summer
- Having finished the business of the meeting and most of the pizza, we adjourned at 8:50 pm