

Southern Arizona Roadrunners – Board of Directors Meeting

Date: August 20, 2011

Time: 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: Tanque Verde Guest Ranch

Minutes

Board Members in Attendance

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Mary Lasser - P | Kara Middendorf- A | Jocie Riley- P | Andy Dolphin - P |
| Shane Carr - P | Randy Accetta- P | Lucas Tyler- P | Keith Schlottman- P |
| Ron Lumm - A | Sheryl Felde- P | Steve Felde- P | Don Branaman- P |
| Greg Gadarian- A | Greg Wenneborg- P | Tim Bentley- A | |
| John Sabatine - P | Amelie Messingham- P | Steve Outridge- P | |

1. Meeting called to order

- 8:30 AM by Mary Lasser

2. Approval of minutes from the June meeting

- Steve Felde makes motion to approve. Sheryl Felde seconds. Approved.

3. Run n' Roll Contract

- The contract between SAR and the race coordinator, John Sabatine, was for last year only and needs to be renewed. Contract submitted by John was nearly identical to that from last year, with some changes in wording to reflect reality of this race.
- There is mention of the possibility that this may become a SAR race, but details of this are currently unclear. John will meet with David Cardillo and Janet to discuss this further.
- With John in absence, Steve Felde makes motion to approve contract. Sheryl Felde seconds. Approved.

4. Marana Broncos 5k

- Mary Lasser reports that Dori Stalmaker, race director of the Marana Broncos 5k race, has inquired about making this a SAR Good Neighbor race. Date is not in conflict with any SAR event.
- Greg Wenneborg knows race director and will provide assistance.
- Steve Felde makes motion to approve request. Sheryl seconds. Approved.

5. Spring Cross Country

- Financials (typically done within 60 days) have not yet been submitted, nor has any deposit from race day registration been received. Randy Accetta will follow up with race director to learn status.

6. Election of SAR Board Member

- Nine board nomination forms were received. All 18 current board members were nominated to return.
- Roger Shanley has been nominated to join the board. After discussion of whether or not increasing the board size will reduce efficiency, Mary will send Roger the SAR board application form. This will be discussed further once his response is received.
- Steve Felde makes motion for the SAR members present to confirm the 18 board members for the 2011-2012 board. Sheryl Felde seconds. Approved.

7. Election of Officers

- President: Mary Lasser re-elected
- Vice President 1 (vacant): Steve Outridge elected
- Vice President 2 (vacant): Steve Felde elected.
- Recording Secretary: Amelie Messingham re-elected.
- Treasurer: Keith Schlottman re-elected.
- Membership Secretary (vacant): There is clarification from Steve Outridge on what this position entails: member shirts, race flyers, displays, maintaining membership information, database management, informing members with expiring membership, etc. Leaving vacant temporarily.
- Materials Officer: Shane Carr elected.
- All board members list what they are currently doing for SAR.

8. Treasurer's Report

- Report for the fiscal year July 2010 – June 2011 is provided.
- The \$5,000 CD for the Rob Bell award has matured and will be rolled over.
- Meet Me at Maynard's finances were removed from SAR's account after June 30, so the report includes MMM money.
- There is about \$77,000 SAR's account. Keith Schlottman estimates that \$50,000 – \$60,000 is available for spending; the remainder is money already collected for fall races.
- Keith notes our dependence on sponsorship money, especially that of TMC. If this were to be lost, and other sponsors not found to make up for the loss, SAR races would lose money.
- There will be an article in an upcoming SAR newsletter indicating the breakdown of how race income is spent to put on a race.
- Race packages are discussed. The Triple Crown will test this concept, and the topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

9. Office Manager and Materials Officer Reports

- Tents: SAR currently has two tents, one of which is partially broken. Purchasing a tent with SAR branding would cost about \$2,500. Non-branded tents are much less expensive.
- Stanchions: SAR currently has eight, which are used for the finish chutes. To accommodate larger races, we need 10 to 12 more. We can purchase 12 for \$303.40.
- Pennant Flags: Also used for the finish chutes. Ten strings of banners cost \$408.50.
- Signs: more visible and professional signage for registration and start lines are desired. A premium feather banner with rubber base costs \$255.
- Mile Markers: SAR currently has markers through 10. The half-marathon will require three additional markers and frames.
- First Aid Kits: SAR currently does not have these at each water station.
- Greg Wenneborg makes motion that we approve up to \$4,000 to be spent on needed equipment over the next two months, including stanchions, flags, signs, mile markers, frames, and first aid kits. Don Braneman seconds. Motion approved.
- Randy makes motion that he be reimbursed \$184 for the finish line banner he purchased for Meet Me Downtown. Steve Outridge seconds. Motion approved.

10. RRCA Liability Insurance

- We have received clarification from RRCA regarding our event liability insurance. This insurance covers only races that are owned, operated, and managed by SAR. “Managed” means that the club is involved in all aspects, provides volunteers, and that funds and sponsorship money flow through the club account.
- Thanksgiving and Oracle are not SAR-owned races. Race directors have been notified that they will need to carry insurance and list SAR as additionally insured. This will become part of the duties of race directors for all such races.
- Meet Me at Maynard's status is less clear. We are in the process of moving it to CS Ventures, and will need to also ensure that the director obtains insurance as part of this transition.
- Meet Me at Boston's status also uncertain. Mary Lasser will contact race directors.
- In addition, any paid contractors such as timers and race directors are most likely not covered under the policy. An umbrella policy may suffice, although RRCA's information states that “individuals that own races and direct races for a profit are highly encouraged to obtain their own business liability insurance to ensure that their business activities are covered.” SAR race director contracts may be amended to require proof of insurance.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

11. Chip Timing System

- Our chip timing system will be used for all the fall races, in tandem with the older timing system. Official results will draw from the older system until we are confident with the chip system. Greg Wenneborg expects to be using the chip system for official results by the end of 2011.
- Two tests will be performed before Saguaro.
- Encoding the chips with the bib numbers is a time-consuming process. Greg will need bib numbers at least two weeks before races. Also, the expected decrease in Greg's timing costs will not happen due to this, though he is willing to work with race directors who are able to help with this.
- In order to ensure that sufficient bibs with encoded chips are available to handle race-day registration, we need to have a stack of pre-encoded bibs available beyond those expected to be used by the race.
- In preliminary testing, there was some inaccuracy caused by the amount of time it took chips to energize. If two runners finished very close, the system might put them in the wrong order. The solutions are to purchase two additional antennas, and to install the antennas behind the finish line pointing towards it, rather than above the finish line pointing down.
- Steve Felde notes that we need to make sure runners know that the chip timing system is in a beta-testing phase and that their official results will not be available instantaneously. Both verbal and written announcements to this effect are needed.
- Randy Accetta suggests a short article on the new timing system.

12. Grand Prix

- Discussion of Grand Prix topics is led by Steve Outridge

- Steve notes that only 200 people did four or more Grand Prix races in 2010. This suggests that, for most of our membership, the Grand Prix schedule is not a major factor in their race participation.
- We currently have twelve races on the Grand Prix schedule, of which only the top ten count toward a runner's points. The board's consensus is to keep this number.
- The Grand Prix currently includes distances from 5k to a half-marathon. There is discussion of whether a mile or marathon would be appropriate for the Grand Prix, as those are distances that many runners would not run. The board's consensus is that any distance should be considered.
- Discussion over whether to keep races the same, or have them rotate each year
 - If more than twelve races apply for Grand Prix status, how do we handle this?
 - Mary Lasser suggests that there should be a core of races that are in the Grand Prix every year.
 - Possible criteria for deciding this are the event's history, organization, draw, publicity for SAR, conveying a sense of Tucson, profits, challenge for runners, and ensuring that the Grand Prix schedule includes a variety of distances and locations.
 - The tentative core is Sun Run, Cinco de Mayo, Tucson 5000, Saguaro, and the half marathon. Sabino Canyon, Meet Me Downtown, and Thanksgiving are also suggested as core events.
 - The other four Grand Prix openings will be filled by applicants and can rotate.
 - The board's consensus is to rotate races as discussed.
- Criteria for Grand Prix events
 - A sub-committee drafted rules for this last year, which are provided to the board.
 - There is discussion of whether non-SAR races should be considered. The Grand Prix calendar has included races that are sponsored by, but not owned by SAR (Run n' Roll, Oracle, and Thanksgiving).
 - The board's consensus is that non-SAR races would have to agree to become SAR-sponsored events in order to become part of the Grand Prix.
- Steve Outridge will draft Grand Prix race criteria based on this discussion.

13. Spirit of Rob Bell Award

- Steve Felde reads the nomination letters received for the award.
- The board votes for a winner.

14. Around the Room

- Greg is looking for help or a co-director for the Tucson 5000.
- Shane is the coach for a magnet high school cross-country team. His first meet is August 31 and he would appreciate help.
- Don Branaman makes a motion that SAR should pay to rent a tent at Saguaro to provide shade after the race. Keith Schlottman seconds.
 - Randy Accetta likes the idea but notes that the reasons he stopped doing this were that the tents can't be staked in, and that the park didn't want the tents there the whole weekend (from Friday until Tuesday).
 - The visitor center will be open during the race to provide a cool place for runners.
 - Greg Wenneborg will not need the second SAR 10x10 tent, and Steve Felde will bring his tent as well.

- Motion withdrawn.
- Don Branaman makes a motion to require that 3rd place, 2nd place, and 1st place in each age group be called up at the same time during awards. Keith Schlottman seconds.
 - Randy Accetta argues that a strength of SAR is that each race director has freedom in details such as these.
 - Board votes against the motion.
- Steve Outridge organized an injury prevention talk on September 10 with Proactiv at their location on the Rillito. The agenda has yet to be determined. The talk will be at 8am and SAR will have a social run prior to do this. Steve suggests having events like these at least once per running season.
- Steve Outridge asked whether loading membership details such as membership expiration dates onto his cell phone to have available at a race would be a problem. This is one of the most common questions asked at the SAR tent, and currently Steve cannot answer it at a race. The future membership secretary will decide if this is the best option.
- Shelly needs items for the next newsletter. The deadline is September 7.
- Randy Accetta
 - Received an e-mail asking why we do not have senior discounts.
 - Cox Communications has offered to make more commercials for SAR.
 - Dave Hill's measuring device is broken, so the half-marathon course has not yet been certified.
 - Catwalk and Pumpkin run missed the summer mailing. We will do a November mailing for the winter races and annual banquet.
 - Randy motions that SAR pay Keith Schlottman for his professional services in doing our taxes, which have gotten more complex this year. Mary seconds. During discussion, the suggestion is made to give Keith the option of being paid or having the money go to an organization of his choice. Randy amends the motion accordingly. Motion approved.
 - RRCA calls for award nominations each year. Randy would like SAR to nominate people for awards in as many categories as possible. Shane Carr will investigate further.
 - Randy suggests doing two summits. A Tucson Wellness and Fitness Summit would bring organizations from Tucson together to talk about initiatives in town. A Running Club Summit would bring SAR together with other running clubs in Arizona. Randy is the RRCA state rep for Arizona and would like to take a lead on this.
 - Tri-Sports has created a “Tucson is the winter training capital initiative,” which will create a directory of organizations, events, athletic service industry, etc. Randy is moving forward to indicate that SAR will be involved. A membership fee will ultimately be needed, but Tri-Sports has not asked for any money yet.
 - Randy is the fitness liason for a non-profit that will be putting on events. He would like SAR to be involved.
 - Randy has been approached to organize a native seed run in March. He would like to grow this to a fundraiser for native seeds at San Xavier. He asks the board whether new events he starts should be separate from SAR.

- Move Magazine will have a fitness and health event on September 7 and would like to have a SAR presence.

15. Spirit of Rob Bell Award

- Steve Felde has counted the ballots.
- Steve will be responsible for getting the plaque made and contacting Performance Footwear.
- Randy Accetta will write an article about the winner for the newsletter. The article will also be submitted to the Arizona Daily Star.

16. Children's Fitness Fund

- Insufficient information about the applications was available at this meeting. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:32pm