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Candidate - Chairperson, USATF Mountain Ultra Trail Running Council



### **Overview USATF Mountain Ultra Trail Running Chairperson Duties**

- ❖ **Communication** – with council via e-mail and an annual conference call; regular discussions with USATF president, LDR division chair, and LDR men's, women's, and master's chairpersons
- ❖ **Budget** – oversee expenses and handle reimbursements through USATF for council and this year for our championship liaisons
- ❖ **Press Releases** – for U.S. National Teams, ROY and COY award winners
- ❖ **Runner and Contributor of the Year awards** – oversee the program (with the assistance of a nomination collector and vote counter) and order awards for recipients of ROY and COY honors
- ❖ **Announcements** – ROY awards, openings on the council, staff for our teams
- ❖ **Relationships** – with other organizations (AUA, ATRA, RUSA, RRCA) on the national level and the IAU and WMRA on the international level
- ❖ **Championships** – work with all liaisons pre, during, and post championships. Outreach to championship race directors as needed. Attend championships where requested as liaison (attended four championships – 50k Road, 50Mile Road, Mountain, 8k/12k trail – and both mountain team selection races in 2008)
- ❖ **Meetings** – prepare agendas for annual Mountain Ultra Trail Council meetings, lead meetings, proof minutes from secretary post meeting and provide final to USATF
- ❖ **Annual report** – prepare annual report for Council

### **Past and Present**

The USATF Mountain Ultra Trail Council (formerly a subcommittee) began in 1997 resulting from efforts to combine the three disciplines under one umbrella. A united force, it was suggested, would be better than each of the three trying to make headway within the national structure on their own. In 1998, the subcommittee held its first meeting. Having served as USATF Mountain Ultra Trail Running Chairperson since 2002, I have witnessed positive growth and increased cohesiveness within our council. We presently have nearly 25 members and foresee additional members in the coming years with the increased number of associations hosting mountain ultra and trail championships. We have seen an increase in our budget (from nearly zero in 1997 to \$5000 presently), an increase in the number of championships (for example, in 2004 we hosted 4 national championships, in 2008 we hosted 8), successes in terms of finishes from our USA National Teams. We have a relationship with the American Trail Running Association (ATRA) to secure all sponsorship and conduct fundraising efforts for our mountain team. This relationship has enabled the team to travel to the championships without having to find funding of their own. Our 100km national team continues to thrive, but struggles without sponsorship or funding (a fund was established two years ago to raise money for the team to replace the USU fund which dissolved in the late 90s).

### **Accomplishments of our National Teams**

#### Mountain

- Added juniors in 2002 - silver medal women's junior team in 2007; bronze individual junior woman 2008; fourth place finish junior men 2008; open women's team bronze 2004, gold 2006 and 2007; individual woman bronze 2007; open men bronze 2008.

#### 100km

- Bronze men's team 2007, gold women's team 2005 led by Anne Lundblad's silver medal performance

## **Future**

- Additional associations host championships and/or start mountain ultra trail programs within their LDR divisions - existing models can be replicated with great success.
- A full complement of national championships at every distance that we presently offer.
- Review LDR rules and discuss how they apply, and more importantly, if they should apply to our disciplines, ie: course certification.
- Continue liaison program for our national championships and insist that the national office provide ample coverage and visibility for our events on the website and in print.
- Additional partnerships such as the relationship with *Trail Runner* magazine in 2008.
- Increased support for our programs and a larger mountain ultra trail budget.
- Financial support for our national teams.

## **USATF Association Involvement**

- Presently the LDR vice chair for Colorado
- Served LDR as chair, women's chair, masters chair, Mountain Ultra Trail chair within the CO Association. Also was secretary for a short term.

## **Committee/Board Involvement past and present – local, national, international**

- Treasurer World Mountain Running Association (since 2000)
- Board member Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services (current)
- Past Board Member El Paso County Parks Advisory Board (including time as the chairperson)
- RRCA Board of Directors
- USATF Women's LDR Executive Committee (current)

## **Athletic Accomplishments, Published Works, and Education**

- Competitive runner since 1980 – roads, trails, and mountains
- Founded the U.S. women's mountain running team (1995)
- Staff member for 23 U.S. teams competing on the international stage
- Co authored The Ultimate Guide to Trail Running (2001, the Lyons Press)
- Articles and photographs have appeared in *Runner's World*, *Running Times*, *Ultrarunning*, *Trail Runner*, and Online in various iterations.
- Editor of *Trail Times* newsletter, the quarterly newsletter of ATRA.
- Attend conventions as schedule permits – RRCA, Running USA, USATF
- Compose a weekly blog on mountain and trail running pursuits
- BA Sociology/Communications, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs (1982)
- Masters in Public Administration (MPA), Lehigh University (1985)