

Labor Day 2021

Good Afternoon Everyone - It's the unofficial end of Summer. That means cross country season is upon us.

I need to share with everyone information regarding upcoming cross country meets, road races, membership updates and the Association's annual meeting.

The updated membership includes two new officials, Bill Bachman, who recently relocated from Boston to Albany and has been an USATF official for 27 years and Lisa Mills, who has recertified. We did lose the three Shufelt's, Dee, JoDee and Joe, who transferred to another Association.

The list of certified officials include Bill Bachman, Chet Boehlke, Steve George, Pat Glover, Al Heywood, Fred LaVack, Melanie LaVack, Bill Martin, Carl Matuszek, Lisa Mills, Barb Palma, Bill Quinlisk, Pete Sheridan, Kathy Sullivan, Lee Townsend, Kristen Willson, Don Woods. This list has 17 names, well below the 30 officials required for the Adirondack Association to have accreditation with the USATF National office and decision making rights at the National annual meeting.

We have an opportunity right now to recruit new people as officials with a USATF Rules Review session before the ADK Association annual meeting, Sunday, September 12th at the Town of Bethlehem Elm Avenue Park Pool Complex. The Rules Review will be broadcast via Google Meeting for those who choose not to attend in person. As soon as I receive the Google meeting information, I will send it out. So, if you know of anyone who has an interest with T & F, cross country, Para-Athletics, long distance running, please urge them to attend this session. And do not forget that there is a Junior Officials program for those 15 to 17 years old, they are welcome to attend.

Upcoming Events:

We are very fortunate to have two league cross country championships in our area this season, but both on the same day.

Here are cross country meets requesting officials:

Saturday, September 25th - RPI Invitational, Women's 6K and Men's 8K at Saratoga Spa State Park - 3 officials  
Saturday, October 30th - Liberty League Men's & Women's Championships at Saratoga Spa State Park, hosted by RPI - 5 officials

Saturday, October 30th - Empire 8 Men's and Women's Championships at Washington County Fairgrounds, Greenwich, hosted by Sage College - 4 officials

Let me know which meet you are available for and from that list of available officials I will make the assignments. I will not be able to assign everyone who's available, we need to provide qualified officials for these meets.

There are three road races coming which require officials/referees. Those are:

Saturday, September 25th - Freihofer's Run For Women 5K, Albany (Grand Prix) - 1 (possibly 2) official

Sunday, October 03rd - Adirondack Distance Festival Half Marathon, Schroon Lake - Adirondack Association Half Marathon Championship - 2 officials  
Sunday, November 14th - Stockade-athlon 15K, Schenectady (Grand Prix) - 1 official  
For those certified LDR officials, let me know if you are available for any of these road races and I will make a decision who's best to assign.

One last item. Every year, the National Officials Committee requests each Association to select an official (or two) to be honored as the Association's official of the year. The 2021 selections for ADK Association officials of the year were Bill Quinlisk and Joe Shufelt. Bill was selected because of his role as Association president for the last four years and his involvement in the leadership with National level cross country races and collegiate championships.

Joe was selected for his role as the Association certification chair for the past 11 years. This is a tough job and it's outstanding to have someone to do this work for that period of time.

I am responsible for making these two decisions which needed to be done quickly due to the deadline for the submission of nominees. There is a need for a committee to make the decision of the Association official of the year. If anyone is interested in being a member of this committee, please let me know.

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ADK Association Chair & Acting Certification Chair