



National Office Headquarters
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2018 Committee Report: Non-Owned National Championship Committee

2018 Accomplishments

Non-Owned National Championship Committee Report – 2018

Members of Committee: Cathi Koehler, Molly Smith, Tonya Armstrong

The Committee met on Monday, June 18, 2018 to discuss the bids for the Non-Owned National Championships in 2019. There were five (5) categories in discussion. The following is a synopsis of our discussion and our recommendations.

Winter Triathlon

2 Bids: Tri-Flake Triathlon, Anchorage, AK and Loppet Winter Triathlon in Minneapolis MN

Recommendation: Loppet Winter Triathlon in Minneapolis MN

The Committee was concerned with the distance of the Tri-Flake race in Alaska. The Committee was also concerned with the USAT sanction guideline compliance issue with Loppet. After discussion with Tim Y and the clearing of the sanction compliance issue with Loppet, we unanimously voted to recommend Loppet.

Off-Road Triathlon

6 Bids: XTERRA Tahoe City (CA), XTERRA Lake Tahoe (UT), XTERRA Way Over Yonder (NJ), XTERRA Beaver Creek (CO), XTERRA Cameron Park, TX (2018 race awardee), DeGray Lake Triathlon Festival (AR)

Recommendation: XTERRA Cameron Park, TX (2018 race awardee)

There was much discussion about these races. Altitude concerns eliminated Beaver Creek and the two races in Tahoe. DeGray Lake Tri Festival offered several race venues during early September, but this conflicted with ITU World Championships. The Committee recommended XTERRA Cameron Park, TX because of the response from athletes this year. We decided that a second year was warranted.

Ultra Triathlon

1 Bid: Michigan Titanium

Recommendation: Michigan Titanium

There was one bid for this category. The Committee suggested to recommend this race because of the positive feedback we have heard from triathletes.





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Clydesdale/Athena

8 bids: Chattanooga Waterfront Triathlon (TN), Music City Triathlon (TN), Alabama Coastal Triathlon (AL), Grand Rapid Triathlon (MI-2018 awardee); DeGray Triathlon Festival (AR); Beaverdam Olympic and EmergeOrtho Sprint Triathlon (NC); Mighty Moraine Man Multisport Festival (PA); Cayuga Lake Triathlon (NY)

Recommendation: Chattanooga Waterfront Triathlon

The Committee discussed the notion that the festival venues were not focusing particularly on the C/A athletes. Since prior consideration of a race venue highlighting the C/A was discussed at great length in the AGC, we choose to award the Chattanooga Waterfront Triathlon because of the great reviews we have received from many triathletes who have competed in Chattanooga. We discussed the dates of the races and many dates fell close to the Age Group National Championship races in August and many World Championship races. These race venue bids often conflicted these premiere races and were not considered. The Grand Rapid Triathlon has done a wonderful job of highlighting the C/A athletes, but we decided to move the venue this year.

Multisport Festival Event

5 bids: Miami Man Multisport Festival (FL); The Great Floridian (FL), ToughMan (NY), Rock n Roll Man (GA), Omaha Triathlon & Multisport Event (NE)

Recommendation: Miami Man Multisport Festival

The Committee had much discussion about these bids. Three of the races were eliminated from consideration due to the following reasons:

- ToughMan in NY - timing was not good; it was the same time as ITU Worlds or close to the date of ITU Worlds in September.
- Rock n Roll Man in GA - timing again is not ideal; 2019 is scheduled for late September between ITU Worlds and Kona;
- Omaha Triathlon & Multi-sport Event in NE - date was unclear. It was dependent on the Storm Chaser's baseball schedule. Date would be either in July or September (see above reasons for a Sept race). Also, Omaha hosted the National Age Group Championship held in Aug. The weather was very hot and uncomfortable for many athletes.

Although Miami Man was awarded the championship for the past few years, the committee felt it might be time to switch race venues for next year. Unfortunately, the proposal from The Great Floridian (GF) and ToughMan (TM) was not as strong as the MM. The GF and TM lacked details about the distances of the multisport event and other perks necessary for consideration as a championship race. The Committee needed more information that demonstrated that the race directors had some experience conducting a multi-sport race as is necessary for this championship. With that said and a discussion with Tim Y, we decided to recommend MM for 2019. We also suggest that Fred Sommer (race director of GF) visit MM during the 2018





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race event to review how the process of producing a multi-sport event that is National Championship caliber is conducted. We suggest that Mr. Sommer (for GF) submit another proposal for the 2020 competition that demonstrates that he has piloted a multi-sport event and has the experience to produce a race that is championship worthy. We welcome another proposal from GF for future consideration for this championship.

We thoroughly reviewed the ToughMan (NY) proposal in our deliberations also. We noted that TM was scheduled during the middle of September. Again, we thought this was not a good time because of ITU World events that occur during the later part of the season (many athletes compete in multiple world events during this time). Additionally, there is no indication, from the proposal that Mr. Izzo submitted, that he has produced a multi-sport event in the past with the exception of a Kids triathlon. This would be his first attempt at such a huge endeavor. Perhaps Mr. Izzo should have submitted a proposal for the Ultra/Long Course event instead of the multi-sport event. He has much more experience in that arena and his proposal would have been a strong candidate for that award.

As we suggested that Fred Sommer (Great Floridian) preview MM this year to see how a multi-sport event is produced, I might suggest that Mr. Izzo do the same. He does not support a solid proposal that indicated experience in producing multi-sport events in a festival atmosphere and we saw this particularly in the MM proposal.

Revised 7/20/18

Club Championship Race Recommendation

Members of Committee: Cathi Koehler, Molly Smith, Tonya Armstrong, Ray Campeau, Board Liaison: Chuck Graziano

The Committee met on via email to discuss the bids for the Non-Owned Club National Championships for 2019. A RFP was submitted to the National Office with a deadline of November 9. In response to the RFP, there were 12 proposals submitted. The Committee met via email (not our normal practice) because there was a concurrent meeting of AOY during the same timeframe. As a result, the Committee unanimously recommended New Jersey State Triathlon as the awardee for the Non-Owned Club National Championships for 2019. The races that submitted proposals were as follows.

2019 USA Triathlon Club Nationals Bids

1. Wildflower Experience, Bradley, CA, May 4-5
2. Dino Triathlon, Vernal, Utah, June 23
3. Easy Rider Olympic-Distance Triathlon, Lubbock, TX, June 29
4. Echo Triathlon, Coalville, Utah, July 13
5. New Jersey State Triathlon, West Windsor, NJ, July 20-21
6. Eddie Ferrell Music City Triathlon, Nashville, TN, July 27



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7. Brineman Triathlon, Jensen, Utah, Aug. 8 (same time as Age Group Nationals)
8. Jordanelle Triathlon, Francis, Utah, Aug. 10 (same time as Age Group Nationals)
9. Brett Robinson Alabama Coastal Triathlon, Gulf Shores, AL, Sept. 7 (too close to ITU World Championships)
10. Patriots Triathlon, Williamsburg, VA, Sept. 7-8 (too close to ITU World Championships)
11. Redman Triathlon, Oklahoma City, OK, Sept. 21 (too close to ITU World Championships)
12. Jamestown Triathlon, Williamsburg, VA, June 8 (too close to ITU World Championship)

There were several races that were eliminated from consideration because of the date of the race coincided with or too close to either the USAT National or ITU World Championship races. These races were #7-12 as listed above.

New Jersey State Championship race was selected because of its closeness to major airports and multiple accommodations available for the athletes. The Committee felt that Wildflower in CA. was a race that was too early in the season and difficult for travel with limited accommodations. There was also concern about the conditions of the race since it was cancelled for a few years due to the drought conditions. A strong contender was Easy Rider in Lubbock, TX, followed by Eddie Ferrell Music City Triathlon. Both races offered easy travel for athletes and timing of the race was conducive to racing Nationals in early August.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathi Koehler, Chair

2019 Objectives

- Review the application for the Non-Owned Championship Races to streamline the application process;
- Create an online tutorial for race directors who are interested in submitting a proposal to the Committee for consideration.

2019 roster/approximate meeting frequency:

2018 Committee Members:

- Cathi Koehler, Chair (AGC Member)
- Molly Smith (AGC Member)



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- Tonya Armstrong (Duathlon AGC member)
- Ray Campeau (AGC member)
- Board Liaison: Chuck Graziano

We meet as necessary to evaluate the races that are applying for Championship status. In 2018, we met once during the early summer (June 18) to discuss most of the race proposals (as listed above). During the month of November, we met through email exchange to award the Club Championship race. The reports for both races are listed above.

Submitted by: Cathi Koehler, Committee Chair

