**Your Race and a Runner’s Protection**

**The USA Championship Responsibility**

At the USA Track & Field, and particularly in the Long Distance Running Division under the guidance of the Road Running Technical Council (RRTC), we value the rights of our runners above all else. Runners put in hundreds and even thousands of hours of preparation for events – particularly championship events – and deserve to have their efforts count for such time standards and records as they have set as their goals.

**Certification Defined**

Certification for your race course is only achieved by applying the defined measurement process to your layout. This involves measuring a course using RRTC guidelines. Planning needs to go into this process well in advance, since many courses use city streets and a few even use state routes and /or interstate highways. Special escorts may be necessary for your course during measurement.

**Pre-Race Certification**

The initial certification for your course as planned at the time of the bid must be on file with the RRTC. This must be completed and cannot be a certification in-process. If one of your measurers is WORLD ATHLETICS “A” rated and if the second one is at least WORLD ATHLETICS “B” rated, then your course will be considered already pre-race verified and no further measurement is needed.

**Race Verification**

In order for your race to process records in a timely manner, the course must be verified (i.e. re-measured) as late as possible before the race, on the day of the race or as soon as practical after the race, by a different “A” grade measurer from any of those who did the original measurement. Note: If the course was originally measured by at least two “A” grade or one “A” and one “B” grade measurers, no verification (re-measurement under WORLD ATHLETICS rule 260.21 (e) will be required. For more details, see the USAF page about verification at www.usatf.org/events/courses/certification/verification

**Sanctioning your race**

Championships must be sanctioned by USATF which includes insurance for the protection of our member runners. This is also mandatory for races which wish their results to be record-eligible.

**Course Set-up**

You, the race director, interacted with the measurer(s) for your course, defining the desired route, including the parameters of the start line, all corners, turns, turnarounds, and the finish line. It is up to you and your course people to set the course so that ALL runners in the event have little or no choice but to follow the measured path. *Failure to do so may mean records set in the event are invalid!*

**Measurer observation and validation**

In order to safeguard the best interests of the runners who are attempting a record, time standard, or qualifying mark at your race, the WORLD ATHLETICS measurer who originally measured the course or other suitably qualified official designated by the measurer with a copy of the documentation detailing the officially measured course, shall ride in the lead vehicle during the competition to validate the course run by the athletes conforms to the course measured and documented by the official course measurer. The designated person should also validate in advance of the race that the course was set up correctly and that all those who followed would have had to make some extraordinary effort to deviate from that course.

**Results verification**

Once the measurer/observer has verified that the race course was set up and monitored to ensure that all participants ran at least the measured distance, contact the LDR Records Chair for the ratification process to submit record-eligible times.

**Verification stipends and costs**

All costs are negotiated between the race and the individuals doing the work. If RRTC needs to bring in a WORLD ATHLETICS “A” rated measurer, the event must cover a stipend, travel, hotels, and per diem. Stipends are listed on the USATF website.

I, will full authority to make this agreement, confirm that our event will implement and abide by these parameters as we plan for our national championship event, and understand that failure to do so may result in withdrawal of the championship designation.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Title\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_