

RRTC 2009 Annual Meeting Reports
To be Presented at RRTC Meeting - USATF Convention
Indianapolis, Indiana
December 4, 2009

Reports contained in this document:

[RRTC Chairman](#) - Gene Newman

[Vice-Chairman East](#) - Paul Hronjak

[Vice-Chairman West](#) - Jim Gerweck

[Validations Chair](#) - Neville Wood

[Course Registrar](#) - Gene Newman

[Data Accuracy Officer](#) - Jane Parks

[Measurement Workshop East](#) - Mike Wickiser

[Measurement Workshop West](#) - Duane Russell

[Bulletin Board Manager](#) - Pete Riegel

[RRTC Webmaster](#) - Bob Baumel

RRTC's Activities for 2009 submitted by Gene Newman (RRTC Chairman):

1. A new Regional Certifier was appointed (Carol McLatchie), which made it necessary to shift some of the Regional Certifiers' areas (see below)
Carol McLatchie → SD, ND and HI
Tom Lablonde → AZ and UT
Gene Newman → gave AZ to Tom Lablonde
2. A new RRTC position was established:
Jane Parks → Data Accuracy Officer
3. We changed our Certificate.
4. We clarified what should be on the Map for Certification and noted the following: Maps should not contain Pictures or Photographs and done with Black print on White Paper.
5. We changed the RRTC web page to a more user friendly design.
6. We established Policy on Renaming a Course (posted on USATF site).
7. We established Job Descriptions for the RRTC positions posted on the USATF site.
8. RRTC Statement of Purpose was established for USATF.
9. The Make-up of the RRTC was established for USATF, which is posted on the USATF site.
10. Our Operating Procedures were established for USATF.
11. Stu Riegel resigned as Course Registrar and Gene Newman took over this position. It allows him to oversee all courses that our Certified and he can immediately answer any concerns quickly.
12. We had two successful Measurement workshops: One at the RRCA Annual Meeting and the other in NY State.
13. We have Certified 1600 courses this year and have now Certified 33,000 course.
14. We have 663 Measures in the US of which 520 are active.

Future goals for the RRTC are to:

Have more measurement Workshops and encourage people to become measurers. To work more closely with the Association Chair and their measurement needs.

2009 REPORT – EASTERN VICE CHAIRMAN RRTC

Submitted by Paul Hronjak

10-November-2009

Year to date (11/7/09), there have been 1151 certifications submitted including 1045 race courses, 61 calibration courses, 29 renewals, and 16 replacements. This is a huge increase over last year when only 1137 certificates were submitted for the whole year. Only 941 certificates had been submitted by this time last year.

In 2007, 1056 certificates were submitted for the whole year.

In NC, we are on pace for a new record, as well. There have been 87 courses certified to date which equals the total for last year ... which was a record (these numbers do not include courses measured and certified by Neville Wood). More importantly, these certifications came from 24 measurers, which is the most ever and 33% over the previous record - last year - 18.

The biggest challenge this year has been to get State Certifiers to comply with the map requirements which are necessary for successful scanning for the web site posting.

Vice Chairman West 2009 Report

The certification process continued relatively uneventfully for 2009. The major items of note were some personnel changes; Carol McLatchie assumed certifier duties for North and South Dakota and Hawaii, and was granted final signatory status after little more than a month on the job. Carol has a long history in distance running, as an elite athlete who held several national records during her competitive years and later as Chair of the Women's Long Distance Running Committee. We welcome someone with her credentials as a certifier.

As usual, the West remained busy in course certification, with Texas and California leading the way. With Oklahoma and Minnesota they are four of the 10 busiest states on the yearly list. There was an increase in measurement activity in several states; it remains for the year-end tally to see if overall activity is up or down.

In the early part of the winter I was invited to be part of a group working to sort and catalog the effects of the late Ted Corbitt, concentrating on course certification documents. I made multiple trips to the Bronx to his apartment to go through this material.

Ted never threw anything out, and there was an entire room filled documents, packed in old decrepit boxes. Over the course of my visits, I tried to sort these into marathons or major races, other events, and non-certificate documents. These filled more than two dozen legal filing boxes, which the New York Road Runners have graciously agreed to store in their warehouse. During 2010, the goal is to go through these and determine what is worth saving and what should be tossed. During this process, I amazingly found, among thousands and thousands of papers, a letter I wrote to Ted asking for information on becoming a course measurer!

In October I traveled to San Francisco for the Nike Women's Marathon and Half Marathon and had time to meet with California measurer Tom Knight after the race.

The biggest goal for this year and beyond is getting measurers to adhere to the new, higher standards for course maps, and to increase the speed with which certified courses are posted to the USATF online database. We are making good progress in both areas.

I look forward to working with the western measurers in 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Gerweck
Vice Chairman, West

VALIDATIONS 2009
Neville Wood
11/31/09

Course	Type	Race Date	Cert #	Measurer	Validator	Validation Date	Distance, km				% Diff	Notes
							Advert	Lap	Google Earth	Bicycle		
PENDING												
Tallahassee Ultra-distance Classic 08	LDR	12/13/08	FL08072EBM	McGuire			50.000	3.3334				A
APPROVED												
Carlsbad 5000	LDR	04/06/08	CA9301WN	Nicoll			5.000		5.011	0.22		B
Syracuse Festival of Races 08	LDR	10/05/08	NY97047AM	Oja			5.000		5.008	0.16		
ING Bay to Breakers 09	LDR	05/17/09	CA07007TK	Knight			12.000		12.028	0.23		D
North Coast 24-Hour Endurance Run	LDR	10/03/09	OH09008PR	Wilhelm				1.4496	1.4559	0.44		E
ING New York City Marathon 08	LDR	11/02/08	NY01001DB	Brannen			42.195					C
PREVALIDATED												
Chang's 50K	LDR	01/18/09	AZ09001GAN	Galope	LaBlonde	01/10/09	50.000			50.025	0.05	
Freihoffer's	LDR	05/30/09	NY09032JG	Gilmer	See F	05/30/09	5.000					F
ING New York City Marathon 09	LDR	11/08/09	NY09001DB	Brannen			42.195					G
SCHEDULED												
Freedom Park New Year's Ultra 09	LDR	12/31/08	NC08083PH	Lee	Rhodes	11/28/09	50.000	1.5891	1.5861		Neg0.19	

- A. Not possible to accurately measure by Google Earth because turnaround cannot be defined from the satellite view. No other measurers nearby. M80-84 record.
- B. Nicoll has an outstanding reputation.
- C. In 1986 an extraordinary international group made exhaustive measurements of the course, and since then only minor changes have been made and all under the leadership of Brannen. (It would be impractical to validate this course by another bicycle measurement, since this would require extraordinary police cooperation and street closures.)
- D. Knight has an outstanding reputation.
- E. As a check on Google Earth accuracy, I found that the nearby Cleveland Airport runway measured within 0.1% of the official length.
- F. Gilmer, Wickiser, and Conway all helped to certify this new course, and since they are all IAAF measurers under the new guidelines the course is regarded as prevalidated.
- G. Brannen and Katz certified this minor variation of the previous course, and since they are both IAAF measurers, under the new guidelines the course is regarded as prevalidated.

This report was prepared by Gene Newman

Total number of Active Courses as Nov.1 ,2009	13400
Total number of Courses measured as of Nov.1,2009	32922

Top 10 Certifiers for 2009

ET McBrayer	112
Jay Wight	102
Mike Wickiser	99
Everette McDowell	92
Matt Studholme	89
Paul Hronjak	78
Don Garrett	75
Rick Recker	69
Jim Gilmer	67
Bill Grass	64

Top 10 Measurers for 2009

Winston Rasmussen	48
Patrick Cheshier	35
Larry Baldasari	32
Robert Thurston	31
John Oseland	30
Bill Belleville	28
Jane Parks	28
Duane Russell	25
Ron Scardera	19
Barb Leininger	18
Neville Wood	18

Top 10 States for 2009

TX	128
IL	103
NC	96
FL	93
NY	89
CA	76
OK	76
MN	69
NJ	66
TN	66

Distance	All of 2008		Distance	From 1/1/2009 till 11/1/2009	Percent of change from 2008	Percent of each distance for the yr.
5 km	882		5 km	857	97.17%	52.26%
10 km	183		10 km	206	112.57%	12.56%
Half Marathon	181		Half Marathon	171	94.48%	10.43%
Marathon	121		Marathon	102	84.30%	6.22%
Calibration Courses	77		Calibration Courses	97	125.97%	5.91%
1 mi	42		1 mi	25	59.52%	1.52%
8 km	47		8 km	28	59.57%	1.71%
5 mi	32		5 mi	32	100.00%	1.95%
15 km	26		15 km	17	65.38%	1.04%
10 mi	25		10 mi	19	76.00%	1.16%
1 km	7		1 km	6	85.71%	0.37%
4 mi	17		4 mi	21	123.53%	1.28%
2 mi	13		2 mi	7	53.85%	0.43%
20 km	9		20 km	4	44.44%	0.24%
25 km	3		25 km	4	133.33%	0.24%
12 km	5		12 km	6	120.00%	0.37%
30 km	2		30 km	5	250.00%	0.30%
2 km	2		2 km	0	0.00%	0.00%
Ultra's	9		Ultra's	7	77.78%	0.43%
Others	28		Others	26	92.86%	1.59%
Total number of Courses -->	1711		Total number of Courses -->	1640	95.85%	

Data Accuracy Officer Report – November 2009

In February 2009 with the help of Gene Newman, I started verifying contact information for the race course measurers currently in the RRTC database and listed on the USATF website.

We are approximately half way through the alphabet and the total list. In 2009, we started with 663 measurers on the active list. I have removed 113 from the list for the following reasons:

- No longer measuring
- Only measuring their own courses and requested to be removed
- Did not respond to the request for updated information
- No valid contact information (email or phone)

As a result, there are now 550 active measurers listed on the USATF website. Those with last names starting with A – M were correct or have been updated to now be accurate.

Since its inception, this is the first time the measurers list has been updated. I will continue through the list in 2010. In all cases, email was sent to each measurer. If there was no response or no email address, I called each measurer and either talked with them directly or left a message.

An interesting note that some measurers were not aware they were listed on the USATF website. Some requested that they be removed upon learning this fact.

Respectfully submitted.

Jane H. Parks

Data Accuracy Officer – Road Race Technical Council

2009 REPORT – USATF RRTC Measurement Workshops

Submitted by Mike Wickiser (co chair)

12-November-2009

2009 Measurement workshop activity has been a three day Measurement Workshop in conjunction with the Friehofer's Race for Women. The workshop was conducted by Mike Wickiser, Bernard Conway, and Jim Gilmer.

The workshop took place over three days and provided the opportunity to;

- **Work “hands on” steel taping of an existing and a practice calibration course.**
- **Ride along as an existing course was measured for Validation.**
- **Get classroom experience and discussion with the Start Certifier, the IAAF Coordinator and the RRTC Workshop Coordinator.**
- **Talk over each day's activities in a relaxed atmosphere.**

Western Measurement Seminar Report

by Duane Russell

The only measurement seminar given by me was at the RRCA convention in San Francisco in March of 2009. There were 35 attendees, all of which were from running clubs. The content of the seminar was centered around having all of the clubs' courses certified, the advantages of certification, and a brief discussion of self-certification.

The seminar was well-received, with good questions at the end, mostly indicating that the clubs were truly interested in the certification process for their courses.

At the same RRCA convention, a workshop on measurement was conducted. Attendance was sparse (6), mostly due to the host club charging a \$25 fee for the workshop. That fee was entirely retained by the club, and had no basis. Attendees didn't receive anything extra for their fee. Conference attendees that didn't come to the workshop commented that they wanted to go, but didn't want to pay the fee.

The workshop had attendees do a pace course, with all aspects just as a normal certification measurement would be conducted. A calibration course was set up, and everyone paced it at least 4 times. They then paced the "race" course until they were within tolerance. After the post-calibration, everyone turned their worksheets in, having done all the math. Attendees felt they got lots of good information and experience from the workshop, and said they felt more confident that they could now be the measurer for their club.

I am currently trying to get a response from the RRCA convention in Florida for April of 2010, hoping to do the same workshops at that convention. As contact is made, further updates will be provided.

ROAD COURSE MEASUREMENT BULLETIN BOARD

Report of Activity November 1, 2008 to November 1, 2009

The Road Course Measurement Bulletin Board was founded in October 2004. It may be found at:
<http://measure.infopop.cc/eve/ubb.x>

Designed as an alternative to Measurement News, which is no longer published, it is RRTC's communication vehicle. It has several general categories in which people may post messages and read and respond to the postings of others:

Course Certification Discussion Area

- USATF/RRTC Topics
- AIMS/IAAF/International

Course Measurement

- General Course Measurement Topics
- Electronic Measurement
- Tracks
- Tips & Tricks
- New Counter Designs

The New Jones Counter Model JR

- Final Design Details
- Web Page
- Fabrication has Begun
- Experience and Usage
- Recent Developments

Race Administration

- Timing
- Records
- Other Race Administration Topics

Cross-Country Courses

- How Can Cross-Country Courses be Measured?
- How Can Cross-Country Courses be Certified?

Bulletin Board Administration

- Suggestions & Comments

Miscellaneous Topics

- Material That Doesn't Fit Other Categories

Since its inception we have seen growth in both membership and messages posted, as follows:

Period begin	Begin	10/31/05	10/31/06	10/31/07	10/31/08
Period end	10/31/05	10/31/06	10/31/07	10/31/08	10/31/09
Members at period end	127	161	194	220	241
Page Views in period	52315	100264	209570	360336	292710
Posts in period	601	604	997	1087	730

Respectfully submitted,
Pete Riegel – Bulletin Board Moderator

RRTC Webmaster Report

RRTC's presence on the Internet consists of the following components:

1. Web pages in two sections of the USATF website (www.usatf.org): The Course Certification information section (including downloadable course measurement manual) and the committee information section for RRTC.
2. A pair of Search Engines on the USATF website, one for finding certified courses, the other for finding course measurers.
3. An interactive Bulletin Board (message board) system which has become RRTC's main communications vehicle.
4. A small website (www.rrtc.net) that serves mainly as a handy, central collection of links for all things relating to RRTC and course certification.

The RRTC Webmaster is responsible for components #1 and #4, and also maintains the Certificate templates that Certifiers use when certifying courses. Activity during the past year included:

The Certificate Template, which has been in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format for many years, was modified and enhanced so certifiers can save filled-out certificates in electronic form using only Adobe Reader. (With previous PDF certificates, filled-out certificates could only be printed using Adobe Reader, but couldn't be saved unless the certifier had full Acrobat software.)

The links on the www.rrtc.net website were reorganized in categories to make them easier to find.

Statements describing the roles of RRTC officers were posted on the USATF website.

An interim statement of policy on use of Electronic Counter systems was posted on the USATF website, pending discussion at the December 2009 Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Baumel
RRTC Webmaster