

Proposal to hold the Athletics NZ One Mile Road Running Championship

John Bowden, Athletics NZ Out of Stadium Coordinator, has proposed that Athletics NZ hold an annual One Mile Road running championship for all age groups who are eligible.

Introduction:

World Athletics has just released information on two new road championships to take place alongside the World Half Marathon Championships.

“The inaugural World Athletics Road Running Championships, which will take place on 30 September and 1 October 2023, in Riga, will be the most significant public sporting and athletics event in the history of the Baltic countries.

This unique global running festival, which will crown the world mile, 5km and half marathon champions, will see tens of thousands of amateur runners from at least 100 countries competing alongside elite runners.

With 365 days to go, any recreational runner who is ready for a challenge can register for any of the official mass races of the World Championships in Riga and earn a unique medal from the World Athletics Road Running Championships.”

There are three main reasons supporting this proposal.

Firstly, The World Athletics One Mile Road world championship is now a world competition over one mile on the road conducted by our international body.

Therefore, any Athletics NZ Championship would offer further opportunities for our elite road running athletes to attend and to be considered for a world championship event. We would as an organisation be consistent with World Athletics, and it would also be helpful in athlete selection.

Secondly, it is anticipated that the addition of a One Mile Road Athletics NZ event will encourage more of our top domestic middle- distance athletes to consider this event. More importantly we would envisage that more club athletes would also attend this championship over time due to the distance of the event. We also believe that it would encourage clubs/regions to consider hosting a national championship much like Leith Harriers and Port Hills Athletic Club have done in hosting and conducting the Athletics NZ Trail championships and enjoy the benefits from it.

Thirdly, it has been identified that it would be easy to add the one mile road championship alongside an existing event or a standalone event, and it would also be properly measured according to World Athletic rules.

It is proposed that, as appropriate, para sections be available in each individual championship grade and that an Inter-Club Team Championship be held in each grade. There would be no championship for U14 or other children age groups.

Proposed Regulation Change:

REGULATION C18 – ONE MILE ROAD RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS

This REGULATION shall be read in conjunction with REGULATION C3 - NZ CHAMPIONSHIPS - GENERAL.

C16.1 - EVENTS

1. Annual Individual One Mile Road Championship shall be held under the auspices of Athletics NZ when the championship events shall be contested for:
 - Senior Men and Women;
 - Masters Men and Women (5-year age groups);
 - Under 20 Men and Women;
 - Under 18 Men and Women;
 - Under 16 Men and Women.
2. Para sections may be available in each age group, as appropriate, but there is no event for U14 or other children age groups.
3. Annual Inter-Club One Mile Road Running Team races (as part of the individual races) shall be contested by Men, Women, Men Under 20 (M-U20), Women Under 20 (W-U20), Men Under 18 (M-U18), Women Under 18 (W-U18), Men Under 16 (B-U18), Women Under 16 (G-U16), Masters Men (M35+), Masters Men (M50+), Masters Men (65+), Masters Women (W35+), Masters Women (W50+) and Masters Women (65+).
4. The counting members for Inter-Club Team events shall be the first four (4) members of each team in the Men, Women, Men Under 20 (M-U20), Women Under 20 (W-U20), Men Under 18 (M-U18), Women Under 18 (W-U18), Men Under 16 (B-U16), Women Under 16 (G-U16), Masters Men (M35+), Masters Men (M50+), Masters Women (W35+), Masters Women (W50+), events, and the first three (3) members of each team in the Master Men (65+) and Masters Women (65+) events. The team with the lowest number of points (taking the grade placing of each competitor as the number of points) shall win the Team race in the respective event.
5. Competitors should compete in their Club uniform. (Refer Regulation C3.3.).

C16.2 – CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS

1. The first three (3) placed individuals in each event shall each receive a Championship medal of approved design as set out in Regulation C3.10.
2. The counting members of the first three (3) placed teams in each Club Team race shall each receive a Championship medal of approved design as set out in Regulation C3.10.

NOTE: For combining with an Authorised Competition refer Regulation C3.6

Comment:

This proposal is now posted for the required 50-day consultation period before any recommendations for adoption go to the Board.

Rod Syme, John McBrearty, Don Mackenzie and Andrew Orme, Rules Committee