

**USAT Midwest Council
June 2012
Update**

1. Regional Special Qualifier – South Beach Tri, June 23rd

- Council attendance encouraged. Jenn and Lawrence will be our contacts for the RD.
- AGN 2012 is closed for 2012 Olympic Distance. National announced that limited slots are available for those yet to compete in the Special Qualifier. Alternative options are described in their press release.
- Stay tuned for additional announcements from National about this issue.
- Qualifier Tshirts are currently in transit to Michelle. They will be white tech shirts because the charcoal was backordered. Regional Championship will have charcoal tech shirts.
- An eblast to all members promoting the SQ is scheduled to be distributed within the week.

ACTION: All Council members review press release(below) and be aware of athletes options to address questions.

ACTION: Michelle will touch base with Lawrence and Jenn to coordinate delivery of tshirts.

ACTION: Jenn and Lawrence get in touch with Kenny to communicate the distribution of tshirts and Council support needed at the Event.

**Olympic-Distance Race at USA
Triathlon Age Group National Championships Sold Out
Burlington, Vt., to host the largest USAT-owned national championship in history**

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - For the third consecutive year the Olympic-Distance race at the USA Triathlon Age Group National Championships, scheduled for Aug. 18 in Burlington, Vt., has sold out in record time.

Contested each year since 1983, Age Group Nationals has sold out just twice before - last year when the field reached capacity nearly two months in advance, and in 2010, when all slots were filled one week prior to the event in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Burlington will host the largest-ever USA Triathlon-owned National Championship in 2012, with a total of 4,100 slots available -- 2,100 for the Olympic-Distance race on Saturday, Aug. 18 and 2,000 set for the Sprint National Championship to be held on Sunday, Aug. 19. Athletes representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia are slated to compete.

"We have already had more athletes register for the Olympic-Distance National Championship than in the event's history. Burlington was a spectacular venue last year, and triathletes across the country are looking for their opportunity to win national titles and represent Team USA at the 2013 ITU Age Group World Championship in London, England," said USA Triathlon CEO Rob Urbach.

"Because we have a number of top athletes hoping to qualify for this race at Regional Championships and Special Qualifiers that have not yet been held, we have allocated a limited number of spots for these upcoming regional events to allow athletes the opportunity to qualify. Additionally, we are exploring the possibility of expanding the transition area to accommodate the growing number of triathletes interested in competing at this national championship event."

As information becomes available it will be posted on usatriathlon.org, as well as USA Triathlon's Facebook page and Twitter feed.

All other athletes who qualify have the opportunity to sign up on a wait list for the Aug. 18 Olympic-distance event. Visit usatriathlon.org for more information on the Olympic-Distance National Championship wait list. A pre-payment is required but a full refund will be issued to any wait-listed athlete who does not get added to the event.

Another option available to athletes this year is the option to register for a USA Triathlon Foundation Fundraising slot. Twenty spots have been allocated for athletes wishing to fundraise \$1,000 for their chance to race in the Olympic-Distance National Championship. Funds will benefit youth and junior development and paratriathlon programming. [Click here for more information.](#)

Athletes interested in competing in Burlington are also welcome to register for the Sprint National Championship on Aug. 19. [Click here to register for this event.](#) However, for an athlete who registers for Sprint Nationals and is later added to the Olympic-Distance National Championship via the wait list, no refunds will be given.

Visit usatriathlon.org to learn more about the 2012 USA Triathlon Olympic-Distance National Championship and the qualification process.

2. ROC update – from Bill Tough

- Conducted a New Official Training on Sunday, June 3 in Monroe, Michigan at "Race for Recovery", a 3Disciplines Venue. Kenny Krell hosted and gained six very qualified Official candidates. All six were superior and well prepared. It was a rousing success. We desperately need Officials in Michigan as we currently have ZERO. This training added SIX new Category 4 Officials.
- I will continue training this weekend near Flint for the next 3 Disciplines Race. Hopefully, all six candidates will succeed to level 3 USAT Official and we will have good coverage, finally, in Michigan.
- Kenny Krell should be thanked for his hard efforts in gaining this Officials. He found these Officials without any help whatsoever from me. The recruitment was his sole accomplishments. Only one of these new Officials has worked with Kenny, so five were totally new to the program. This is quite an accomplishment.
- I took the opportunity to help set-up and tear-down the venue and was impressed with the style and management displayed by Kenny and Annmarie. They obviously have many years of Race Management under their belt. Although there is some grooming to do to elevate them from a very "loose" race where rules enforcement is concerned, I hope that in the months to come we can get them up to a level of earnestly applying and enforcing the USAT Rules as they are intended.

3. Club Rankings – from Lesley

See attached spreadsheet. This is some work I have been doing with National on Club rankings. I had them compare results from MERCERS to a ranking system based on individual USAT scores from athletes. Here is how we came up with the results (which are in gray on the spreadsheet).

- First I forwarded the participating MERCERS clubs rosters to National.
- They ran all athletes on the roster to see which ones were USAT members.

- From there they gathered individual's final ranking scores from all races completed based on gender.
- They then averaged all individual scores from the club to come up with the club score.

ACTION: All Council members review Lesley's rankings summary and provide feedback and questions so it can be refined and possibly rolled out in 2013.

4. Newsletter

- Our second quarter newsletter will be distributed next week.

ACTION: Last call for any announcements to Michelle by today (Friday, June 8th.)

5. MERCRS

- We have 11 registered (Ann Arbor just signed up) but just 7 participating so far. Click [CURRENT STANDINGS](#) to view scores.

6. Stephen Parker passing

- A former Council member and triathlete with Tri-Fort (Fort Wayne, Indiana) passed away June 1st, after battling ALS and cancer. A suggestion has been made for the Council to make a small memorial donation (\$100).
- You can view Steve's obituary [here](#).
- Lawrence has contacted Tri-Fort offering them an opportunity to submit a write-up on Steve for both our newsletter and website.

CALL TO VOTE: Make a memorial contribution in the amount of \$100 for Stephen Parker to an organization of the family's choice. Voting members, please respond to all Council members with a Yes or No by Monday, June 11th.

7. Youth grants

- All organizations have received their youth grant award, except for one (Tris for Health). Still waiting on paperwork.
- Michelle will follow-up

8. Complete Triathlon Guide

- USAT has published its first book, the [Complete Triathlon Guide](#) (\$21.95)

ACTION: All Council members- Need feedback on giving this book to our overall Regional M/F Champions with our USAT Mideast logo pasted inside and a congratulatory statement as part of our Regional Championship award. An alternative would be to just give a few out randomly at our RC event.