



Presentation

RunBritain Technical Working Groups

Andrew Taylor

RunBritain executive member
UK Athletics Members Council
Race Director Bath Half Marathon

RunBritain - Introduction

Tasked by UKA to provide strategic leadership for road running

- Setting the standards of delivery for road running. How the sport is organised
- Sharing best practice. Assisting race organisers to make the administration of road races easier
- Quality control. Helping to improve the overall standard and safety of road races in the UK

RunBritain - Strategic Review

The RunBritain Technical Group is currently conducting a strategic review into 4 key areas of road race management

- Medical Standards
- Police & Highways
- Race Licencing & Standards
- Officials Development & Recruitment

RunBritain – Strategic Review

Assessing the main challenges facing the sport. Ensuring structures are ‘fit for purpose’ for the needs of road running

- Reinforcing existing areas of good practice, whilst identifying resources needed to overcome gaps in provision
- Ensuring governing bodies effectively recognise and support the needs of road running for the long-term benefit of the sport
- Simplifying & streamlining administrative procedures. Avoiding duplication of effort
- Outcomes to be supportive & light in touch, but robust in enforcement

RunBritain – Consultation

In consultation with the wider sport

Consultation Autumn 2009

Consultation papers outlining the results of those reviews and draft proposals will be widely circulated within the sport this autumn

Already underway

Implementation of some of the more technical reforms – such as the new streamlined on-line licence application process, development of the new endurance officials education pathway & consultations with the UK course measurers are already well underway

Time to change

The strategic review by the RunBritain technical working groups has identified a number of key challenges to the sport

- Increasing obstacles facing road race organisers from highways & police authorities
- Shortage of new volunteers & officials coming into the sport
- Past lack of investment in road running by governing bodies in support for race organisers, race management standards, officials recruitment & development
- Out of date administrative procedures within the sport
- Lack of overall strategy framework for the long-term future of road running

Strategy Solution - Summary

- Provide practical advice & support for road race organisers on key race management issues - including highways, police & medical services
- Reform the officials pathway to support existing officials, attract new volunteers into the sport & make training more relevant to race organisers
- Raise safety & technical standards within road races
- Promote the UKA road race licence as a 'Kite Mark' of quality

1 - Medical Standards - Strategy

- Ensuring that British road races have consistently high medical standards
- Providing detailed guidance on medical services to road race organisers

1 - Medical Standards - Delivery

Marathon Medical Conference

- Set up in 2005 by leading road race organisers & medical providers to provide free medical advice for runners through the www.runnersmedicalresource.co.uk website
- Now adopted as the official 'RunBritain Medical Advisory Group'

1 - RunBritain Medical Advisory Group

A working sub-group is currently drafting UKA best practice advice for road race organisers designed to fill the gap in :

- how to assess appropriate medical facilities for road races - based on a standard 'matrix' of cover, adjusted to suit to the particular circumstances of each individual race
- how to conduct medical risk assessments

1 - Medical Standards - Timescale

The UKA draft guidance on medical services at road races will be circulated for consultation within the sport early this autumn

2 - Highways & Police - Strategy

‘Securing the Highway’

for all British Road Races

- Ensuring secure access to the public highway and positive support from highways & police authorities for the benefit of both smaller & larger races
- Responding to the increasing pressures & costs faced by road races in obtaining access to the public highway

2 - Highways & Police - Objectives

- Providing sport specific best practice advice on traffic & safety management for road races – as envisaged in the 2006 Home Office ‘Good Practice Safety Guide for Sporting Events on the Public Highway’
- Ensuring high safety standards within the sport through an effective ‘self-regulation’ regime
- Promoting the UKA road race licence as a ‘Kite Mark’ of quality in event safety management

2 - RunBritain Highways & Police working group

A working group is currently drafting detailed UKA best practice advice on traffic management providing :

- A legislation 'tool kit' to help race organisers conduct traffic management risk assessments & negotiate effectively with their own highways & police authorities
- Advice on how to assess appropriate traffic management measures - based on a standard 'matrix' of risk, adjusted to suit to the particular circumstances of each race

2 - Highways & Police - Timescale

The UKA draft guidance on traffic & safety management at road races will be circulated for consultation within the sport this autumn

In the meantime members of the RunBritain technical group have been providing practical advice to supplement existing support from Licence Officers on request

2- Highways & Police

4 'Top Tips' to Resolving Issues

- Early consultation with your local council Safety Advisory Group
- Understanding race organiser's own duties & responsibilities. See 2006 Home Office Safety Guide to Sporting Events on the Highway - in particular races should use road closures wherever practical
- Recognise that highways authorities are under statutory duty to ensure safe management & to minimise disruption on their own highways network
- Recognise that it is police national policy (ACPO 1999 Event Safety Policy) that police should not be involved in traffic management (or crowd control) at pre-planned public events, such as road races

3 - Licensing & Standards - Strategy

‘Ensuring Effective Self-Regulation’

- Establishing a robust, effective & respected self-regulation regime within the sport
- Based on an extended race licence & licence standards scrutineering scheme

3 - Licensing & Standards - Delivery

Achievements to date :

- New on-line licence application process launched in 2009, designed to streamline the administration of the race licence application process
- A pilot study of licence standards scrutineering was carried out by BARR on behalf of UKA in 2008, extended to a national programme of inspections commencing in January 2009 - to ensure consistent application of licence standards and conformity by licensed events

3 - RunBritain - Licensing & Standards

A working group is currently reviewing existing Licence Standards to ensure increased focus on safety management incorporating :

- Feedback on the consultations for the new UKA best practice advice on medical standards & traffic management
- Review & extension of the UKA road race licensed officials scheme

3 - Licensing & Standards - Timetable

Draft proposals for amended Licence Standards will be circulated for consultation within the sport early in 2010

These will incorporate responses received from the consultations on medical standards, traffic management, the revised UKA endurance officials pathway & the 2009 season BARR licence standards scrutineering reports

4 - Road Race Officials - Strategy

‘Ensuring Effective Race Management’

Through an extended road race officials scheme

Ensuring training, experience, competence & accountability for all key event team members with responsibility for safety management

- race directors, start/finish directors, course directors, sector marshals
- race referees
- licence officers & licence standards scrutineers

4 - Road Race Officials - Strategy

‘Engaging a new Generation of Volunteers’

- Embracing the tens of thousands of unlicensed volunteers who assist each year at UK road races & offering them a clear pathway into officiating through the new ‘entry level’ grade
- Promoting opportunities for partnership working between races

4 - Road Race Officials - Strategy

‘Nurturing Existing Officials’

- Developing existing officials skills through training more relevant to the practical needs of road races, with clearer emphasis on safety management
- Phased introduction of extended requirement for licensed officials at road races, according to size & complexity of race
- Accrediting existing event team members as licenced officials, subject to completion of training modules

4 - Road Race Officials - Delivery

Achievements to date :

- A revised pathway for the grading & education of endurance officials was agreed by UKA Endurance Peer Group in July, including road race specific modules & a new 'entry level' officials grade
- Draft proposals were agreed in July for the formal accreditation of the UK Course Measurers group

4- Road Race Officials - Timetable

Draft proposals for the extended licenced road race officials scheme will be circulated for consultation within the sport this autumn

RunBritain Best Practice Advice - Delivery

New UKA support & best practice advice for road races will be delivered through :

- realbuzzrunbritain.com - Race Directors Portal. Downloadable guidance & interactive forums
- Regional road shows
- Road race specific modules in the coursework for the new UKA Endurance officials pathway

