

FRA AGM 2010 - Notes from General Discussion on Fellrunning Topics

Richard Lecky-Thompson recalled the suggestion via Darren Holloway of Pennine that the FRA might launch a funding scheme for “fell shoes for juniors”. This had been the subject of an email debate between members of the committee. RLT suggested the creation of a separate FRA fund to be targeted at clubs seeking help with their junior members. Clubs would apply making it clear for what purpose they were seeking the funds. A small group including the Junior Co-ordinator could decide on applications with delegated authority from the committee. There would need to be accountability and transparency as regards the expenditure. A suggested fund value might be £5,000. It was hoped that a proposal could be put to the committee soon to refine this idea.

Mike Blake asked whether there might be a return to the 4 from 6 races format for the British Championship. Graham Breeze noted that the British Championship was a UK Athletics event and that any issues on this topic should be raised via the UKA Mountain Running Advisory Group, chaired by Alan Barlow. Andrew Schofield also noted that the introduction of the UKA McCain series put further pressure on the British Championship position, leaving less scope for appropriate amounts of time between elite events.

Yiannis Tridimas suggested that internet access to the FRA Calendar be restricted to members only. Graham Breeze responded by stating that the committee had considered the question of access to the data and had concluded, at least for now, that the data should be freely available; fell running remained an open sport. Andy Howie mentioned that for younger members or potential members of the FRA this would be their primary source of information about races.

Jackie Lee commented that the entry arrangements for Championship races were improving; the committee said these comments were welcome but the entry arrangements, for those with on-line entry, were being monitored to try and ensure that organisers adopt systems to open entries nearer to race dates.