

INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR FELL & MOUNTAIN RUNNING

2005 UPDATE #1

Black Forest Teenager Games

Unfortunately, the Black Forest Teenager Games has been cancelled. Sadly, the organisers have been unable to find a sponsor. The Games have been a fantastic success and I know lots of you were aiming for the Trials race. However, we are committed to finding a replacement and have identified a possible alternative event in Italy.

The Woods and Ilkley Harriers have kindly agreed to continue to host an uphill only race on June 5 (see <http://www.ilkleyharriers.co.uk/jh/bfgqualify.html>). This will give those of you who are strong climbers a chance to shine. The England selectors will be at this race and form in the race will be actively considered when selecting the team for any replacement for the BFTG.

Knockdhu

A positive decision has been made not to go to Knockdhu. Instead one or two races are being identified in Continental Europe during the summer months that will provide the U20 age group with a flavour of mountain running, some fresh competition and complement this year's welcome innovation of including some senior races in the U20 domestic calendar.

Open British and Irish Championships/Junior Home International

Date: Sunday October 9th.

Location: Brockagh, Glendalough, Co. Wicklow, Republic of Ireland

Course details:

<http://www.iol.ie/~imra/BIJFRCinfo99.html>. This is the website for the 1999 race so ignore everything apart from the course details.

Team: 4 U18 men, 4 U18 women, 4 U16 men and 4 U16 women (ages as at 1/1/05).

Selection: The first 2 in the FRA Junior English Championship will gain automatic selection. Other selections will be based on known form up to and including 11th September.

Open B & I Championships: There will be U18, U16 and U14 Open races with UKA place medals.

A coach is being organised to transport the JHI athletes so any runners who fancy a go at the Open races will be welcome to come along. It is anticipated that last year's initiative to include travelling reserves will be continued this year.

World Trophy

Date: Sunday September 25th (please note it is likely that the trip will commence on Sunday September 18th and end on Tuesday September 27th).

Location: Wellington, New Zealand.

Course details:

<http://www.mountainrunning.org.nz/worldtrophy.html>.

This year it's an up and down course.

Team: 4 junior men and 3 junior women (i.e. aged 16-19 on 31/12/05).

Selection: The first 2 in the Trials raced will gain automatic selection. Other selections will be based on known form up to and including Saturday July 30th.

World Trophy Trial

Date: Sunday July 31st.

Location: Braithwaite, Keswick.

Course details: The course will as far as possible replicate the profile and terrain of the race (see above).

Full details will be published in the near future on www.fellrunner.org.uk.

Selection Policy

As the selection policy for both the JHI and the World Trophy involves a element of discretion athletes who would like to be considered for either event should register their interest (plus details of form they wish to be taken into account) with the Junior Team Manager by Saturday July 30th for the World Trophy and by Monday September 12th for the JHI.

Training Camp

A two-day training camp for current and prospective internationals is being planned for August 25 and 26 at the Coniston Coppermines youth hostel. Mountain biking, fell runs, physiological tests, core stability workshops and much more!

Athlete Contributions To Expenses

The FRA has been very generous in their support for the England Junior Team. However, as we expand the international opportunities we can offer our young athletes we need to diversify our sources of funding. With this in mind we are actively seeking grant aid and commercial sponsorship (ideas welcome). To supplement this we will be asking participants to make a contribution towards the costs of trips and training camps. On no account should an invitation be declined through financial hardship. If anyone has a problem with meeting the cost please contact the England Team Manager.

If you'd like to be kept in touch with what's happening either drop the England Team Manager, Steve Fletcher (steve.j.fletcher@btinternet.com 017687 79362) an email or give him a call with your contact details. There will also be regular updates on Dave and Eileen's information sheets so don't forget to pick one up at every race.