LDR Running Update

Chris McDonald

Series revised to achieve two goals:

- Simplify the administrative load of events for Race Directors to make hosting events more desirable
- Increase participation and friendly competition in collaboration with Clubs

Actions taken and tested in 2023:

- Award prize money to the top 8 places in the Series
 - Athletes choose to run in more races; prize money is more meaningful
 - RDs do not need to publish USATF specific results or handout awards
- Club Team Cup Competition
 - Results are age-graded enabling Clubs to realistically form teams made up of all ages and abilities
 - Traveling Club Championship trophy awarded and Club prize money paid

2023 Results

- Competitive series and good participation with 152 Open and 85 Masters
- Positive feedback on Club format and prize money

Learning:

- Select races two years ahead
- Create a larger admin team to support the LDR series
- Adding trail races was unsuccessful (so far)
 - Courses were to difficult for many older LDR runners
 - Trail runners largely choose alternative events



2024 Plan:

- Proposing a six race series that kicks off with the BolderBoulder
 - By partnering with the biggest race in Colorado we increase participation and awareness for the event while engaging runners from across the State
- Retain one trail race, albeit an easier course and improve our marketing and outreach for that event
- Retain the other core races (and partners) for the rest of the series
- Secure 2025 commitments now so the series is known before year end
- Add 3 5 LDR staff resources representing Clubs from around the State. This is the key to growth and efficient coordination with events in key cities

2024 Event Schedule (subject to change)

Date	Event	Distance	Status	Organizer	Location
5/27	BolderBoulder 10K	10K Road	Confirmed	Cliff Bosley, Race Director	
	Cookie Chase	5K Road	Pending	Derek Griffiths, Colorado Run	Sloan's Lake Park. Denve
8/3	Pearl Street Mile	1 Mile Road	Confirmed	Lee Troop, Team Boulder	Boulder Downtown
9/14	RiNo 5K	5K Road	Pending	John Gonzalez, Events	River North, Denver
9/22	Equinox Fall Half Marathon	Half Marathon Road	Pending	Lisa Sinclair, Green Events	Fort Collins
10/19	Blue Sky Half Marathon	Half Marathon Trail	Pending	Gnarr Runners	Lory State Park
11/2	Colleen De Rueck XC Classic	5K XC	Confirmed	Lee Troop, Team Boulder	Boulder