

## May President's Letter

Fellow USATF New England Members:

I hope you and your families are staying safe. As I have done the two last months, I will dedicate this month's letter to the impact of the COVID-19 Virus. I want every USATF New England member to know that our top priority is your safety and the safety of our community. Please follow the safety precautions outlined by the Center of Disease Control and your state and local government. By keeping healthy, we protect ourselves as well as our communities.

This letter will provide an update on each of our series and events. I recommend periodically checking on our website for further changes. As I said last month, before USATF-NE moves forward with any event, the following three conditions must be met:

1. The event is safe for athletes, officials, and fans
2. Athletes have sufficient time to train for the event
3. We have government and facility approval to hold the event

Here is an update on each of our series and events:

Road Race Grand Prix: We are still hopeful we can complete the Grand Prix this year. To complete the Grand Prix, we will need to be able to hold four events (one is already completed, three more events need to be completed). Since the Grand Prix has been shortened, series prize money will be prorated. The New Bedford Half Marathon has been cancelled. The Frank Nealon Boston 15K has been postponed to a tentative date of August 15<sup>th</sup>. The Vermont Marathon has been postponed, but due to the large number of events this fall, it will no longer be part of the 2020 Grand Prix Series. Since there may be more changes to the Grand Prix, please visit our website for the latest updates.

Mountain Circuit and Trail Championship: We are hopeful we can complete the Mountain Circuit. We have not reset the number of races necessary to qualify as a Mountain Goat, although that may become necessary. Since the Mountain Circuit has been shortened, circuit prize money will be prorated. Mt. Washington and Loon Mountain have been cancelled. The Sleepy Hollow Mountain Race has been postponed until November 15<sup>th</sup>. The Pack Monadnock 10 Miler has been postponed to a tentative date of August 16<sup>th</sup>. The Wachusett Mountain Race has been postponed (new date TBD). The Cranmore Mountain Race has been postponed to October 25<sup>th</sup>. The Merrimack River 10 Miler (Trail Championship) has been postponed to October 3<sup>rd</sup>. I expect more changes to the circuit, so please continue to visit our website.

Track & Field: Unlike our race series, track & field meets do not have the luxury to be postponed to the fall. Due to safety and track availability issues, we have cancelled all USATF-NE track meets through July 31<sup>st</sup>. The following meets are cancelled: USATF-NE Relay Championship on June 13<sup>th</sup>, USATF-NE Junior Olympic Championship on June 20<sup>th</sup> (Regional and National JO Meets and USATF Youth Nationals are also cancelled), USATF Eastern Region Masters Championship on June 27<sup>th</sup>, and USATF-NE Open and Masters Championship on July 25<sup>th</sup>. We continue to hope we can host a USATF-NE meet with selected events, possibly in a unique format, in early August with the goal to provide our youth, open, and masters members one opportunity to compete this summer. We will give you an update after our next Board Meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

All Terrain Series: Unfortunately, we have cancelled the 2020 ATR Series. With the postponement or cancellation of three series events, it does not make sense to continue with this year's series. We look forward to the ATR coming back in 2021.

We will post any updates through our website ([newengland.usatf.org](http://newengland.usatf.org)) and social media. I also recommend members refer to [usatf.org/covid19](http://usatf.org/covid19) for updates on how the virus is impacting our sport and national events.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that we are providing interesting content every month to our members. In May, we are honored to host Vin Lananna, USATF President and Board Chair, for a video Listening Tour meeting. It will be held on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Registration details can be found at [newengland.usatf.org](http://newengland.usatf.org). I hope everyone can join us for an important update on the state of our sport.

Please feel free to email me at [president@usatfne.org](mailto:president@usatfne.org) if you have any questions. I hope you and your families stay safe.

Be well,

Chris Pasko  
President - USATF New England  
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