



MANITOBA RUNNERS' ASSOCIATION

January 25, 2022

Report to Athletics Manitoba

- 2022 Membership is currently 170 (have been on sale since November 1, 2021). A good start to the year!
- Sanctioning events got off to a slow start, but we now have 24 events on our 2022 calendar. All but one event have sanctioned as in-person events; many are looking at a hybrid option (in-person and virtual) to accommodate everyone as all in-person participants must be fully vaccinated. It's also easier to pivot to all-virtual if necessary.
- Our annual MRA Race Directors' Meeting held virtually on November 20th was very successful with 23 events represented. Scott Stewart from the City of Winnipeg was very helpful by offering to pass along questions to his contact at Manitoba Health for any events, whether inside or outside Winnipeg.
- Once again we held our Awards Celebration virtually, on November 29th. Attendance was not as good as last year, but it was still an enthusiastic crowd. We gave out medals and awards to 92 participants, almost three quarters of which were picked up during 2 pickup dates at the Kenaston Running Room and City Park Runners. The rest have been mailed out.
- Our two summer students, Calvin Reimer and Noel Kendle, are now coaching our MRA Track Club on Wednesday evenings at the James Daly Fieldhouse. This program is running from January 12-April 13 (12 sessions) and is so popular that I had to create a waiting list as we were getting too large. We currently have 35 participants.
- Our Timing Crew has increased in size to 5 eager students, as well as myself and another member of our Board, Reg Brown. We have a training session booked for January 30th during Exclusive Use time 12:30-2:30 that will be organized and taught by Dwayne Olson, the previous owner of the system.
- Sponsorship for 2022 is going very well. Steve Chipman of the Birchwood Automotive Group has come on board with a \$5000 sponsorship of our 2022 Hall of Fame, Running Room and Massage Athletica are back as \$1500 sponsors of the 2022 Classic and Youth Race Series, respectively and City Park Runners has agreed to pick up a 5-year sponsorship of the annual Race Director's Award. We are still looking for a sponsor, or sponsors, for our 2022 Celebration Series.

- We are now looking forward to the 2022 Hall of Fame Banquet on April 25th, which has been on hold for two years, that will also be our 50th Anniversary Celebration. Tickets will be going on sale in February and we will be able to accommodate a much larger number of people as we have been able to get Celebrations Dinner Theatre on Pembina Hwy for the event. It would be wonderful if some of the members of the Athletics Manitoba Board would be able to attend as we are celebrating many of our best athletes over the past 50 years, which includes some outstanding Athletics athletes!

Kathy Wiens, MRA Executive Director