



USATF Mountain Ultra Trail Running Council (USATF MUT Council)

Nancy Hobbs (Chair): (719) 573-4133 trlrunner@aol.com

Richard Bolt (Men's LDR Mtn Rep & team leader): (603) 494-6947 rbolt@emersonecologics.com

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Gear Sponsor Joins the 2005 Teva U.S. Mountain Running Team

The Teva U.S. Mountain Running Team will compete in the 21st World Mountain Running Trophy in Wellington, New Zealand on Sunday, September 25. The USA National Team has been title sponsored by Teva, the official footwear of the team, since 2002, and team uniforms are sponsored by SportHill. The team recently signed 180s as the official ear warmer, glove, and sunglass sponsor.

"Developing relationships with industry leaders is integral to the future of our sport and the future of our team in terms of promotion, visibility, and success. Partnering with 180s will help us achieve our goals," said Nancy Hobbs, Chair of USATF's Mountain Ultra Trail Council.

Several of our Teva US Mountain Running Team members have been avid 180s fans including Anita Ortiz and Simon Gutierrez our top U.S. finishers at last year's World Mountain Running Trophy in Sauze d'Oulx, Italy. "I enjoy training and racing in 180s gear and I'm thrilled to see this innovative performance wear maker come on board to sponsor the Teva US Mountain Running Team this year," said Gutierrez.

"180s is excited to be selected as a partner of USATF's Mountain Running Team. This is a perfect fit for our company as our running gear is designed with the committed athlete in mind," remarked Rick Olson, vice president and general manager of 180s. "We are pleased to be associated with the many top athletes who are members of the national team and having them wear our running gear, such as the ExoLite™ Ear Warmer, Convertible Running Glove™ and Eye Gear."

This year's Trophy races are uphill/downhill events (as opposed to even-numbered years when the events are held on uphill courses) with the senior men running 13.5km, the senior women and junior men running 9.1km, and the junior women running 4.7km. The women's team includes four athletes and an alternate with the top three finishers scoring for the team. Six athletes and an alternate represent the men's team with the top four finishers scoring. The junior men's team includes a maximum of four with top three scoring while the junior women's team is a maximum of three with the top two scoring. The alternates will run in the Open race, or should another athlete be unable to compete, in the Trophy race. Team leader Richard Bolt, Nashua, New Hampshire and junior team manager Tom Borschel, Idaho Falls, ID will accompany the team to New Zealand.

At the USATF annual convention in Portland, Oregon in December 2004, the Mountain Ultra Trail (MUT) Council chose four races from which automatic qualifiers to the U.S. team will be selected. The USA Trail Running Championships will be hosted by the Gore-Tex USA 10km Trail Running Championships, slated for June 4 in Vail, CO. The top two U.S. men and the top U.S. women finisher at the championships will receive automatic berths on the team. The Northfield Mountain Race, a 15.3km for men and 10.2km for women, on June 25 in Northfield, MA will serve as the second selection race where the top U.S. woman and the top U.S. man receive automatic berths. Traveling to the Midwest on July 16 competitors will enjoy the third selection race, the Teva Devil's Trail Race in Merrimac, WI a 4.9km for juniors, a 9.8km for women, and a 14.7km for men. In Merrimac the top U.S. male and top U.S. female finisher will receive an automatic team berth. The final selection race will be held August 7 in Cranmore, NH with the Mt. Cranmore Race, a 13.8km race for both men and women. The top U.S. male finisher will receive an automatic berth on the team. There will be prize money at several of these events and the Gore-Tex 10km also serves as the second annual North American Central American Caribbean Championships (NACAC).

The remaining members of the squad, (one male, one female plus alternates for both teams), will be selected by the MUT Council based on results at the selection races, past World Trophy events, national and international racing experience including mountain, road, cross country, and track. The heaviest weight will be placed on finishes in the selection races. To be considered for the team all team members **must** be current USATF members prior to running a selection race. Interested athletes should submit running resumes to:

Richard Bolt (rbolt@emersonecologics.com) or Nancy Hobbs (trlrunner@aol.com)

Juniors Team Selection – 2005 Teva US Mountain Running Team

For team consideration, the junior athlete:

- Must have posted a 16:45 or better (junior men) and 19:30 or better (junior women) in a 5K road or cross country event. (Equivalent times will be considered for distances other than 5K.)
- Must have experience running (in training and preferably racing) on up and down courses similar to the event.
- Must be mature, motivated, with a positive attitude to proudly represent the United States and sponsors internationally, under the rules of USATF and the event governing bodies.
- A letter of recommendation from a coach, parent, or mentor-runner must accompany the athlete resume.

Resumes (including road, trail, track, and cross country results and current training info) will be accepted through July 15th. Late breaking information and results can be added until August 10th. Team members will be announced by August 15, 2005.

For additional information visit the websites listed below:

USA Trail Running Championships	www.tevamountaingames.com
Northfield Mountain Race	www.usatfne.org
Teva Devil's Race	www.wors.com
Mt. Cranmore	www.whitemountainmilers.com
World Mountain Running Association	www.wmra.info
USA Track & Field	www.usatf.org
World Mountain Trophy 2005	www.mountainrunning.org.nz/
All American Trail Running Association	www.trailrunner.com
Teva	www.teva.com
SportHill	www.sporthill.com
180s	www.180s.com

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