

# **January 2009 NOTC General Membership Meeting and Grand Prix Awards**

\*\*\* held at Lafreniere Park Foundation Center January 21, 2009 \*\*\*

Board Members present – Aaron Boudreaux, Kenny Mire, Tony Stoltz, Betsy Boudreaux, Geoff Rose, Liz Lotz, Mary Stadler, Doug Holmes, Bryan Lewis, Louis Schultz, Joy Cohen, Mo Emory, Duke Wolverton, George Waguespack, Namon Huddleston, Martha George, Faye Gomez and Steve Attaya

Guests – Mike Cambre (MGM Race Director), Chuck George (NOTC Race Director), Mike Wattigny (MGM Expo Director), Bob Lasseigne (NOTC Admin Asst), Lynn Wilderman (NOTC Membership Coordinator), Roger Gorman (Children's Hospital)

Meeting was called to order at 7:13 p.m. by Aaron Boudreaux, NOTC President. Kenny Mire, NOTC Vice President, asked that all cell phones be silenced and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the general membership meeting of June 2009. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed.

A presentation was made by Roger Gorman, Executive Director of Children's Hospital regarding the Run for Children's Relay Challenge. So far there has been 52k in pledges raised for the challenge. Merrill Lynch is approving final artwork for relay shirts and he also spoke of the prizes available for the team that raises the most money. Other details discussed about the relay portion of the 2009 NO-MGM included coupons in goody bags, running caps for minimum \$26.00 raised, exposure with Merrill Lynch, etc...

Mike Cambre, MGM Race Director, gave presentation regarding current status of 2009 marathon and relay challenge. Registration is now closed online and total 2008 entries have surpassed 6000. We will still have late registration at expo & handful of in store forms to come in. He predicts that the max caps will be met. Pace groups will be utilized this year. City Council proclamation will be announced later this week.

Mike Wattigny, MGM Expo Director, gave brief details of expo status. We will have a record attendance of vendors, product diversity, variety of vendors, etc...and the entire 18,000 square feet of space has been taken.

President's report – Aaron stated that our races have grown & attendance has grown as a result. We are near the top 10 of running clubs in nation and with growth come hard work. The current board is investigating ways to change website to include member forums, blogs, etc...to make it more interactive. He asked for anyone that is skilled in graphics to contact him to help with web changes. We are also looking into having a home office capable of having group runs, training runs, meeting room space, etc... He then presented Bob Lasseigne with a certificate of appreciation for his dedication and hard work. Aaron also mentioned NOTC will be coordinating volunteers for the IM 70.3 water stations for the run course.

No vice president's report.

Treasurer's report – report was prepared by Tony and a copy is attached to the original minutes. The fiscal report includes the first 6 months of fiscal year.

Executive Race Director Report – He stated that the past 6 months of races have had an increase in attendance while maintaining standard of quality. The FFA summer series is the largest club based free event in nation. The Rivershock Run will move to September and the Middendorf's Race will be back in October. Ole Man River saw tremendous growth with the change to City Park and will return there. He is considering medallions for all finishers. The Turkey Day Race saw increase as well. He also displayed the JDR shirt and addressed problems with shuttle buses. He then spoke of volunteers needed for NO-MGM and for the IM 70.3 event. The United Way Bridge Run will offer over \$5000 in prize money this year.

Betsy Boudreaux, RRCA La State Rep, presented RRCA Runner of the Year Nomination certificates to Laura Magann and Brendan Minihan, Jr. and they will be competing on the national level for RRCA annual awards to be announced in late March at RRCA convention in San Francisco.

Aaron spoke of NOLA.com running web page and invited Kevin Spain, Deputy Sports Editor with Times Picayune, to speak about it. Kevin invited anyone that would like to contribute articles, race reviews, race results, photos, etc...to send them in.

Grand Prix awards were presented by Bryan Lewis, Grand Prix Coordinator. Bryan spoke to several changes including bonus points for volunteering at designated races, eliminating Greek Fest & Run Thru History as GP events and adding Middendorf's and Larry Fuselier Races with bonus points for longer distance races. Complete list of grand prix winners are posted at <http://www.runnotc.org/grandprix/2008/winners.html>

Grand Prix series completion shirts were handed out to everyone that participated in all Grand Prix races.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.