



UTICA ROADRUNNERS BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, October 13, 2025 6:15 pm, Boilermaker Headquarters

Board Attendance: Andrew (Andy) Hartnett, Andrew Rubino, Frank Vellone, George Searles, James Kuny, Rebecca LaPorte, Melissa Barlett, Tommy Carlson, Erik Winberg

Meeting called to order at: 6:18pm

Motion to accept minutes from last meeting: 1st J. Kuny 2nd F. Vellone

INITIAL BUSINESS

- Safety Run
 - Posted on Facebook
 - Starting at The Mill
 - Will be going to Pizza Boys for Happy Hour after
 - Starts at 6:30pm November 25th
 - Frank will reach out to see if the Sneaker Store wants to bring visibility stuff for members to try or purchase, might be a good opportunity for Nathan Rep? They may be able to set up at Pizza Boys after
 - Andrew will order glow sticks
 - Andrew will notify The Mill and Pizza Boys to let them know about the date
 - Will plan to order approximately 6 regular pizzas and 2 gluten free

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Activities & Events – Erik Winberg
 - Races
 - Four Race Challenge - Andrew Rubino
 - Thinking a retro theme for 2026
 - Ideas for other giveaway? Bucket Hat? Sunglasses? Wind breaker? Open to different ideas, maybe see what they have that fits the theme?
 - Save Our Switchbacks - Melissa Barlett
 - April 18, 2026
 - Summer Sizzle - Travis Olivera
 - Shirt idea - retro 80s/90s - neon
 - Wants fun triangle sunglasses
 - Falling Leaves - Andrew Rubino
 - September 27, 2026
 - 2025 Race Recap

- Everything went well overall!
- Andrew sending race discounts to race winners towards registration next year (\$10 first place, \$5 for second and third place)
- Portable bathrooms were not delivered to the correct street
- There was enough food for everyone at the post race party
- Pictures are now up on RunSignUp page

■ **Skeleton Run - Rob Kapfer**

- Sunday October 19, 2025
- Currently there are 168 registered for 5k, 26 for the 3k, and 80 for the kids run (currently does not include the four pack numbers)
- Shirts have been dropped off to the Sneaker Store, Rob has provided the invoice to J. Kuny
- TNT timing is reserved
- Packet Pickup Saturday 11a-3p at the Sneaker Store
- Did a multi-race collaboration with the Riggie Run - did a bundle to get both races for \$50, some financial logistics to split the money between the two races
- Got 60 registration through the bundle, gave socks to the first 50 who registered for the bundle
- Pumpkin Junction is helping out again with the pumpkins - cost TBD after pickup tomorrow
- Rob will send a list of sponsors for shout outs on social media
- A. Rubino will send Rob contact for Hemstroughs
- P. Trzcinski is going to bring the trailer over to the park on Friday for the race

■ **Run 2 End Hunger – Rebecca LaPorte Mason Hedeem**

- Date is set for Thanksgiving — November 27th, 2025
- Permit request submitted
- Sent email to mayor, Bruce at Rotary, NH honors society and Proctor honors society
- Need to select organization for monetary donation - facebook poll?
- Dropping off sponsor letters this week to Hannaford, Lowe's, Home Depot, and U-Haul
- G. Searles will assist with day of Registration
- Motion up to \$50 for race supplies - tape & scissors 1st J. Kuny 2nd F. Vellone
- Rob will send info on Whitesboro Honor's Society
- A. Rubino available to volunteer, F. Vellone may also be available
- Will send A. Hartnett information to create poll for monetary donation

■ **New Year's Run at Accelerate – Melissa Barlett**

- Discuss location for 2026
- A. Rubino will talk to Ben at the Sneaker Store about potentially combining efforts for the New Year's Day Run

- E. Winberg willing to set up small kids obstacle course in Forte Gym
 - Virtual Events
 - **FIVE after FIVE** – Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett
 - No report
- Activities - Limited
 - Scholarships - Travis Olivera
 - No report
 - Boilermaker Training Program - Erik Winberg/Peter Angelini
 - E. Winberg planning to coordinate with Amanda Hartnett for February start date
 - Pete Angelini also plans to continue to be involved
 - E. Winberg is also looking for another person to help coordinate events, emails, etc.
 - Good group running right now on Saturdays!
 - Boilermaker Expo table and volunteers
 - No report
 - Grand Prix - Gary LaShure
 - Just updated after the Riggie Run and is now up to date
 - Next Race: Skeleton Run 10/19/25 (Final Race)
 - CNY Running Club Cup - James Kuny
 - Final Standings - came in 4th, technically tied in points with Route 20
 - Decide new leaders? Next year, Paige and Mary Ann will co-captain after they showed interest
 - For next year, need to give more information to the participants on how they score points at the beginning of the year
 - Cliff's Gift Card: \$300 in gift cards donated - gift cards will be mailed from now on, unsuccessful in meeting up with gift card winners. J. Kuny will mail them out
 - Would like to keep gift cards for next year, A. Rubino will reach out to Cliff's
 - Thank you for a great season!
 - Development Runs - Ashley Mancini
 - Shirt Design contest for 2026
 - Youth XC Training Program - Nate Getman & Abbie Sutliff
 - No Report
- Activities - Ongoing
 - Volunteers - Rebecca LaPorte
 - Have volunteer shirts for upcoming year/events - criteria? Give to volunteers as needed, see Rebecca if needed
 - Sent out volunteer emails for Skeleton Run, they now have all the volunteers they need
 - Need assistance for Thanksgiving Run, will send out email to membership in early November
 - Social - Melissa Barlett & Rebecca LaPorte
 - September Happy Hour:

- Main St. Tavern - Recap
 - Only complication was it was a cash only bar, drinks were affordable
 - 8-10 people ran before the happy hour
 - Approximately 14 attended the happy hour afterwards
 - October Happy Hour
 - Grow 10/17 6pm
 - Melissa and Rebecca will not be available, need volunteer to organize food or drinks (A. Hartnett & A. Rubino volunteered)
 - UR merch should be on display at the Sneaker Store, encourage members to check it out
 - Grow is aware that we will be coming
 - Banquet and Awards - Jenna Stefka/Melissa Barlett/Ashley Mancini
 - Discussion of location
 - Owners of Club Monarch have retired, unsure if they are continuing similar services
 - February 28th or March 7th as tentative dates
 - Location TBD - Porto Fino? Seven Hamlets?
 - Racing team/Captains - Andrew Hartnett
 - Brookfield Classic - Travis
 - September 13 - Recap
 - The race has grown and reportedly went well
 - Discount code available and registration is opened for next year
 - Travis will Captain again next year and we will remind him to take a picture next year
 - Wineglass Marathon - Tiffany
 - October 5 - Recap
 - Race went well, it was a little warmer than expected/desired
 - Willow
 - Boos and Brews 5k
 - Ugly Sweater 5k
 - Both on Sundays and both are pretty popular
 - Discount codes available
- UR Supported Events
 - **Grateful for Graham 5k** - Amanda Robertello
 - *Tentative Date* May 2, 2026
 - **Trenton Fish and Game Club Trail Run-Rob Kapfer**
 - August 2, 2026
 - **Tunnel to Towers Utica 5k** - Phil Trzcinski/Alex Gonzalez
 - August 16, 2026
- Committees
 - Diversity Committee - Melissa Barlett/Michelle Truett
 - On Hold no updates
 - Blood Drive - Andrew Rubino
 - Exploring dates for future drive

- **Administration & Finance – Melissa Barlett**

- Financial - James Kuny
 - No report, Bank of Utica website is broken and we are unable to look at documents right now
 - J. Kuny will follow up and send an update to the group via email
- Merchandise - Frank Vellone
 - F. Vellone planning to be at Sneaker Store on Saturday during the Skeleton Run Packet Pickup to share information about UR logo on gear purchased from the Sneaker Store
 - Mystery Swag Bag (Andrew) for \$10 donation
 - Continue UR Merch Table @Running Events, planning to table at Run2End Hunger
 - Coordination between Sneaker Store and USA Racing to stock UR Gear
 - Set up online store with USA Racing
 - Connect with Summer Sizzle Race
 - singlets (\$30) ■ tshirts (\$5)
 - cow bells (\$3) ■ hats (\$10)
 - blankets (\$25) ■ hoodie (\$20)
- Equipment and Rental - Phil Trzcinski
 - Cargo nets have arrived! Will be installed by P. Trzcinski
 - Fender damage on trailer, we think someone backed up into it, thankfully it can still be driven, P. Trzcinski will take a closer look at it and report back
 - A. Rubino will get boxes out of the trailer
- Membership - Rebecca LaPorte
 - # 513 members currently 325 current memberships (186 individual, 130 couples, 129 family, 21 individual 2 year, 27 couple 2 year, 14 family 2 year)
 - 2024 #s (Oct 2024: 204 individual, 128 couples, 161 family)
 - End of Year discount after Falling Leaves (1-Oct thru next year)
- Webpage/Race Calendar - Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett
 - Rubino organizing bios for Hartnett - On Hold
 - If you notice something is out of date let Melissa and Andy know
- Facebook & PR - Andy Hartnett
 - No updates
- Newsletter
 - deadline is 20th of each month
 - Ad Purchases
 - Promos of Award Nominations
 - Promo for Elections
 - New Liaison for RRCA (Melissa)
 - Nominate members for profiles
- Clubs & Organizations Liaisons - Melissa Barlett/Erik Winberg (USATF and RRCA)
 - No updates
- Sponsorship - David Dietz

- Looking to get sponsorships for Four Run Challenge - David/Melissa
 - Pick Deadline for 2026
 - Connection with Indium
 - If you have a business interested in sponsoring please see David
 - make ad for Splitimes
 - If you know any organization or business who would like to help with volunteering please connect with David and Rebecca
 - Cliff's Fuel Cards for Club Cup
- Non-Profit
 - Melissa Updated Non-Profit documentation
 - \$500 per year
 - Ineligible for 2 years

OLD BUSINESS:

- Board Elections - November 17th due to Holiday
 - M. Barlett putting together bios for the newsletter
 - T. Carlson volunteers to take notes for the November meeting since R. LaPorte is unable to make the rescheduled meeting date
 - Catering food from Price Chopper, plan for 50 people, A. Rubino planning for food and will contact Saranac for drinks
- Mohawk Valley Gives - Friday September 19th
 - Won one of the small prizes (\$250) and waiting on final numbers for donation
 - Would like to continue next year, but M. Barlett may need some additional logistical support next year (sending out membership emails and pulling people together)
- Plogging Run - Saturday, September 13th
 - Collected a lot of trash!
 - Shout out to Tommy and Melissa for volunteering

NEW BUSINESS:

- Laugh and Run spring event
 - Comedian Tommy wants to do a Spring Event in Gloversville, NY. Date TBD
 - Planning to reconnect with club with more information
 - Maybe do another group run and attend show?
 - Interested in continuing with Boilermaker
- Verona Trails
 - There is a farm out in Verona that has 12 miles of trails that has reached out to us
 - A. Rubino will follow up with him from the website submission
 - They are interested in running event in the future, they currently do mountain biking events
 - A. Rubino will call and connect with them for additional information
- Email from Roman Runners
 - Hosting Holiday Run on Black Friday in conjunction with annual Rome tree lighting

- New 5k
 - J. Kuny will forward email to A. Rubino
 - Will share one of their posts on social media
- Request for the arch
 - Talk to P. Trzcinski
 - Possibly you break it you buy it?
 - Draft some kind of agreement? Or form?

Board Entered Executive Session 7:58pm
1st J. Kuny 2nd F. Vellone

Board Ended Executive Session 8:02pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm
1st G. Searles 2nd A. Hartnett

Next Meeting: November 17, 2025 at 6:15 at Boilermaker Headquarters

Future meeting dates:
December 8, 2025