



UTICA ROADRUNNERS BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, January 12, 2026 6:15 pm, Boilermaker Headquarters

Board Attendance: Andrew Rubino, Melissa Barlett, Frank Vellone, Andy Hartnett, Donna Morreal, James Kuny, Linley Bingham, Rebecca LaPorte, Tommy Carlson, Phil Trzcinski, Erik Winberg

Meeting called to order at: 6:16pm

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

INITIAL BUSINESS

- Update Handbook
 - Updated handbook has been sent to all board members
 - Please review and provide Melissa with comments by 1/19/26
 - Melissa will upload to the website by 1/26/26

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Activities & Events – Erik Winberg**
 - **Races**
 - **Four Race Challenge** - Andrew Rubino
 - Setting up Swag Store with USA Racing
 - Discussion of items - no blankets and hats. Andrew Rubino will email Joe
 - Falling Leaves Discount Codes active
 - **Save Our Switchbacks** - Melissa Barlett & Linley Bingham
 - April 18, 2026
 - The Utica Zoo is on board!
 - Linley will be co-directing with Melissa this year!
 - **Summer Sizzle** - Travis Olivera
 - June 21, 2026
 - **Falling Leaves** - Andrew Rubino
 - September 27, 2026
 - Working on signing contract for hotel
 - **Skeleton Run** - Rob Kapfer
 - October 18, 2026
 - **Run 2 End Hunger** – Rebecca LaPorte Mason Hedeen
 - Expenses: \$182.77
 - Income: \$4675.25

- Net: \$4,492.48
 - 2,580lbs food donation to Utica Rescue Mission (compared to 1,400lbs last year)
 - Motion for donation of \$4,500 to Compassion Coalition 1st R. LaPorte, 2nd A. Rubino
 - Will connect with Compassion Coalition about a potential check presentation photo
- **New Year's Run** – Melissa Barlett
 - Discussion of continuing the event
 - Started as a membership drive run (free for members) at Accelerate
 - This year promoted other New Year's Runs
 - Maybe next year promote the Boonville Run and help organize carpools
- Virtual Events
 - **FIVE after FIVE** – Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett
 - Thoughts about incorporating Scavenger Hunt concepts? People enjoyed it but need additional help to make it successful
 - Possibly a BINGO card version?
 - Linley interested in assisting
 - Further discussion in February
- Activities - Limited
 - Scholarships - Travis Olivera
 - 1 person requesting scholarship information
 - Travis working on updating and will send to Andy to update on the website
 - Boilermaker Training Program - Erik Winberg/Peter Angelini/Amanda Hartnett
 - ***Start date*** - Saturday February 28th, 2026 7:30am
 - Volunteers needed? Pete is handling this aspect, set for now but will let Rebecca know if additional support is needed
 - Looking at cost to use Accelerate space for the first couple weeks, Amanda has inquiry to Accelerate. Recall that this was previously quite expensive. Still awaiting additional information
 - If not at Accelerate, will use Forte on Genesee Street or Sneaker Store
 - Thoughts on reaching out to Mill Family Fitness Center - smaller track but less crowded? Also might be more interested in partnering for discounts? Andrew Rubino suggests reaching out to Nicole (although there might be some change over)
 - Now open on RunSignUp - shoutout to Melissa Barlett
 - Erik planning to send the entire schedule out at the beginning so people know what to expect, will send updates via email as needed
 - Melissa points out emails can be scheduled in RunSignUp so new people can receive all the information automatically if they sign up later in the program
 - New: Centralized leader for each pace group this year
 - Boilermaker Expo table and volunteers
 - No report

- Grand Prix - Gary LaShure
 - Must be member by March 12th to be eligible
 - Erik will reach out to Gary to make sure that he is still interested in doing this
- CNY Running Club Cup - Paige and Mary Ann
 - Advertise and recruit members to participate
 - Provide information to the participants on how they score points
 - Connect with Roman Runners to hand off the program
 - Cliff's Gift Card: \$300 in gift cards donated - Ashley M is working on donation of gift cards for the upcoming year
- Development Runs - Ashley Mancini
 - Shirt Design contest for 2026 - announced on Facebook, SpliTmes
- Youth XC Training Program - Nate Getman & Abbie Sutliff
 - No Report
- Activities - Ongoing
 - Social - Melissa Barlett & Rebecca LaPorte
 - January Happy Hour
 - Beer Hub, January 23rd @ 6:00pm
 - Drink tokens for first 20 members
 - Rubino will remind owner the week before
 - Andrew suggests the Meier's Creek snowshoe afternoons in the future
 - Banquet and Awards - Jenna Stefka/Melissa Barlett/Ashley Mancini
 - February 28th - 5pm to 9pm
 - Runsignup page is live, must register by February 19th, registration takes into account food allergies
 - Location: 7 Hamlets
 - Max Capacity 65-75 people (which is more than attendance of past couple of years)
 - Have a catering menu - Melissa planning to order things
 - Bring your own dessert - Melissa will order a cake
 - Have a full bar - will do drink tickets to determine the price at the end, different prices for alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, members will receive a set number of tickets each but they can be shared between people and members can always buy additional tickets
 - DJ is booked, they have tvs available for presentation of awards
 - Grand Prix people have been emailed to find out how they want to receive their stuff
 - If you have a business that would donate a door prize please let Melissa know
 - Looking for volunteers for the awards committee (meets exclusively by email!) Donna has volunteered
 - Please send names/suggestions for awards using the forms
 - Racing team/Captains - Andrew Hartnett
 - Andy has updated the list of events we are doing
 - Will make social post asking what members are running
 - Start reaching out to races for discounts

- Reach out to members for training runs
- UR Supported Events
 - **Grateful for Graham 5k** - Amanda Robertello
 - May 2, 2026
 - Planning 840 trail for location again
 - Part of Boilermaker Bib Program this year! (\$500 fundraising requirement)
 - Likely to also have NYC Marathon bibs again this year (\$3,000 fundraising requirement)
 - **Trenton Fish and Game Club Trail Run-Rob Kapfer**
 - August 2, 2026
 - **Tunnel to Towers Utica 5k** - Phil Trzcinski/Alex Gonzalez
 - August 16, 2026
 - Starting coordination in February
 - Phil presented recognition to the club for 5 years of support
- Committees
 - Diversity Committee - Melissa Barlett/Michelle Truett
 - On Hold no updates
 - Blood Drive - Andrew Rubino
 - Jan 31st at Maynard Fire Department 9am to 2pm
 - Looking for committee members
 - Make event page on socials
 - Discussion of giveaways
 - Andrew looking for assistance with this committee
 - Andy will post information on strava
- **Administration & Finance – Melissa Barlett**
 - Financial - James Kuny
 - Budget meeting date? February 2nd 6:30pm at Babes
 - Down approximately \$5,000 from last year but there were some unexpected one-time expenses such as updates for the trailer, AED machine. Also makes sense with rising prices
 - Utica Police Department has also not cashed their check
 - Boilermaker Mile Marker things will be discussed and finalized today
 - Merchandise - Frank Vellone
 - Planning to go to the Sneaker Store to check in and get an update for the next meeting
 - Also will find out if they have been successful selling any merchandise
 - 17 Gallon (\$25) or 27 Gallon (\$22) plastic bins - suggested for sorting and storing leftover merch. They are stackable. These are available at Lowes. Motion for Tommy to purchase ten of the 17 Gallon bins with the tax exempt form. 1st F. Vellone, 2nd T. Carlson
 - Continue UR Merch Table @ Running Events
 - Coordination between Sneaker Store and USA Racing to stock UR Gear
 - Frank will connect with USA Racing about the member store stuff that will be connected with all four races and the four race challenge. They just

need a final answer of what to put on the store being mindful of minimums. Definitely no blankets or hats.

- Set up online store with USA Racing

- singlets (\$30)
- cow bells (\$3)
- blankets (\$25)
- tshirts (\$5)
- hats (\$10)
- hoodie (\$20)

- Equipment and Rental - Phil Trzcinski

- Insurance and Registration update - paid for and updated
- Trailer has been put away from the winter - currently at A&P
- If you need something that should be in the trailer it might be in Melissa's basement, check with Melissa
- Tommy will connect with Melissa for equipment for the Delta Lake Run
- Payment for AED - check will be made out at this meeting

- Membership - Rebecca LaPorte

- 324 members currently compared to 332 at the end of January 2025
- Expecting next influx of members around Boilermaker Training Program start

- Webpage/Race Calendar - Melissa Barlett & Andy Hartnett

- Michelle is organizing bios - <https://forms.gle/pA8k6NY4cbxHV9AX9>
- Melissa will send Andy the Community proposal information to post on the website
- Received email from Accelerate about pricing for track use as we do not have a discount for track use, should we continue to promote? Ask to see if we can get a discount and if not remove from UR website
- When answering emails from the shared inbox make sure to cc others on shared email box to know it's addressed (Erik, Melissa, Andrew)

- Facebook & PR - Andy Hartnett

- Point person to collect content and send to Michelle for Newsletter

- Newsletter

- deadline is 20th of each month
- Ad Purchases
- Promos of Award Nominations
- Nominate members for profiles - email George or Rubino

- Clubs & Organizations Liaisons - Melissa Barlett/Erik Winberg (USATF and RRCA)

- Club insurance obtained

- Sponsorship - David Dietz

- Sponsorships for Four Race — Due Feb 20th
- Update for On-Brand company for Club donations at February meeting - Rebecca
- Advertise for Sponsorship opportunities in Splitimes
- If you know any organization or business who would like to help with volunteering please connect with David and Rebecca
- Linley will do outreach to In Bloom

- Non-Profit

- Melissa Updated Non-Profit documentation

- \$500 per year
- Ineligible for 2 years
- Need to post to webpage

OLD BUSINESS:

- Race Directors Meeting - Tuesday January 27th at 6:00pm
 - Rubino ordering food and getting beverages (Lafa? Price Chopper?)
 - Anyone who wants to know about races can come
 - Will invite Tilden Hill Farms folks
- Tilden Hill Farm Trails - Verona
 - 12 miles of trails open for running, biking, camping
 - Discussion of run and bike relay, group runs, special event
 - Invited to Race Directors meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

- Magnetic Bib Pins for swag - Linley
 - <https://bibboards.com/pages/b2b-custom>
 - \$2.45 if ordering 50-99
 - \$2.25 if ordering 100-249
 - More you order the cheaper they are
 - Possible custom for races or just doing the UR logo
 - Motion for 100 with the UR logo, 1st R. LaPorte, 2nd J. Kuny
 - Propose selling them for \$3
 - Will let them know they are tax exempt
 - Linley will order and will be reimbursed with receipt
- Race Directors Meeting - Tuesday January 27th at 6:00pm - Rubino
- Delta Lake Brunch Run - Sunday February 8th - Tommy
 - Google Form is created and available in SpliTmes
 - Sign up as soon as possible
 - 3 courses - 5k, 10k, half marathon (courses are posted)
 - Start time is 9am (Tommy will be there around 8:30am)
 - Brunch part starts at 11am
 - Tommy will talk to Rome PD for awareness
 - Motion for up to \$100, 1st J. Kuny 2nd A. Rubino
 - \$30 adults, \$15 kids
- Boilermaker Mile Sponsorship \$2,125 for the 5 year commitment
 - 1st L. Bingham 2nd R. LaPorte
 - Ask to trade with mile 5 Special Metals, Phil will look into a potential contact
- UR Deal with Route 20
 - Continuing partnership
 - They are sending us an invoice

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Shout out to Anthony who has consistently been joining in on the Saturday runs! Getting out there and running fast with great consistency for a newer runner
- Kudos to Linley and Frank for joining pre meeting run with Andrew

Meeting adjourned at 7:56pm 1st T. Carlson 2nd J. Kuny

Next Meeting: February 9, 2026 at 6:15 at Boilermaker Headquarters

Future meeting dates for 2026:

March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, *July 13, August 10,
September 14, **October 12, November 9, December 14

*Boilermaker Monday

**Columbus Day