

Scottish Athletics Hill Running Commission - Championship event guidance

May 2015

Introduction

This guidance is issued by the Scottish Athletics Hill Running Commission to event organisers in Scotland who have agreed for their event to be either:

- the Scottish Athletics Hill Running Championship; or
- one of the events within the British Athletics British Fell Running Championship.

Since each of these championships is organised under the auspices of British Athletics or Scottish Athletics (which is one of the 4 National Associations of British Athletics), certain aspects of event organisation have to be looked at more carefully than may be the case for hill races in Scotland in general.

Rules

The championships are held under British Athletics rules. These rules are available on the web from the British Athletics website (<http://www.britishathletics.org.uk/competitions/rules/>). Rules 1 to 24 are general rules which apply to all athletics disciplines, and rules 400 to 412 are specific to hill running. The section on **Safety** below expands on rule 405.

Events which are held under British Athletics rules in Scotland need to be registered with Scottish Athletics. Registration results in:

- the issue of a Scottish Athletics event permit;
- publicity for the event being included on the Scottish Athletics website and fixture list; and
- insurance cover for the event being provided by the Scottish Athletics insurance policy.

To register your event, you should contact Scottish Athletics (admin@scottishathletics.org.uk, 0131 539 7320). Events are normally registered in the winter preceding the event. There is no fee for registration, but Scottish Athletics charges a levy of £2 on participants in registered events who are not members of Scottish Athletics (or one of the other National Associations of British Athletics). Organisers usually make a supplementary entry charge equal to the levy amount on entries by non-members.

Safety

Rule 405 in the British Athletics rules requires compliance with British Athletics' safety guidelines. From 2015, Scottish Athletics, British Athletics and Scottish Hill Runners have agreed that for races in Scotland these are to be the Scottish Hill Runners safety rules and guidelines which are available to download from <http://www.britishathletics.org.uk/governance/health-safety/code-of-practice/>. This decision means that all hill races in Scotland are governed by the same safety rules and guidelines.

Facilities

Championship events tend to attract higher numbers of entries than non-championship events. You should therefore consider whether your event arrangements, such as car parking and registration officials, will be suitable to cope with additional entries.

You should give particular thought to toilet facilities for the expected number of entries. If your race venue is remote and would make the provision of temporary toilets uneconomic, you should advertise this fact, and advise participants of nearby public facilities which they can use before arriving.

Scottish Hill Runners have a Race Organisers Pack which contains advice on many aspects of event organisation which is available from their website www.shr.uk.com, currently at <http://www.shr.uk.com/Download.aspx?Item=RACEORGANISERSPACK2013 v2.doc>.

SAL Championships results and prizes

Prizes in the championships are awarded to members of Scottish Athletics (for the Scottish Athletics Championship) or members of one of the 4 National Associations (for the British Championship). Therefore, you may need to make provision when calculating results to separate out those who are members from those who are non-members. A representative of the Scottish Athletics Hill Running Commission will be available to assist with the calculation of results, and the Commission has a spreadsheet designed to assist with results management for this event.

SAL provide medals for the following:

	Male	Female
Under 23 (on 31 December of year of race)	1	1
Senior	3	3
V40 (40-49 on day of race)	3	3
V50 (50-59 on day of race)	3	3
V60 (60 or over on day of race)	1	1
Team (men: 4 members, women: 3 members)	3	3

Senior medals can be won by athletes of any age. Age category medals can only be won by an athlete in that age group. For example, if the leading V50 athlete finishes in front of all V40 athletes, they would be awarded the V50 gold medal, but not a V40 medal.

Conclusion

The Scottish Athletics Hill Running Commission is very grateful to you for agreeing to have a championship at your event. Please contact us through the Scottish Athletics office if you have any questions.