

Hi all

>
> It was decided at the 2007 Racewalking Australia AGM to approach
> Athletics Australia with a view to combining the 2008 Second
> Federation Carnival with the 2008 Australian Roadwalking
> championships. Both occur each year at around the same time and both
suffer from small numbers.
> Since both events are to be held in Melbourne this year, I was given
> the mandate to talk to AA and try to work out how this could be done.
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> Discussions have been completed and we have come up with what I think
> is a pretty good solution. This has been passed back to the RWA
> Executive and to a number of key coaches and walking administrators
> for review and all feedback has been positive. It was impossible to
> seek feedback from everyone as I am sure that you can appreciate.
>
> The combined carnival will be held at Albert Park on Sunday 24 August.
> This has meant some changes for both us and Athletics Australia to
> bring the events into line and to sort out these and other
> differences. In particular, a number of Australian roadwalking
> championship distances have been changed to bring them in line with
> current international
> standards:
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> The Open Men 30 km championship is changed to a 20 km Winter
> championship The Open Women 10 km championship is changed to a 20 km
> Winter championship The Under 20 Men 20 km championship is changed to
> a 10 km championship The Under 18 Men 8 km championship is changed to
> a 10 km championship The Under 18 Women 8 km championship is changed
> to a 5 km championship
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> As a consequence of the Under 20 change, the current Australian Under
> 20 Men 10 km roadwalking championship will no longer be scheduled in
> Canberra in June. The organisers of the Canberra carnival are aware of
> this and have accepted the decision graciously.
>
> I have put a summary of the changes and the reasoning behind them onto
> the VRWC website at <http://www.vrwc.org.au> - follow the link on the
> website front page. Remember, this is a trial event. What happens in
> the future will depend on how we go and on the feedback of
participants.
>
> I urge all of our walking clubs and all of our walkers to support this
> event. If it is a big success, it will form the basis for ongoing
> cooperation with Athletics Australia.

> --
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