



COLLEGIATE
RUNNING
ASSOCIATION

2018 MOUNTAIN RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIP

For Immediate Release

July 7, 2018

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Collegiate Mountain Running Championships Return to Loon Mountain

US and NACAC Championships to be held concurrently; US Mountain Running Team to be selected

Lincoln, NH ---- On Sunday, July 8, the nation's top mountain runners return to Loon Mountain in Lincoln, New Hampshire to determine the 2018 Collegiate National Champions, the USATF Champions, the North America-Central America-Caribbean (NACAC) Champions and to vie for the 8 coveted spots – 4 for men, 4 for women – on this year's [U.S. Mountain Running Team](#). This will be the fifth consecutive year the Collegiate Mountain Running Championships are held.

This year new collegiate champions will be crowned since last year's men's champion, Patrick Smyth (University of Wisconsin) and women's champion, Corey Dowe (University of New England) will not compete within the collegiate portion of the event. Last year, along with the Collegiate National title, Smyth also earned an automatic bid to the U.S. Mountain Running Team along with Weber State University's, Brett Hales who finished second.

This year on the collegiate side, there's a lot of talent according to Steve Taylor, co-founder of the [Collegiate Running Association](#). "On the women's side we expect Addie Bracy, Danielle Winslow, Karley Rempel, Johanna Taliärm and Tara Richardson to be in the mix. It's simply a tremendous women's field", said Taylor. "For the men, there are two standouts on the track in Austen Dalquist and Joseph Simmons. Austen has run 13:50 on the track and is an All-American for the Arkansas Razorbacks and Joseph had a great year at Idaho State University where he was selected to the 2017 U.S. Junior (U20) Team. The University of Richmond's, Johnny Hogue and Western Washington University's, Peter Butler are also expected to be contenders for the podium."

Since the creation of the Collegiate Championships top collegians have the opportunity to compete for a collegiate national title, a U.S. Championship and automatic bids to the U.S. Mountain Running Team for the opportunity to represent the U.S. at the World Championships all within one event. Many are transitioning to the trails from road, track, or cross country backgrounds, and may be running their first mountain race.

Like the World Mountain Running Championships in Andorra on September 16, the men and women will run separate races with both genders running approximately 10.6 kilometers on a mixture of dirt, grass, wide pathways, single track, and rocky sections. The average grade throughout the Loon Mountain course is between 10-12 percent with the course gaining 3100 feet from start to finish.



That last climb is the famed lung and quad-busting Upper Walking Boss. With an average grade of 40% over the final 1k, positions can change from the base of "The Boss" to the finish line.

A total of \$9,000 in prize money will be awarded within the championship events, with \$3,000 specifically reserved for the top college students.

Meet the top preregistered contenders for the collegiate women:

Addie Bracy, 31, Longmont, CO – (@AddieBracy) – Bib #2111 – She is the 2017 and 2018 USATF Mountain Running National Champion and represents [@HudsonElite](#) and [@SalomonRunning](#). With personal best marks on the track of 9:53 (3KSC), 15:45 (5k), 32:37 (10k), 1:14:03 (1/2 marathon) and 2:35 (marathon) it's easy to see why she is a force on the mountains and trails. Since transitioning off the track she has become a dominant force not just within the U.S., but also on the international scene. Bracy placed 7th in the recent 2018 World Long Distance Mountain Running Championships in Czech Republic leading the U.S. team. Last year she helped the U.S. team earn a silver medal with a sixth-place finish at the 2017 World Long Distance Mountain Running Championships in Premana, Italy, and a week earlier, Bracy and U.S. teammates won the team gold medal in the 2017 World Mountain Running Championships, also in Premana. She lives in Longmont, Colo., where she trains with Hudson Elite and serves as the head cross country and assistant track & field coach at Erie High School. The former team captain at North Carolina is also pursuing a master's in sport and performance psychology at the University of Colorado.



Casey Feltham, 26, Nashua, NH – Bib #2306 - Recently placed 8th in the 2018 Cranmore Mountain Race.

Kassandra Marin, 28, Merrimack, NH – (@aboveitall14) - Bib #2613 – Placed 5th in the 2018 Mount Washington Road Race and won the Crossan Cup, awarded to the top New Hampshire finisher in the event.

Kathy O'Keefe, 25, Newton, MA – (@glittergurl858) – Bib #2727 – Ran for Boston College as an undergraduate where she posted personal best marks of 2:10.52 (800m) and 4:22.55 (1500m)...Ran her 4:22.55 in the 2015 ACC Outdoor Championships and her 2:10.52 came in the finals of the NEICAAA Outdoor T&F Championships. Currently in graduate school.

Karley Rempel, 30, Boulder, CO / Canada – (@karrempel) - Bib #2783 – She is a Canadian citizen living in Boulder, CO where she is enrolled in graduate classes. Known as a strong climber she brings a lot of speed to her mountain running as she represents Canada in the



concurrent NACAC Championships...Won the 2017 Speedgoat Vertical Mile in Utah setting a course record over the 10.3k race...While in undergraduate school at the University of North Carolina she set personal best marks of 20:26.3 (6k XC), 2:08.95 (800m), 4:20.36 (1500m) and 9:44.94 (3k). Placed 1st in the 2015 Dennis Craddock Carolina Relays 3k running 9:44.94...Ran the 2014 ACC Cross Country Championships to place 11th in 20:26.3...Earned NCAA All-Region honors in 2014 placing 24th at the Southeast Championships and qualified for the 2014 NCAA Cross Country Championships...A member of the Tarheels 4x1500M which won the 2015 Penn Relays title.

Tara Richardson, 27, Glenwood Springs, CO – (@trich7191) - Bib #2788 – Continues to excel on the mountains and trails...Competed at Division II Western State Colorado University in Gunnison, CO. Personal best's on the track include: 5k (17:14.35) and 10k (34:33.88)... Ran 34:33.88 at the 2014 Mt. SAC Relays to place 14th...Member of the Mountaineers 2010 NCAA DII National Championship Cross Country Team.

Johanna Talihärm, 25, Tallinn, Estonia –

Bib #2884 – Has competed twice for Estonia in the 2014 and 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Biathlon. Placed 22nd in the 2018 Olympic Games biathlon 7.5-km sprint in 22:27.0...She has been the top Estonian biathlete in the women's World Cup for the past several years and has competed in 4 World Championships in the event. She is training this summer in Vermont with



the Craftsbury Green Racing Project and attends college at Montana State University where she races for their Nordic Team. Read More on Johanna [here](#).



Danielle Winslow, 24, Brighton, MA - Bib #2954 – Completed her undergraduate degree in biochemistry in 2015 and continues her graduate studies in Nursing, also at Boston College...Personal best marks include 4:25.27 (1500m), 9:24.21 (3k), 9:48.81 (3kSC), 16:19.59 (5k), 20:34.1 (6kXC)...Ran 9:48.81 in the 3k steeplechase at the 2016 Ocean State Invitational qualifying her for the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials...Placed 8th in the 2016 NCAA Division I East Preliminary Round running 9:59.59 to advance to the NCAA Championship Final where she placed 19th...Won the 2016 ACC 3kSC running 9:57.33...Placed 33rd in the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials in Eugene, OR...Ran 16:19.59 in the 2015 Penn Relays.

Meet the top preregistered contenders for the collegiate men:

Austen Dalquist, 22, Keller, TX – (@AustenDalquist) – Bib #2239 -

Competes for the Arkansas Razorbacks where he earned All-America honors in the Distance Medley Relay during the 2015 NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championships. He has an impressive resume with tremendous range from 800m to 10k...His personal best marks include: 800M (1:51.22), 1500M (3:44.16, Mile (4:00.66), 5k (13:50.87), 10k (29:08.60), 23:36.2 (8k XC)...Doubled at the 2018 NCAA West Preliminary Round in the 10K (29:27.50) and returned to run the 5k (13:56.73)...Ran the same double in the 2018 SEC Championships running the 10k (29:53.31) and the 5K (14:14.14)...A member of the Razorbacks winning 4X1500M Relay (15:14.18) at the 2018 National Relay Championships...Ran his personal best in the 5k (13:50.87) at the 2018 Bryan Clay Invitational...Placed 7th in section 3 of the 10k at the 2018 Stanford Invitational running 29:08.60...Has qualified for the NCAA Cross Country Championships multiple times for the Razorbacks...Ran the Mile in 4:00.66 during the 2015 St. Louis Festival of Miles.



Drew Best, 32, Amherst, MA – Bib #2077 - A PhD student of biological anthropology, researching human evolutionary physiology at UMASS. He is an endurance athlete (runner and mountain bike) representing Team-acidotic RACING and a high school biology teacher...Placed 3rd in the 2017 North Face Race to the Summit...Placed 6th in the 2017 Mount Washington Road Race...Crowned champion of the Wachusett Mountain Race 3 Mile Hill Climb. Additional highlights: 2016 USA Mountain Running Championships (20th), 2016 Mt. Washington Road Race (8th), 2015 USATF-New England Mountain Running Series Champion, 2014 USA Mountain Running Championships (19th), 2010 USATF-New England 10-Mile Championships (8th), 2009 Providence Marathon (1st), 2007 Boston Marathon (102nd), 2003 NCAA DII Cross Country Championships (69th)

Peter Butler, 20, Port Angeles, WA – Bib #2154 - The Western Washington University junior ran 31:40.4 at the 2016 NCAA DII West Region Cross Country Championships...Ran 31:53.72 to win the 10k in the 2017 Puget Sound Ed Boitano Invitational...Placed 4th in the 2017 GNAC Indoor Track & Field Invitational 5k (15:07.87)...Placed 2nd in the 2018 GNAC Outdoor Track & Field Championships 10k (32:09.95)

Shaun Dever, 31, Brighton, MA – (@mrdevertweets) - Bib #2254 – Competes for the Greater Boston Track Club and recently placed 6th in the 2018 Cranmore Mountain Race.



Johnny Hogue, 22, Richmond, VA - Bib #2970 - A rising red-shirt senior for the Richmond Spiders, Hogue earned All-Conference honors by placing 5th in the 2017 Atlantic 10 Conference Championships...Placed 9th in the 2018 Collegiate 10K Road Race National Championship held within the Ukrop's Monument Avenue 10K...Placed 23rd in the 2016 USATF Cross Country Championships in Bend, OR...5th in the 2016 Collegiate 10K Road Race Championships in Richmond, VA. A West Virginia native he is known to excel and embrace tough courses.

Joseph Simmons, 20, American Fork, UT – (@joesimmons008) - Bib #2842 – Simmons, an Idaho State University sophomore, was a member of the 2017 US Junior Mountain Running Team and competed in Premana, Italy, in the 2017 World Mountain Running Championships, finishing in 22nd place. He will represent team USA in the NACAC Championships within the Loon Mountain Race....As a freshman at ISU he ran 30:13.72 in the 2018 Mt. SAC Relays 10k...His personal best in the 5k (14:39.38) came in the 2018 San Francisco State Distance Carnival.



Racing gets underway Sunday morning with the Men's race starting at 8:00 AM Eastern time. Women's race starts at 9:15 AM. Registration is open at www.acidoticroacing.com, and is also available on race morning near the start line.

The Loon Mountain Race also serves as the 15th North American, Central American & Caribbean (NACAC) Mountain Running Championship. Teams from Canada, Mexico, El Salvador and the United States will compete for individual & team medals.

In order to be eligible to compete in the Collegiate Running Association Mountain Running Championships, participants must either be enrolled in a college course at the time of the race or have completed a course during the spring semester (between January 1 and July 8, 2018). Collegiate participants must also be free members of the Collegiate Running Association to be eligible for the collegiate prize money.

You can expect live race day updates from the Collegiate Running Association [twitter account](#) and the US Mountain Running Team [twitter account](#). View results of all Collegiate Running Association Championships in Road, Mountain and Trail running at www.CollegiateRunning.org.

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