

## **History of the PRA**

**The Pensacola Runners Association was formed in 1972 and is commonly referred to as the PRA. On 3 June 1975 the PRA became a non-profit corporation registered in the State of Florida**

## **Mission of the PRA**

*The Mission of the Pensacola Runners Association is to promote, support and develop running and racing along the northern Gulf Coast. Our objective is to provide information, education, training, social and sporting events for competitive and non-competitive runners and walkers of all ages, races, genders and abilities.*

## **Duties of the Officers and Directors of the PRA**

### **Directors**

- **Must attend 9 of the 12 scheduled PRA meetings of the Board of Directors (barring extinguishing circumstances). They are charged with participating in the decision making and the direction of the activities, functions and business of the PRA.**
- **Attend and assist with PRA races and other PRA functions.**

### **President**

- **Preside over meetings of the Board of Directors and guide the decision making and the direction of the PRA business.**
- **Will vote in the event of a tie vote at meetings of the Board of Directors.**
- **Attend and assist with PRA races and other PRA functions.**
- **Act as the main representative of the PRA in contact with the community.**  
**Monthly contributions to the Rundown**  
**Create a nominating committee for incoming Board of Directors and Officers**  
**Send out “welcome” packages to all new Members**

### **Vice president**

- **Attend the meetings of the Board of Directors and participate in the decision making and the direction of the PRA business.**
- **Preside over meetings of the Board of Directors if the President is unable to attend.**
- **Attend and assist with PRA races and other PRA functions.**
- **Review the current PRA Operations Manual and bring any recommended changes to the attention of the PRA Board.**

### **Treasurer**

- **Have the custody of all funds and securities of the PRA**
- **Keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements**
- **Deposit all moneys in the name and to the credit of the PRA**
- **Disburse the funds of the PRA as may be ordered by the Board of Directors or by established policy.**
- **Reconcile the monthly bank statement**
- **Prepare a statement of income and expenses for each race**
- **Render to the members at their regular meetings or whenever they may require it, an account of all transactions as Treasurer, and of the financial condition of the PRA**
- **Attend the meetings of the Board of Directors and participate in the decision making and the direction of the PRA business.**
- **Preside over meetings of the Board of Directors if both the President and Vice President are unable to attend.**
- **Attend and assist with PRA races and other PRA functions.**

### **Secretary**

- **Maintain a current database of the membership with date of renewal**
- **Attend the meetings of the Board of Directors and all annual, regular, and special meetings of members**
- **Act as clerk of each meeting, recording all votes and the minutes of all proceedings.**
- **Keep in safe custody the seal of the PRA and when authorized by the Board of Directors or executive committee affix it to any instrument requiring a seal**
- **On a regular basis pick up the mail, distribute checks to the appropriate treasurer and distribute other items to the appropriate individuals.**
- **Preside over meetings of the Board of Directors if the President, Vice President and Treasurer are unable to attend.**
- **Attend and assist with PRA races and other PRA functions.**

### **Assistant Treasurer (Large races – as defined by the current Board)**

- **Attend the meetings of the Board of Directors and report on the Race Management Account**
- **Prepare bank deposits and write checks from the general account when the PRA Treasurer is out of town for an extended time period**

## **Committees and Job Positions**

**Many functions of the PRA are performed by committees and/or job positions established by the Board of Directors and the Officers. Committees may be created as the current Board sees necessary.**

### **Audit Committee**

**An audit of PRA finances must be conducted on an Annual basis.**

### **Nomination Committee**

**Chaired by the outgoing President from current members of the Board.**

### **Rundown Committee**

**Oversees the newsletter *Rundown*. The committee is composed of an editor, assistant editor, and layout person.**

### **Membership Committee**

**The Membership Coordinator maintains the membership data base from which the Rundown is sent out and members are notified that their membership dues are due and payable. They are tasked with recruiting new members, promoting PRA in our community and developing and sustaining membership perks and benefits.**

### **Equipment Committee**

**This committee is charged with overseeing the maintenance, repair, and storage of PRA race related equipment. Liaison with non-PRA race directors for rental, accountability and delivery of PRA equipment and supplies.**

### **Publicity Committee**

**This committee is the interface between the PRA and the news media. Accept requests for donations to and participation in non-PRA events**

**Marketing Committee – Promote PRA to local businesses, recruit sponsors and oversees the acquisition and sales of PRA branded merchandise**

### **Website Committee**

**Organizes and maintains the PRA website through interface with the dedicated Webmaster.**

### **Grand Prix Committee**

**Oversees the coordination of the PRA Grand Prix Series of races**

### **Youth Committee**

**Charged with encouraging the participation of students and coaches (elementary through college) in PRA races and activities.**

### **Race Calendar Committee**

**Maintains a listing of dates of area races and advises interested parties of potential date conflicts**

### **Volunteer Committee**

**Create and administrate a database of willing and able PRA volunteers. Schedule and coordinate an quarterly Volunteer appreciation social.**

### **Race Review Committee**

**A non-partisan committee will review each event (after the completion) and compile a suggested action report for the following year. They will keep the Road Race Manual current and available.**

## **Guidelines for PRA races**

**It is the duty of a PRA Race Director to execute, administer and oversee a PRA sponsored race in accordance with the approval and the guidance of the Board of Directors. Board members must be willing to participate in the planning and execution of all PRA races and support the race directors to the best of their abilities. Race directors must plan each event in a timely manner.**

### **Budget/Financial Report**

**A budget must be prepared and presented for board review and approval 6 months before the event. An initial accounting is due at the first regular board meeting following the event. A final accounting is generally due the second board meeting following the event.**

### **Entry fees**

**Early registration must be sent to the PRA mailing address.**

### **Race date/time/location**

**Every PRA event has its own set of criteria that determine its date, time and location. The board should be notified of any changes in these factors. Race directors should make an effort to examine the consequences of any change in date, time or location and have an understanding of the history of the event. It is critical to keep the board, the newsletter editor and webmaster updated on any change in these details. Time, date and location should also be set for the following year as soon as possible after the event takes place. The race director should also secure the location as early as possible. Whatever permissions (from police, park services, campus or base officials) required should be obtained well in advance of the event**

### **Contract for services**

**Race directors will make arrangements for goods and services such as shirts, awards, refreshments, location fees, police services, etc. as approved by the Board of Directors. They must be confirmed in writing to avoid any misunderstandings. Race directors need to remember in all dealings, they represent the PRA.**

### **Sponsorship**

**Proposals will be presented to the Board of Directors by the Marketing committee and the Race Director for approval.**

## **PRA Awards**

### **Jim Harrington Award**

**The Jim Harrington Award is given to a PRA runner who has used running and physical activity to overcome adversity or to recognize persons who returned to the sport of running after overcoming serious injury or physical illness.**

**It is given at the Pensacola Beach Run, and is named after Jim Harrington who was a dedicated PRA member and who bequeathed a gift to the club upon his death. Jim was an accomplished runner who lived by the notion that the older you get, the better you are.**

**Nominations are requested in the October and November Rundown, and the president selects a committee that identifies the recipient. Usually the committee comes from the Board of Directors, but it can consist of any PRA members.**

**The award does not have to be given each year. If there are no nominations then the award is not given out. The recipient does not have to be a PRA member. The award was established in 1988, and given out for the first time in 1999.**

**Recipients to date have been:**

**1999 - Mike Hall  
2000 - Ray Yarbrough  
2001 - Beverly McElwee  
2002 – Gary Upshaw  
2003 – Glenn Windham  
2004 – Terri Ramos**

**2005 - Brad Donahue  
2006 - Charles Gheen  
2007 - Gary Bunde  
2008 - Thad Koped  
2009 - Brian Casey  
2010 – Jennifer Dutton**

### **Lou Gregory Award**

**The Lou Gregory Spirit Award is provided once a year at the Fiesta Run. It is given to a runner who has demonstrated great leadership and enthusiasm in helping to promote and maintain the sport of running in the Pensacola community. Some years it has been given to two runners.**

**The Lou Gregory Award is named in honor of Pensacola's most famous runner. Lou Gregory placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the 1932 Olympics 10K. Although he has passed away, he still holds National and World Records in his age group and won hundreds of races. In 1932 Lou placed tenth in the 10,000 meters in Los Angeles. He was a world class runner in the 30's and 40's winning 19 National championships and placing second in the 1941 Boston Marathon.**

**After he moved to Pensacola he began his second career as a master's runner where he rewrote the record books setting scores of age group records. One accomplishment was a time of 43 minutes in the 1976 Fiesta of Five Flags 10K at the age of 76.**

**Locally Doc was the long time coach and teacher at Pensacola Junior College. His track and cross country teams won 10 state championships over an 18 year period. He retired in 1975 and died in 1989.**

**Nominations are called for in the February and March Rundown. The deadline for nominations shall be April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Nominations received by mail with a postmark dated on or prior to April 1<sup>st</sup> will be accepted. Past winners of the award, board members and officers then do a secret vote during the month of April. Past winners cannot vote unless they are members of the PRA. Only the president knows who the winner is and keeps it a secret until it is given during the Fiesta Run.**

**The President is in charge of collecting nominations, making sure the vote is taken, and then getting the award. If there are no nominations received by the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, the President will contact the nominators from the past year whose nominees were not selected as the award winner to inquire as to whether they would like to resubmit their nominations for the current year's award. The nomination letter(s) that are resubmitted must clearly state at the top of the letter that they are "resubmitted with permission from the nominator."**

**Nominees must be members of the PRA. They do not need to have served on the board, but must have made a major contribution to the PRA or to the running community at large. This contribution should have occurred over a long period of time and not just for one year, unless the contribution was of such a scale as to warrant immediate recognition.**

**Past award winners present at the Fiesta Run in May should be acknowledged during the presentation of the Lou Gregory award. A photo should be taken with the new award winner and any past award winners who are present.**

**Past winners have been:**

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>1979 - Farrell Stearns</b>                 | <b>1987 - Stuart Towns</b>          |
| <b>1980 - Ray McClean</b>                     | <b>1988 - Joyce Blackwelder</b>     |
| <b>1981 - Ken Cole and David Seiler</b>       | <b>1989 - Lou Phipps</b>            |
| <b>1982 - Dennis Stevenson</b>                | <b>1990 - Don McCloskey</b>         |
| <b>1983 - Bill Simmons</b>                    | <b>1991 - Steve and Sandy Crane</b> |
| <b>1984 - Tim Edwards and Mollie Gonzales</b> | <b>1992 - John Tomaio</b>           |
| <b>1985 - Huey Pearson</b>                    | <b>1993 - Rick Sasser</b>           |
| <b>1986 - Clay Sanford</b>                    | <b>1994 - Ann Knight</b>            |

**1995 - Larry Parks**  
**1996 - Carolyn Reeder**  
**1997 - Dan Keely**  
**1998 - Gene Turnipseed**  
**1999 - Mike McCartan**  
**2000 - Tad Dobbs**  
**2001 - Gary Bunde**  
**2002 - Janet Boylan**

**2003 - Bob Kelly**  
**2004 - Ted and Grace Ruckstuhl**  
**2005 - Ray Yarborough**  
**2006 - Susi Lyon**  
**2007 - Barb & Andy Williams**  
**2008 - Pat Judd**  
**2009 - Glenn & Nancy Windham**  
**2010 - Mary Enfinger**