

PRESS STATEMENT 2016



AUGUST 2016

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The ITRA, an association for the advancement of trail running

In July 2013, the International Trailrunning Association (ITRA) was born of its founder members' passion and enthusiasm for trail running.

- On 3 September 2012, more than 150 delegates (race organizers, equipment suppliers, journalists, elite athletes) from 18 countries worldwide met in Courmayeur (Italy) for the first International Trail running conference.
- The conference raised awareness of the diversity of perspectives represented by the participants and of the need to organize trail running as a discipline in its own right whilst giving due consideration to the differences in approach across the continents.
- 50 volunteers (race organizers, athletes, representatives of the national federations, equipment suppliers, journalists, coaches...) drawn from 5 continents and 13 countries, divided into 5 working groups, set to work around a virtual table.
- Bringing together their diverse cultures and viewpoints in support of this fast growing discipline, they joined forces to draft an ethical charter, to propose an international definition of trail running and to put forward the framework for health and anti-doping policies. The way was paved for a structured management of top athletes and the possibility of creating an international ranking system explored.

From their discussions came the foundations for the sport of trail running and, in particular, a basis was formed for an association committed to bringing together all those involved in trail running worldwide, united by shared values and principles.

In less than two years, trail running has made *giant steps forward* with the ITRA!

The ITRA, what is it ?

It is a non-profit making association with an international vocation, created by runners, people involved in trail-running and organizers of big events to supervise and structure the development of trail-running, to establish the base of the international development of a rapidly expanding discipline.

From the practice of a few enthusiasts, we have moved in a few years to a popular sport. Organizers and those who practice the sport are confronted by increasing requirements, in terms of security for example. And the stakes are higher and higher for organizers, athletes, manufacturers and teams.

To regulate this exponential growth the ITRA is a platform for discussion, exchanges, and for working on proposals aimed at national federations and in particular, the international federation the IAAF (International Association of Athletics Federations).

Who is the ITRA ?

The founding members are people who are very involved in trail-running, in particular organizers of big events.

Today, in late August 2016, the ITRA numbers **633** member organisations and **1234** individual members from **103 countries**.

What is the role of the ITRA?

- To develop and promote trail-running.
- To contribute to improving the quality of races and the safety of runners.
- To promote its sporting ethic which is based on strong values: authenticity, humility, fair-play, equity, respect, solidarity.
- To promote preventative actions concerning health, security and anti-doping.

- To contribute to the improvement of an environmentally friendly practice and to promote sustainable development within trail-running.
- To provide a forum for all those wishing to express their views and to be heard at an international level.
- To nurture constructive alliances and to collaborate with the national trail running associations, and the national and international federations.
- To promote the organisation of continental or world championships or trail-running circuits to strengthen the visibility of the discipline and valorise « elite » athletes.

Runner database:

730,000

- **300,000** with at least 2 results posted
- **2500** individual ITRA members

Race database:

13,065 (2193 in 2015, over 923 events)

- **8316** races posted by ITRA-accredited organizations and listed in the calendar (**1651** in 2015)
- **3794** evaluated races (**1314** in 2015)
- **8719** races with results (**1857** in 2015). The ITRA Performance Index for individual runners can be calculated from this data.

Key figures from the ITRA database of races and runners (August 2016)

North and Central America:

- Member organisations: **48** from **5** countries
- Individual members: **440** from **6** countries

Europe:

- Member organisations: **417** from **22** countries
- Individual members: **9011** from **41** countries

Asia:

- Member organisations: **97** from **20** countries
- Individual members: **1017** from **27** countries



South America:

- Member organisations: **46** from **7** countries
- Individual members: **796** from **15** countries

Africa:

- Member organisations: **12** from **5** countries
- Individual members: **36** from **7** countries

Oceania:

- Member organisations: **13** from **2** countries
- Individual members: **106** from **3** countries

Global distribution of ITRA members (August 2016)

The basis of a definition

The ITRA began by elaborating an international definition of trail-running. An indispensable base for discussions with the International Association of Athletics Federations and differentiating trail-running from other related disciplines.

The definition suggested by the ITRA :

Trail-running : a competition on foot open to all comers, in a natural environment (mountains, forests, on plains,...) with the minimum on concrete or bitumen roads (which must not exceed 20% of the total distance); The ground may vary (dirt roads, forest roads, single track trail) and must be well marked (1). Ideally the race is in semi self-sufficiency or total self-sufficiency (2), and it takes place with respect for sporting ethic, loyalty, solidarity and the environment.

Classification of trail races

- Trail: Less than 42km
- Trail Ultra Medium (M): 42 km to 69 km
- Trail Ultra Long (L): 70 km to 99 km
- Trail Ultra XLong (XL): 100 km or further

(1) « Accurately marked": the runners are given sufficient information to complete the course without losing their way. This includes physical course markings (flags, tape, other waymarkers) as well as the permanent signage of a right-of-way, a GPS route, and/or the provision of maps.

(2) « Autonomy and semi-autonomy": the runner should be self-sufficient (clothing, communications, food and drink) between aid stations.

Trail running has been added to the list of disciplines recognised by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) (August 2015, Beijing). For the ITRA, this represents recognition for the work achieved since its inception in 2013.

A basis and common values

ITRA members represent the different elements of trail running community over five continents. Alongside the major changes described, the association aims to share and unite the different cultures, the passions, the different visions of trail running, and the values at the heart of the association.

The ITRA seeks to propagate the values of trail running by means of simple but rigorous rules that act as the natural point of reference for the world of trail running:

- To surpass oneself and explore one's physical and mental abilities while in contact with beautiful and sometimes harsh natural surroundings.
- The pleasure of running, without necessarily focusing on striving for performance, even if this doesn't prevent one from being proud of one's final ranking.
- The sharing of one's passion and emotions with other runners and volunteers.
- To experience the pride of being a « finisher".
- Mutual help and support to finish and share the emotion of crossing the finishing line together after several hours of effort.
- To experience a great moment of conviviality together with all the participants and players involved within an event.
- To experience solidarity...
- To hear the great champions' testimonies of respect for the performances of unknown runners..."

An ethical charter seeks to ensure the continued respect of the founding values of trail running.

NB: The charter defines the principles corresponding to these values to guide the conduct of runners, race organizers, partners, volunteers, and of the residents and local authorities whose lands accommodate trail running events.

ITRA ETHICS CHARTER



AUTHENTICITY

Trail-running creates a confrontation between the participant and the unspoilt natural environment as a source of inspiration, surpassing oneself, but also one of harmony. It promotes human relationships based on simplicity, conviviality, sharing and respect for differences. Values as much importance as those of performance and competition.



SOLIDARITY

In the name of the principle of solidarity, each player in the field of trail-running is asked to prioritize going to the aid of anybody in danger or difficulty wherever they are and in whatever circumstance. In a more global manner, the participants and players in the trail-running field often show solidarity by making a commitment in favor of environmental, social or societal causes or by helping the underprivileged. Trail-running race organizers implement this principle of responsibility by directly supporting charitable actions and sustainable development; numerous participants "run for a cause" to support the projects of their choice.



FAIR PLAY

Fair-play indicates the loyal acceptance of rules, not only to the letter but also in the spirit which presides over their definition. For the runners, to be fair-play means respecting the race regulations, not cheating, not bending the rules, refusing all forms of doping; but also embodying the human values of trail-running throughout all of their races; mutual aid and solidarity with the other runners, respect for all the players present at the races. For organizers, respecting fair-play supposes the implementation of the necessary means to fight against "...cheating, bending the rules, doping, ...physical and verbal violence ...exploitation, unequal opportunities, excessive commercialisation and corruption" (extract from the Council of Europe's Code of Sports Ethics).



EQUITY

Is in the search for a just balance, based on impartiality and equal opportunity from which each runner should benefit. The trail-running races are open to all runners. The regulations are conceived so that they apply equally to all concerned. All athletes are subject to the same conditions and they have the same rights and same duties. The measures taken to welcome the top athletes must on no account hamper the participation of the other runners. It is the responsibility of the organizers to guarantee this principle of equity, to carry out the necessary checks and to offer all the participants the best race conditions possible.



HUMILITY

In practicing trail-running, an activity in open country, humility is a behavior that is adapted as much to the natural environment as to oneself. In natural surroundings, it relies upon taking into consideration the existing natural hazards, whatever the relevance and the quality of the measures taken by the organisation of a race to ensure the safety of its participants. Humility, in the face of nature, supposes the capacity to show caution and can go as far as renouncing the race or the envisaged project. For that which concerns each individual, humility is based on the consciousness and the knowledge of one's limits so as not to question one's physical or mental integrity. As a type of behavior, humility is an inseparable attitude of listening and learning for better understanding of the principles which govern natural environments or the fundamentals of practicing an intensive sport in natural environments.



RESPECT

Respect for others

To respect others, is to understand and accept their differences and it is to act in such a way as to not bother or hamper them. It is equally understanding that the race takes place in surroundings which have their own culture and traditions; it is consequently adopting the necessary "knowledge and understanding" in order to respect the local population, its culture and its customs. Each runner also agrees to respect all people encountered during the course of the trail, who are also benefiting from the open country at the same time (other trail-runners, hikers, etc.). Each runner agrees to know and respect the regulations of the race in which they have chosen to participate.

Respect for oneself

The practice of trail-running can entail risks and the search for performance and/or pleasure on no account justifies the distortion of one's, more or less long term, good health. Each runner will be particularly vigilant so as not to take any doping product and not to resort to the abusive use of self-medication. They must take care not to exceed their limits to the point of affecting their physical or moral integrity.

Respect for the environment

Races take place in fragile natural environments. All players involved with trail-running races, runners, organizers, partners, accompanying persons make a commitment to protect the natural equilibrium. Organizers of trail-running races must do all they can to reduce the negative impact linked to the running of their races. They make a commitment by sharing information and making efforts to educate in order to contribute to the general awareness of the natural environment's fragility. Each organiser will identify the environmental risks engendered by their event and propose concrete actions to reduce the risks to the minimum. They will encourage the use of public transport or car-sharing and limit, as much as they can, the use of other motorized equipment. Each runner makes a commitment to adopt the most relevant behavior to minimize his or her impact on the terrain through which he or she passes. Together, the members of the trail-running community act as ambassadors for the promotion and conservation of natural environments.

Guaranteeing reliable and comparable events and results

Since April 2014, the ITRA has been offering a service for evaluating courses for trail races, with a view to improving the overall standard of events and the reliability of results.

The service can be accessed online from the event organizer's space and uses data that can be measured from the GPS trace of the course submitted by the organizer.

The object of the service is to certify course measurements and to evaluate course characteristics.

Course certification

Contingent upon the quality of the .gpx trace provided, the ITRA can either grant or withhold certification of a course in terms of distance and cumulative (positive and negative) elevation, thereby providing reliable information for both the runners and the organizers.

Course characteristics

Evaluation of the characteristics of a course, in terms of the following criteria, is also based on the GPS trace but with greater flexibility:

- Endurance: level of difficulty, expressed in ITRA points (scale from 1 to 6) (1)
- Mountain: level of difficulty, scored from 1 to 14 (14 denoting a particularly high level of difficulty) (2)
- Finisher: expressed as the minimum ITRA Performance Index necessary for a runner to reach the finishing line.

(1) To calculate the level of difficulty (Endurance) a number of effort points is calculated by summing the distance (km) and the cumulative positive and negative elevation / 100 (meters). Two further criteria are taken into account, for example the distance between aid stations or repetition of a loop (races with multiple laps). For single-lap races, the following scale is applied:

- 1 ITRA point for 25-39 effort points

- 2 ITRA points for 40-64 effort points
- 3 ITRA points for 65-89 effort points
- 4 ITRA points for 90-139 effort points
- 5 ITRA points for 140-189 effort points
- 6 ITRA points for more than 189 effort points.

Multi-stage races are analysed differently, the number of stages and number of effort points for the longest stage being taken into account.

(2) The level of difficulty (Mountain) is based on data relating to altitude (minimum, maximum and mean), to the gradient percent and to the longest uphill.

NB: ITRA points, as well as the level of difficulty (Mountain grading), can be used by any organisation wishing to implement an experience-based selection at registration. By seeking evaluation of a proposed course, an organisation gives all those taking part the opportunity to gain ITRA points or a Mountain grading. Many ultra races (e.g. UTMB®, Lavaredo, UTMF...) use this system to limit the number of entries.

Runner evaluation

The ITRA Performance Index

To simplify the interpretation of runners' results, the ITRA has devised a method for calculating scores, which can take account of the specific characteristics of a trail and thus to measure the level of a performance for any runner on any course.

The ITRA Performance Index is based on the five best results over a period of 36 months.

This allows a runner to identify his level and to measure his performance in relation to his performance in other races. In the same way, new and upcoming runners can be identified and elite runners can be evaluated.

A relative scale has been established and allows runners (male or female) to better identify their relative position according to the following categories: international, national, advanced, intermediate and beginner. The first four categories are each subdivided into three further sub-categories.

The ITRA Performance Index can be calculated for each distance category: S (<42 km), M (42-69 km), L (70-99 km), XL (> 100 km) or general.

Any event organizer can now send race results, free of cost, to their organizer's space. The ITRA will then undertake to calculate the scores of the runners and to post them to the respective runner files.

The ITRA method for calculating scores

The ITRA score calculation is based on:

- *an empirical approach:* each performance is entered into a table where, taking the length of the "smoothed" course (using an empirical formula relating to the distance (km) + the cumulative (positive and negative) elevation/100 (metres)), the runner's time is compared to the theoretical maximum best performance, which is equivalent to a maximum of 1000 points; this graph is determined on the basis of a number of world records for distance of between 10 km and 1000 km; and a subsequent

- *a statistical approach*: in order to take account of the specific characteristics of a trail relating to the course or to the course conditions, a readjustment coefficient is applied to the initial score; this is calculated in such a way that the mean ITRA score of all the runners at the finishing line multiplied by the above coefficient is equal to the mean ITRA score for the runners at the start line.

Spotlight on the runners on our site

The ITRA site has a page dedicated to runners, where it is possible to:

- find and manage files for more than *730,000 runners*,
- consult runner files, using the ITRA Performance Index or recent performances declared on honor,
- consult the files of runners who are participating in the "Quartz" health programme.

Race evaluation

Trail running takes place all over the world and over a wide variety of different terrains. This is one of the basic precepts of trail running. To encourage this diversity of trails, the ITRA provides all event organizers with free access to a calendar of trail races.

- 2015: 924 events comprising 1651 races.
- 2016: to date (August 2016) 1131 events comprising 2287 races.

Runner health and safety are matters of priority for the ITRA

Safety guidelines

Safety remains a priority. It is for this reason that the ITRA offers event organizers a *set of guidelines* drafted by members of the ITRA Safety Committee (including doctors, rescue experts, professional rescue bodies and race organizers).

The guidelines describe a set of measures for accident prevention and for passing information to all those concerned.

In the section relating to rescue, the guidelines give all the necessary means (personnel and equipment) for assisting those in difficulty.

NB: The guidelines are available in Spanish, English and Chinese and can be downloaded from the ITRA website.

An active health policy!

The health policy – which is all the actions which together increase the prevention and protection of health of sportspersons – has, for three years, been one of its priorities. In 2016, the ITRA went even further by becoming a player in the launch of the QUARTZ programme which is funded via donations to Ultra Sports Science (Foundation for Medicine & Science in Ultra-Endurance Sports).

- *A health page available to all runners*

Since 2014, the ITRA has made available, via its web-site, a runner's page developed by Athletes For Transparency (AFT). It is a SHOL (Sport and Health On-Line) platform which allows runners , both elite and amateur, to upload their medical information such as medical certificates, blood group, the person to contact in the case of an emergency or even any Therapeutic Usage Exemptions (TUE). This essential information can be easily exploited by medical teams present at the races so as to make any interventions efficient.

- *Organisations involved with following the health of runners*

Although it has a not insignificant financial charge for organisations, a few, like the TMB® since 2008, the Marathon du Mont-Blanc since 2015, the MaXi-Race on the occasion of the 2015 World Trail-Running Championships and the Trans Peneda Gerês on the occasion of the 2016 World Trail-Running Championships, wanted to get involved in the implementation of following the health of the of the runners through the ITRA health policy.

This innovative action has neither the vocation nor the competence to be a substitute for current regulations regarding the anti-doping fight because it helps sportspersons who are willing to reveal possible anomalies connected to pathologies or the practice of self-medication or non-voluntary drugs which can lead a behavior related to doping.

In the case of an abnormal profile, the runner is interviewed by the organisation's medical team accompanied by experts commissioned by the ITRA.

According to the case, the committee can take the decision to forbid a runner from taking the start of the race. It is an important evolution for organizers in regard to their commitment for the health of runners and ethics of the race.

More information at : http://itra.run/page/261/Politique_sante.html

Launch of a new programme, Quartz

Within the framework of the continuation of the Health Policy, the QUARTZ Programme is specifically aimed at elite athletes. It is a 6 month pilot study, based on athletes volunteering. The runners agree to numerous analyses and to declare their « health » data such as their medical personnel, their location, the issue of any TUEs (Therapeutic Usage Exemptions) or even any medicines used. Within the framework of an initiative of transparency, the runner can make all their « health » data public.

The 3 best in each category (General, S, M, L and XL according to ITRA ranking) were invited to join the programme free of charge. Piloted by the ITRA, the QUARTZ Programme relies on partners, Ultra Sports Science for finance and Athletes For Transparency (AFT) for the implementation. To date, 16 runners have already

joined the programme. The complete list is available on our website: http://itra.run/page/261/Politique_sante.html

«I am very happy about the creation of the QUARTZ Programme and honoured to be part of it. I believe in a clean and transparent sport between the best athletes of the discipline, and for that, I am more than happy to publish my blood test results at any moment. Thanks to QUARTZ, I think that we can develop the values of trail-running and maintain the runners good health, for their own well-being, work and natural performance. I think that the sport needs such a health programme, and in the future, with biological passports, random anti-doping tests, the different policies and sanctions organised regarding the fight against doping, we will be able to ensure that athletes do not use doping products as a byway and that they follow all the rules so as to be on an equal footing ».

Testimony from Sage Canaday (USA) – runner involved in the QUARTZ Programme

- *A new approach to following the health of runners*

Via their ITRA health page the runners regularly receive requests for analyses (blood, urinary or capillary) to be carried out in a laboratory of their choice. In total, there are 66 biological markers which can be identified, giving a very large vision of a runner's state of health with the help of different scientific analysis models.

The Quartz programme complements the current tools concerning the fight against doping, like the doping tests (during or outside of competitions) or the biological passport. These two approaches offer a legal capacity to engender sporting or financial sanctions to athletes and those supervising them.

There is more flexibility (the test can be carried out in the athletes locality), allowing a more global way of studying their health and and detecting any possible abnormalities.

- *The first report after the 2016 World Trail-Running Championships at the end of October*

All participating athletes will be invited to give a report of their experience and to draw their first conclusions about the programme, so as to think about implicating all those involved, like the runners, organizers, sponsors or institutional members.

More information at : <http://itra.run/community>

Creation of Ultra Sports Science (fund of subsidies for the medicine and science of ultra-endurance)

In 2014, ten doctors developed the first international scientific synthesis document listing the specific medical conditions relating to ultra-endurance and open country running races. From this analysis was born the idea of focussing on symptomatic or pathognomonic illnesses in ultra-endurance.

Ultra Sports Science, created on March 5th 2016, accompanies all parties involved with ultra-endurance – sports persons, organisers, researchers, federations, trainers, public authorities - in the improvement and preservation of good health and the well-being of the athletes through the grouping of, and the search for finance for, research projects. The results of these projects are accessible to everybody.

Ultra Sports Science has a unique position at the crossroads of research, sport and health matters.

Numerous studies already carried out are available at: <http://ultrasportsscience.org/publications-scientifiques/?lang=en>

- *The ITRA, first institutional funding partner*

To better structure the whole health policy connected with ultra-endurance sports and to ensure total independence between the donors, research projects and other activities, the ITRA actively supports the creation of the Ultra Sports Science fund and is equally the first institutional partner through the QUARTZ Programme.

- *Ultra Sports Sciences : A fund of donations which allows for the funding of the first studies*

- Support for the Quartz Programme
- Study on fatigue in a difficult environment
- Studies on cramps via a new approach looking at introducing cramp in a laboratory.
- And also others

- *3rd international conference of medicine and science in ultra-endurance sports*

Dr Marty Hoffman started, in 2014, an annual conference within the framework of the Western State Endurance Run. The 3rd, under the aegis Ultra Sports Science will take place this year in Chamonix August 21st - 23rd within the framework of the UTMB®.

The aim is to facilitate the meeting between experts specializing in ultra-endurance, to diffuse the recent results of research projects and to broadcast them to all players involved with ultra-endurance.

More information at :

<http://ultrasportsscience.org/>

<http://www.ultrasportsscience-congress2016.com/en/programme/preliminary/>

International recognition for trail running

Since the First Trail-Running Conference held in Courmayeur in September 2012, the ITRA has maintained a good relationship with the IAU, International Association of Ultra-runners, which manages and develops races of ultra distance, which is the distance over a marathon, under the patronage of the IAAF, International Association of Athletics Federations.

The ITRA was therefore able to heighten the federal authorities' awareness to the very fast development of the sport world-wide. This led to discussions with the IAAF which decided, at the end of 2103, to create a *Trail-Running Working Group* whose objective was to study the question of integration of trail-running in to the list of recognized disciplines.

This definition, which established clear distinctions against other disciplines, such as cross-country or races in the mountains has convinced the IAAF that it was possible to include trail-running in its statutes. The integration will be made official at the next IAAF Conference in Pekin in August 2015.

Recognition by the IAAF was made official at the IAAF Beijing conference in August 2015 (see Article 252, relating to the IAAF Competition Rules).

Collaboration with the IAAF

The ITRA "definition of 'trail running'" committee is currently continuing discussions. Elite runners, such as François D'Haene, Thomas Lorblanchet, Sébastien Chaigneau, have been invited to take part.

Collaboration with the IAU for the organisation of the World Championships

The ITRA has also brought the attention of the IAU to the importance of improving the organisation of the world trail championships and according them the full required legitimacy. The ITRA supported the IAU's choice of the Tecnica-MaXi-Race Annecy for the IAU World Trail Running Championships 2015.

Support and expertise provided for organising the 2015 championships, including implementation of the health policy.

The next world trail championships (Trail World Championships (TWC)) will take place at Gerês (Portugal) on 29 October 2016 and will be organized under the auspices of both the International Association of Ultrarunners (IAU) and the International Trail Running Association (ITRA).

The ITRA supports the IAU in the organisation of the Trail World Championships 2016 at Gerês whilst also initiating an international dialogue with the relevant parties to find the preferred modalities for organizing future world trail championships (2019 or 2020) and seeking the opinions of the various parties on a number of points, namely the number of distances, the frequency of the event, its format (a single event comprising several races), the nature of the course and the registration mechanisms (selection by the federations, wild card, open race...).

An international committee of athletes has been set up to this end.

Decisions reached in conjunction with the IAU:

- A clear and transparent process has been defined for implementation in the candidature phase. The aim is to allow at least two years between the announcement of a new edition of the TWC and the agreed date. The 2019 edition (if it takes place) will be made official two years in advance, i.e. in the autumn of 2017, and the call for candidates will start in the autumn of 2016.
- A joint committee of four members, two from the IAU and two from the ITRA, will be set up to oversee the implementation of the above process and to propose a selection for each edition of the TWC. From now on, these decisions will be endorsed by the respective executive committees of the IAU and the ITRA.
- Discussions will continue with the federations, event organizers, the elite athletes and the marques in order to seek the best possible solutions for a more open race format and to study the potential for increasing the media impact as well as having the interests of the athletes if the TWC were to be held biennially in different continents, over two distances.
- In 2017, a new distance of circa 50 km is to be introduced in Italy and two separate world championship titles (50 km and 80 km) will be awarded alternately every two years until the discussions reach a conclusion.

- The respective roles of the IAU and the ITRA have been defined, with effect as of the upcoming world championships 2016 in Portugal. The IAU will be responsible for all administrative and financial aspects and for accommodation and transport. The ITRA will be in charge of the technical organisation and communications.

Collaboration with the Ultra Trail World Tour

The UTWT will use the ITRA Performance Index to select the elite runners and to determine the competition level of the races, these being criteria used in drawing up the annual UTWT rankings.

Promoting exchange

As there are several thousand trail races in France (3000 a year), the ITRA seeks to promote the organisation of trail running at a national level in collaboration with national athletics federations (e.g. in France FFA or in Sweden SFIF) or with national associations, where these are the responsible bodies (e.g. in Portugal or USA), or by aiding the development of a national trail association in each of those countries where the athletics federation does not wish to be involved.

Similarly, with a view to promoting exchange, the development of working groups - in particular involving a wide range of interested parties - at the national level is also a priority. In France, a number of ITRA-initiated meetings between members of the FFA, runners, race organizers and journalists have already taken place.

ITRA Organisation chart

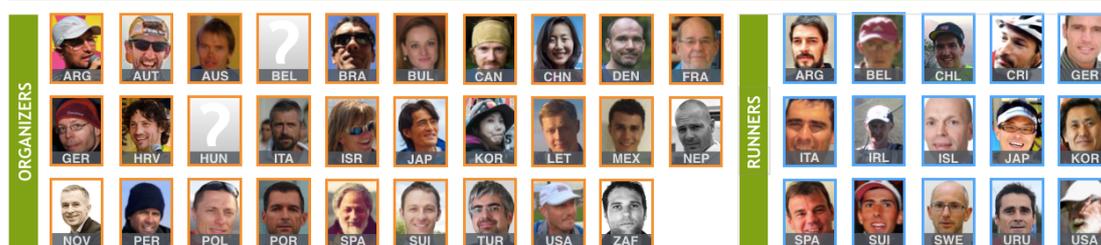
STEERING COMMITTEE



Executive Board from left to right : Michel Poletti (FRA) - President, José Carlos Santos (POR) - Vice-President, Nic Bornman (RSA) - Vice-President, Enrico Pollini (ITA) - Vice-President, Pierre Sallet (FRA) - Vice-President, Paco Rico (ESP) - Secretary, Janet NG (CHN) - Treasurer

Below from left to right and top to bottom : Patrick Basset (FRA), Thomas Bosnjak (AUT), Tico Cervera (ESP), Robert Chicaud (FRA), Sébastien Côté (CAN), Fernando Gonzalez Diaz (ESP), Jey Jang (KOR), Tsuyoshi Kaburaki (JAP), Nathalie Maclair (FRA), Alen Paliska (HRV), Thomas Pinas (NOR), Maurizio Scilla (ITA), Craig Thornley (USA)

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES



NR of organizers from left to right and top to bottom : Federico Lausi (ARG), Thomas Bosnjak (AUT), Tom Landon-Smith (AUS), Wim De Doncker (BEL), Sergio De Sa (BRA), Miléna Alen (BUL), Sébastien Côté (CAN), Janet Ng (CHN), Jakob Vestergaard (DEN), Bernard Landrein (FRA), Michael Frenz (GER), Alen Paliska (HRV), Attila Joo (HUN), Enrico Pollini (ITA), Carin Goldbalt (ISR), Tsuyoshi Kaburaki (JAP), Jey Jang (KOR), Arnis Dzalbs (LAT), Fidel A. Martinez (MEX), Richard Bull (NEP), Tomas Pinas (NOR), Ernesto Malaga (PER), Piotr Hercog (POL), Nuno Gonçalves (POR), Eduar Jornet (ESP), Ralph Näf (SUI), Caner Odabasoglu (TUR), Craig Thornily (USA), Nic Bornman (RSA)

NR of runners from left to right and top to bottom : Leonardo Isola (ARG), Fabrice Etienne (BEL), Mauricio Sepulveda (CHL), Gerhard Linner (CRI), Eric Geidel (GER), Leonardo Sabaini (ITA), Adrian tucker (IRL), Fridleifur Fridleifsson (ISL), Koichi Iwasa (JAP), Gillsoo Park (KOR), Sergio Garasa Mayayo (ESP), Jules-Henri Gabioud (SUI), Rafael Krawiec (SWE), Daniel Perez (URU), Ian Maddison (USA)

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