

AAA ROAD RACE ADVISORY COMMITTEEREPORT OF THE COURSE MEASUREMENT WORKING PARTY

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The Working Party were asked to consider three aspects of Course Measurement:-

- a) Draw up standards and rules for Course Measurement
- b) Draw up a scheme for the accreditation of Measurers, including recommendations for testing and grading.
- c) Draw up proposals for the administration of a) and b) above.

A. Standards and Rules for Course Measurement

The working party has prepared a document that is based on currently accepted "good practice" in the art of road course measurement. It has borrowed text from RRC papers, AIMS recommendations, and from the newly printed TAC of America's booklet on Course Measurement.

The attached document contains proposed "official standard forms" which the Working Party wants to see accepted as the basis of a national documentation system.

The document is in three parts:-

- i) Equipment required to measure competently.
- ii) Operating procedure -
 - setting-up the Calibration Course
 - bicycle calibration
 - riding the course techniques
 - course measurement
 - course maps
- iii) Standard Forms for Course Certification
 - calibration course data-sheet
 - bicycle calibration data-sheet
 - calibration course certification sheet
 - course measurement data-sheet
 - course certification sheet

Recommendation

That a booklet be prepared containing the approved text based on the attached draft document.

NOTE: Initially the booklet can be a photostat version which can be distributed to all the known road-course

measurers in the U.K., ie those measurers on the lists of the Road Runners Club and the AIMS UK list.

This version can then be used at the area courses on measuring to be held in 1985 (see below). As a result of ideas and information obtained at these courses a final text can be prepared which can be printed and sold by the AAA.

The Working Party recommends that this work is completed by early 1986 at the latest.

B. The Accreditation Scheme for Measurers

The Working Party proposed that AAA Area's organise week-end seminars/courses for all the known road-course measurers in their respective areas.

These courses should take place in the late summer and autumn of 1985.

These courses will be officiated by a small group of 'senior' measurers that are nominated by the RRC (say 6) and from the five UK measurers that are now on the AIMS approved list.

The courses will be designed to provide a practical examination for the students and the organising officials will at the end of the week-end course recommend to the appropriate AAA Committee measurers for inclusion in the approved lists.

The Working Party believes that some 30 to 40 measurers can be approved and graded in 1985 through a series of these week-ends.

Recommendation

That the Area Associations be asked to organise and fund such assessment courses.

GRADING

The Working Party suggests that two grades of Course Measurer are necessary to ensure that road courses are properly measured and certificated.

The two tier system will match the structure of the AAA and the Area Associations. Grade ONE Measurers will be examined and listed by the AAA. Grade TWO Measurers will be examined and listed by the Area Associations.

Grade One

This grade of measurer will be certified to check and certificate courses for events where national or international records are expected, e.g. major marathons, Grand Prix 10 miles or kilometres, AAA Championship events, etc..

They will check the work of the local measurer. This must

be done even if the original measurements were done by a Grade One measurer.

Grade Two

This grade will be entirely competent to measure all area event courses and national events. However, records will not be recognised unless the course length is checked and approved by a National Grade One Measurer.

The Working Party believes strongly that the issue of a road event permit must be linked with a prior course measurement certificate. No "accreditation" no permit.

Two forms of authorization are needed, the first to convey that the course has been checked by a Grade One Measurer and is approved for records. The second lower category is needed to ensure runners, etc., that the course has been properly measured by an approved measurer.

Suggest:- "NATIONALLY CERTIFICATED" and "AREA APPROVED"

An interim period for a few months after the scheme is implemented where permits are still granted to events, but only those who have been measured by an approved measurer can make that claim in their advertisements.

The Working Party suggest that a two special LOGOS are prepared that can be issued appropriately with the permit, these can then be added to the event adverts and entry forms.

The "ring of confidence"!

Recommendation

That a Two-Tier Grade is Implemented and that Course Certification and Approval be positively linked with the issue of road-race event permits.

NOTE: There are, of course, some traditional road events which do not admit to an exact distance - point to point races, and these would not need a course measurement endorsement.

C. Administration of Measurers and Courses

Areas should maintain a register of Grade Two Measurers resident and practicing in their area.

Areas should also arrange and fund regular training and assessment courses to up-date existing Grade Two Measurers and recruit new Grade Two measurers. These Courses should be lead by Grade One Measurers.

~~Registered~~
The AAA should maintain a Register of Grade One Measurers, ~~practicing in the UK~~. The AAA should also organise appropriate National Courses for Course Measurers to up-date the knowledge of existing Grade One officials and accredit new Grade One Measures.

Register of Courses

The Working Party suggests that details of Courses submitted for the grant of permits should be kept by each Area Association. [SEE NOTE]

The "keeper of the Archives" must be competent to accept an application for approval of measurement (needs to be a Grade One Measurer in his own right) and to be easily available for consultation with the Area Official that deals with the issue of permits.

One system could be that the course measurement official issues an approval/endorsement code number that could be quoted by the event organiser when he applies for a permit.

The Working Party has not had the time to look at this question in detail.

Recommendation

That the Area Associations keep a Register of Grade Two Measurers. And that they also keep a Register of Approved Courses in their area.

That the AAA keep a Register of Grade One Measurers.

That both the Areas and the AAA organise and fund appropriate courses for measuring.

NOTE: The RRC members of the Working Party would like to suggest that it would be helpful to the RRC Standard Scheme Awards if a duplicate copy of the course measurement details be sent direct to the RRC so that the details can be added to the RRC list of approved courses.

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