

GULF WINDS TRACK CLUB AWARDS/GRAND PRIX POLICY STATEMENT 2025-01

Grand Prix Guidelines

I. Scoring/Eligibility

Only GWTC members who have paid their membership dues on or before the date of the race are eligible to be scored for the Kids Grand Prix, Youth Grand Prix, and the Grand Prix competitions.

The finish place of non-GWTC runners is not counted, but nonmembers may join the club on the day of a race and be eligible for points for that race forward.

Runners aged 14 and under on January 1 of the Grand Prix year may earn points only in Youth Grand Prix events of 5K or less. If both a 5K and a 1-mile race are offered at a particular event, the child may choose to compete in either or both races, unless the schedule specifies a distance. However, if the child chooses to compete in both, then he/she will receive Grand Prix points for the 1-mile race only.

Children aged 9 and under as of January 1 of the Grand Prix year will be scored in the Kids Grand Prix.

Youth aged 10 - 14 as of January 1 of the Grand Prix year will be scored in the Youth Grand Prix.

Participants aged 15 and older as of January 1 of the Grand Prix year will be scored in the Grand Prix.

The Annual Awards committee will work with Race Directors to resolve irregularities on a case-by-case basis where participants cannot verify the completion of a race, such as unofficial early starters, assisted finishers and participants who run an erroneous course.

Open points – Awarded only to Overall (non-Youth) finishers. Points are awarded to GWTC members in order of finish (gun/official time). The first 10 male and first 10 female finishers in open competition who are at least 15 years of age at designated Grand Prix races will receive points as follows: 11, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

Age group points – Awarded to first 9 (non-Youth) finishers. The first nine male and first nine female finishers in age divisions 15 and up at designated Grand Prix races will receive points as follows: 11, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2; 10th place and beyond: 1 point.

The first nine Youth male and first nine Youth female finishers in age division 10-14 at designated Youth Grand Prix races will receive points as follows: 11, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2; 10th place and beyond, 1 point.

II. Age Divisions

A competitor's age division is determined according to their age on January 1 of the Grand Prix year. For example, if a runner is 24 on January 1, their GWTC Grand Prix age division for that entire year will be 20-24 even if they turn 25 on January 2. Male and female age divisions are:

Kids Grand Prix: 1 - 9

Youth Grand Prix: 10 - 14

Grand Prix 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85 and up.

III. Awards Eligibility

To be eligible for Kids Grand Prix, Youth Grand Prix, or Grand Prix awards, GWTC members must compete in and complete at least three (3) Grand Prix races, except for GWTC members aged 80 or over who must compete in and complete at least two (2) Grand Prix races.

To be eligible for Kids Grand Prix, Youth Grand Prix, or Grand Prix awards, GWTC membership must be in good standing when the Grand Prix Committee tallies the final points to establish overall champions, age group, and youth winners after the final Grand Prix race of the year.

To be eligible for Grand Prix awards, GWTC members who are at least 15 years of age must perform volunteer service at a GWTC event and submit evidence of the service by completing the form posted on the GWTC website. There is no volunteer service obligation for participants 14 and under.

IV. Grand Prix Awards

The five runners who are at least 15 years of age with the highest point totals in open competition will receive awards in this category and will not be eligible for age group awards.

The top 3 to 5 finishers who are at least 15 years of age with the highest point totals for each age group will receive awards, excluding the top 5 open competitors. The number of finishers in each age group to receive awards shall be determined by the Annual Awards committee based on participation in the age group.

V. Kids and Youth Awards

All children aged 9 and under who complete at least 3 Youth Grand Prix races will receive a Kids Grand Prix award.

The top 3 to 5 finishers who are 10 - 14 years of age with the highest point totals will receive Youth Grand Prix awards. Youth aged 10 – 14 who complete at least 3 Youth Grand Prix races but are not the top 3 – 5 finishers will receive a Youth Grand Prix recognition award.

VI. Eligible races

The Awards Committee shall develop a schedule of races to be designated Grand Prix races and Youth Grand Prix races by October 1 each year. There should be 10 to 14 Grand Prix and 5 to 7 Youth Grand Prix races on the circuit each year. The Committee shall present the schedule to the Board at the October meeting for the Board's final approval. Grand Prix races shall meet the Grand Prix Race Qualification Standards stated below.

VII. Grand Prix Race Qualification Standards

Whereas the undersigned has applied to have the _____ race considered as a GWTC Grand Prix Race for 202X, on behalf of the race organizers, sponsors, and directors, it is agreed that to be selected, the race directors and/or race organizers will:

1. Provide proof (race results) that the event has successfully been in existence for the past two years (submit links to online results or attachments of race results with application).
2. Maintain appropriate liability insurance for the race. Such insurance shall provide coverage in an amount of at least \$1,000,000. Provide written documentation to the Grand Prix Committee verifying the liability insurance at least 60 days prior to the date of the race.
3. Ensure runner safety with adequate race course supervision, volunteers, emergency management services, and traffic control. Review the standards, rules, and procedures outlined in the Road Runners Club of America's (RRCA) Guidelines for Safe Events publication and webpage. It is the Race Director's responsibility to ensure a safe event.¹
4. Provide evidence that the course will be accurately measured and certified in accordance with USATF guidelines, unless the course is an off-road course or there are special circumstances that warrant a waiver of this requirement by GWTC. The Grand Prix Committee may accept an application if the certification is pending and the committee has reason to believe the course was properly measured.²

¹ <http://www.rrca.org/resources/event-directors/guidelines-for-safe-events>

² <http://www.usatf.org/events/courses/certification/>

5. Provide a link to the race website and online registration to GWTC at least 60 days before the race date. Send the information to: peggriff91@gmail.com. The link must include the date, time, location of the race, entry fees, waiver, and contact person. A course map and course certification number should also be available upon request and available online for participants to review.
6. Obtain the official signed waiver provided by GWTC (no variance) from each race participant.
7. Ensure a method for accurately identifying runners through the required use of race bib numbers for every participant and the use of a system for accurately recording the time, age/sex and order of finish for all race participants.
8. Provide at least one staffed water station for each 5K of distance.
9. Clearly and thoroughly identify mile or kilometer marks, any turns, turnaround points, race splits, or other potentially confusing areas on the race course, and provide a course map with this application.
10. Compile race results (preferably in Excel) no later than 24 hours after the race start, and submit them to the pre-designated GWTC official.
11. Any substantial changes to the race (date, course location, etc.) should be communicated to the Grand Prix committee in a timely manner.

Event Information: Date of Event: _____
 Event Name: _____
 Location: _____
 Charity Event Benefits: _____

Adult Grand Prix _____ Youth Grand Prix _____
 Both Adult & Youth Grand Prix _____ Includes 1 Mile Race for Youth Grand Prix _____

Race Director Information:
 Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 E-mail: _____

If the race I am directing is selected for the GWTC Grand Prix schedule, I agree to comply with all the specifications listed above.

Authorized Signature: _____