

RACE DIRECTORS' RESPONSE TO:

- 1. What went well?**
- 2. What would you like to improve?**
- 3. What changes do you plan to make for 2026?**
- 4. How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?**

Race – Winter Carnival Mile – Josh Welter

- 1. What went well?** IRA support was fantastic.
- 2. What would you like to improve?** More racers.
- 3. What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** More people helping with the organizing of the race.
- 4. How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** I really do believe IRA does a wonderful job of supporting us.

Race Director/Club - Mel Spooner EHF coaching

- 1. What went well?** It happened - which at first with the change of the school and such I was not sure - so I was a very happy girl:)
- 2. What would you like to improve?** More people but I do believe this is a direct result of it being a winter run and day of weather will always be a big factor - last year it was -16 so well a bit cold and we had a large no show
- 3. What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** Not too many - there were lots last year so nice to keep it simple for this year and build on it. Just a few set up things to keep it more compact - no need to be outside the tennis courts
- 4. How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** Continue doing what you do, promoting the events and the series -

Race – Bob Trudeau Memorial 10K – Grace Hiom – Kamloops Ridge Runners (no report)

Race – Oliver 10K Race Director/Club – Oliver & District Recreation – Caitlyn Bennett

1. **What went well?** - Volunteers did a great job, Race roster registration ran smooth very few inquiries about this this year.
2. **What would you like to improve?** – Move the locations of First Aid Support to the turnaround, the finish line, AND the drop structure
3. **What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** – Our long-term first aid support is no longer doing first aid support for events; we will need to find new first aiders for the event moving forward. I will send the Race route to the ambulance station in advance unfortunately new paramedics from out of town did not know where to access the park from and this delayed the medical response.
4. **How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** – If anyone has added photo releases to their waiver or if the IRA is adding photo release language, I would love to update the waiver in raceroster with that language.

Race – Peachland 5K – Jamie Park (no report)

Race – Blossom - Race Director/Club - _Catherine Lywak/Penticton Pounders

1. **What went well?** Cooler weather, setup was quick.
2. **What would you like to improve?** Get more runners out.
3. **What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** None.
4. **How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** Keep spreading the word through social media, signboard and website.

Race – Blackwell Dairy 15K – Francois Raath – Kamloops Ridge Runners

1. **What went well?** The change in the cross over point on Barnhartvale road led to much better line of sight for runners and for traffic control volunteers.
 2. **What would you like to improve?** Am looking at options for slightly altering the out-and-back portion of the course to have an option that better accommodates our runners from blind traffic.
 3. **What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** Possible course change for 2026
 4. **How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** I am okay with the level of support we are currently getting from the IRA.
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Race – Conquer the Lake Half Marathon – Jen Andrews

- 1. What went well?** everyone enjoyed it, volunteers positive and helpful
- 2. What would you like to improve?** First Aid tent, better organization at the start so people know where the half marathon start is.
- 3. What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** first aid tent/clear med coverage
- 4. How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** volunteers

Race - Midsummer 8K

Race Director/Club – Janice Bradshaw/Josh Wyatt- Kelowna Running Club

1. What went well?

- Record attendance- 352 Runners from Elite to first time Runners.
- The Midsummer 8K was the BC Championship Road Race for the second year in a row and had the support of BC Athletics representatives at the race.
- We had a prerace package pick up on Saturday, day before the event, at Play Kelowna that was well attended.
- There were 2 stations on the course that Runners passed by twice, 1 station for electrolytes that MEC Kelowna supported and 1 station for water supported by KRC Volunteers.
- Had a First Aid tent and volunteers that excelled at keeping the runners safe at the finish line with the heat.
- We had the support from the KRC and community for over 50 volunteers that excelled in their positions.
- Had Startline timing for chip timing and all went well including accurate and timely post-race results.
- We had a kids race with over 50 participants.
- Finishers medals to all runners at the Finish Line.
- Cash prizes to the top 3 Male and Female Runners.
- We did multiple Social Media Posts and drafted a press release for Castanet to help with marketing for the race.
- Had the support of multiple community businesses for many draw prizes.
- Food was well distributed this year and the team took on board a lot of the comments from last year to have easy to grab, quick things to prevent long lineups.

2. What would you like to improve?

- Plan to continue to market and promote the Midsummer 8K to attract runners of all levels and increase our numbers on race day.
- Numbers are reaching a level where the public restrooms are not enough. We had multiple complaints that specifically the women were having to queue for a long time and that many people missed the start.

- Start line is tight and busy with that many runners on the narrow path. Seeding/ corrals may be needed to mitigate this.
- Course issues continue to plague us and late approval from the City made for a stressful buildup to race day.
- Course marshalling and marking could still be better than it is.
- Post race photos were delayed by 1 week due to the photographers own computer problems. Hoping this is a 1-time issue.

3. What changes do you plan to make for 2026?

- Look into adding porta-johns at the race start. The current facilities are overloaded if we reach the same or greater numbers than this year.
- Confirm the course earlier in the process. This will take regular communication with the City Events team to flag any potential construction obstruction earlier.
- More marketing throughout the city. Posters to be put up in more places, digital platforms to be utilized.
- Bagels left over, consider other options for post-race foods.

4. How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?

- Social Media Post and Sponsored Ads for the Midsummer race.
- Volunteers for Race Day and prerace package pickup if needed.
- The use of the IRA tent and podium for race day.
- Certification of our 8K racecourse if required.

Race – Fast Days of Summer – Dustin Quigley

RACE – Summerland Sweets – Deb Dunham, Penticton Pounders

1. **What went well?** Setup went quickly, results had no issues.
2. **What would you like to improve?** Better communication with the athletes about receiving their prizes. (through the website and orally just before the awards)
3. **What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** None.
4. **How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** Keep spreading the word through social media, website and signboard.

RACE – Penticton Trail – Cathy Lywak, Penticton Pounders

1. **What went well?** Improved course marking, timing went well.

2. **What would you like to improve?** Portapotty truck broke down, might look for a different supplier for 2026.
3. **What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** None.
4. **How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** Keep spreading the word through Social media/webpage and signboard.

RACE – Reino Run - Race Director/Club - Glenn Bond Larch Hills Nordic club

1. **What went well?** Online registration, people love the trail, timing was live and available to see inside the lodge, lots of prizes, all went well.
2. **What would you like to improve?** I am not sure.
3. **What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** Plan the same - great event
4. **How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** Love getting the bibs and pins from the IRA that was smooth and worked well.

Race - Kal Park – Penny Trudel

1. **What went well?**
I was happy with the outcome of the race, and I could not have done it without the help of Danny Kermode, Mel Spooner and a few others who stepped up as this was my first year as a race director. We had a great team of volunteers who of course made it easier as well.
2. **What would you like to improve?**
I would like to figure out how to get people to sign up sooner, this seems to be the way for these events as people leave it till last minute due to weather etc. I will also have more people in the refreshment area. In addition I hope to have the race live sooner.
3. **What changes do you plan to make for 2026?**
Overall, no changes that I can think of. I will have more volunteers scheduled for the refreshment area, as well I believe a bit more communication with volunteers on expectations of the day of the race. Although, once again it is hard as most people sign up last minute
4. **How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?**
I was so very grateful for all the assistance I got for this race, I currently don't have any suggestions at this point in time.

Race – Larry Nicholas – Cindy Rhodes – Kelowna Running Club

- 1. What went well?** Weather, record number, private insurance vs BC Athletics, soup was a big hit
- 2. What would you like to improve?** Need a better system at the finish line for that number of finishers. We had a new timer and I should have clarified that age group results were for age as of December 31.
- 3. What changes do you plan to make for 2026?** Improve finish line/timing system.
- 4. How can the IRA, or others, assist/support you?** Timing/finish line recommendations.