

To the National Federations of Europe.

I have served the IAU as your European Representative for the last 4 years with energy, passion and honour.

During those 4 years we have witnessed IAU World and European Championships in Europe in Croatia, France ,Italy, Northern Ireland, Spain and Romania.

Europe has many IAU members, some are small countries some are large, but all are as important as one another to the future of ultra running across Europe.

Inclusivity is the very reason why I have driven the initiative of 6hr IAU Regional Challenges. The first seeds were sown in Scandinavia with the 6hr Nordic Challenge, then the Balkan 6hr Challenge was confirmed but we were defeated by a global pandemic.

If I am elected as the IAU European representative, I am determined to continue to drive, promote and witness IAU Challenges in Scandinavia, the Balkans and the Baltic countries as soon as possible.

These Challenges have so much to offer for aspiring ultra runners to taste international competition and reach out to the podium.

When I evaluate what I have achieved for Europe in the last 4 years, I must focus on one important e-mail to Diana Amza from Romania, in which I asked her if she was in a position to promote an IAU Championship.

I am constantly reaching out to European LOC's and Federations asking them to bid to promote IAU Championships.

That one e-mail to Diana led to Romania becoming a power house of ultra running across the globe.

My hopes and aspirations as your future elected IAU Representative for Europe are all realistic and attainable:-

- To develop on our Presidents initiative of regular virtual meetings within regions of Europe.
- To have a separate tab on the IAU website to promote ultra events and celebrate the achievements of Europe.
- To strengthen and promote 6hr IAU Regional Challenges across Europe.
- To continue to reach out to all European Countries to embrace the possibility of bidding for an IAU Championship.
- To liaise with European Masters Athletics to raise the profile of ultra running across Europe.
- To be an advocate for Europe on the IAU Council where my voice will be heard.

My past history declares diversity and inclusivity.

As an athlete who was still representing Great Britain at the age of 50 years at IAU World Championships and then to become a Team Manger for Great Britain I have never lost touch with the needs of an ultra runner.

Europe please don't waste you vote ,I thought about standing for a post as an IAU Director, but heart lies with Europe and I want to serve Europe to the very best of my ability for another 4 years.

Walter Hill.