



5th IAU Trail World Championships

30th May 2015

Annecy, France

The International Association of Ultrarunners (IAU) is pleased to bring the IAU Trail World Championships to Annecy, France.

France has hosted world championships several times and it is our pleasure to go back there for one of our major events.

History of the IAU

The International Association of Ultrarunners came into existence in 1984. Today there are more than a thousand ultra races around the world with more than a hundred thousand ultra runners. It is no more an unrealistic event.

The IAAF granted its patronage to the IAU in 1988 and the 100km race became a standard distance recognized by the Federation. Today IAU organizes 4 major events: 100 km World Championship, 24 Hour World Championship, The Trail World Championship and the 50 km World Championships. IAU is also a strong supporter of the Commonwealth Championships. This is in addition to the IAU labels that are attached to several races around the world.

With 80 federations in its current membership and thousand of elite athletes having participated in its events over the years, IAU has respectfully upheld its mandate of developing the sport of ultrarunning.

While it continues to serve the ultrarunning community, the IAU is looking forward to the next 23 years as it envisions reaching its 50th Anniversary.

5th IAU Trail World Championships (Annecy, France)

The 5th IAU Trail World Championships are taking place in France. The event will take place in Annecy, France on 30th May 2015.

The 5th IAU Trail World Championships will take place on 30th May 2015 in Annecy France. The 85km run will be hosted at the same site as the Maxi race and will take runners over a 5200m of vertical gain.

The race has attracted a record number of participants in the IAU Trail World Championships. There will be 178 men and 109 women representing 39 countries. The 287 participants mark a new record for competitors in the trail world championships.

Sebastien Spehler (FRA) leads the men's field having won last year's Maxi race. He has already won the Trail du Wurzel and Trail du Petit Ballon. Luis Alberto Hernando (ESP) and Alex Varner (USA) have had a good season and are amongst the leaders lining up at the world champs. Hernando won the Transvulcania earlier in the month and Varner won Lake Sonoma 50 Mile last month.

In the Women's field, Nathalie Mauclair (FRA) defending world champion is at the starting field. She won her last race Grand Raid Reunion in October 2014. Caroline Chaverot (FRA) is the defending Maxi race champion and will once again start this year to claim victory. Krissy Moehl (USA) a regular top performer in the United States has had a great start to the season having finished 2nd at the Gorge Waterfalls will be at the start line as well.

In addition to individual titles on the line there are team competitions as well. The team atmosphere does elevate the excitement of the championships as team points translate to interesting team dynamics.

Race start time is 3:30am.

Future of the Championship

Trail World Championships are on an upward swing with numbers and participation levels. They are an exciting race to watch with competitive races and scenic views.

IAU has designated Trail worlds to be held annually and we are looking at bids for next year (2016). This year's championships have set record numbers in athletes and federations making it to the start line.

These championships will continue to grow in the future and we are looking forward to witness the future of the trail world championships.

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