



**Association of Canadian Ultramarathoners**  
**Association canadienne des ultra-marathoniens**

## **ACU NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS APPLICATION 2026**

Event organisers are invited to apply to host an ACU National Championships event in 2026. Events for 2026 include 50km road, 100km road, 24 Hour, 48 Hour, Short Trail (approx. 45-50km), Long Trail (approx. 80km-90km), and XL Trail (approx. 120-170km).

Note: The 2026 Short Trail and Long Trail were awarded to Quebec Mega Trail in 2024, so no applications for those two events are being taken for 2026. The Bid Handbook for 2027 and 2028 Short and Long Trail Championships will be released in conjunction with Athletics Canada.

**Important:** Since 2024, only current ACU members will be eligible to compete in the National Championships event. Podium placings, awards, and rankings for the National Championships should be separate from any concurrent 'open' race you will hold.

There is no fee payable to ACU for hosting a Championships event in 2026.

ACU will provide specific national championship medals/trophies for 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each event. The championship event will be noted as such on ACU's Events Listing webpage.

Applications open 24 October 2025 and close 12 November 2025. Successful applicants will be announced by 15 November 2025. Should there be no successful application for one or more of the championships at 12 November, ACU will consider applications for vacant championships from event organisers throughout the remainder of the calendar year 2025 and into early 2026.

Factors influencing the awarding of the Championships include:

- Quality of the course (e.g., terrain, surface, topography, scenery).
- Course certification (measurement by A, B or C grade measurer) for road/track events (gpx only is appropriate for trail events).
- Plan to separate the National Championships event from any concurrent 'open' race, so that ACU members alone compete for National Championships titles/rankings. In addition to separate results lists, this could include starting the NC event 15 minutes before the 'open' event and having the NC entrants' bibs emblazoned with the ACU "NC2026" logo.
- Location\* (e.g., ease of access for ACU members to reach the event, ability to showcase a region of Canada).

- Time of year (weather for running; whether the event conflicts with known IAU World Championships or Continental Championship events\*\*).
- Provision of a suitable timing system for the type and size of event.
- Size of venue (ability to host adequate number of participants and without congestion on the course).
- Events with promotional capacity (e.g., internet presence such as website, social media sites, live race updates on event day).
- Benefits to ACU members (e.g., expo, discounted entry).
- Events/race directors with a known history.

\*Regional events are encouraged to apply. Being located near a major centre is not a requirement. All factors are taken into consideration in choosing a Championships venue.

\*\*IAU World and Continental Championships dates and locations change from year to year and are listed on the IAU calendar. Efforts will be made to list those applicable to Canadians on ACU's Events Listing webpage. ACU appreciates that it might be difficult to plan around these international events; this is only one of the factors contributing to an application.

## ACU NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS APPLICATION 2026

Event Name				
Event Website				
Is the Event Listed* with ACU for 2026?				
*Event Listing is mandatory for hosting National Championships. See separate application.				
Race Director's (RD) Name				
RD's ACU Member Number (membership with ACU is mandatory for the RD)				
Email Address				
Phone number				
Which Championships are you applying to host for 2026? (circle one or more below). (Road championships can be held on a track.)				
50km road	100km road	24 Hour	48 Hour	XL Trail
Event date(s)				
Location of Event (town/park, province)				
Please list the number of participants in the event for each of the past four years (list by year)				
Are there constraints on participant numbers? If so, please explain				
Please describe your timing system				

How do you plan to separate NC competitors from 'open' competitors at your event?
Will the event have doping control? (Doping control is mandatory for athletes attempting some IAU World Bests/Records.)
Please describe any additional benefits to event participants and any additional information you wish to share in support of your application
<p><b>National Championships Requirements</b></p> <p>Follow all published listing requirements and ACU/IAU guidelines for road, track and trail events. (e.g., rules regarding pacing and crewing at track events).</p> <p>Road and track events must be IAU-labelled events. ACU will assist as needed.</p> <p>Furnish results in the requisite format to ACU within one week of the event. Results for IAU-labelled events will be forwarded to the IAU and DUV by ACU, on behalf of the event.</p> <p>Display and distribute any ACU promotional material provided.</p> <p>Provide discount on event entry fee to ACU members.</p> <p>The event organiser will have a volunteer/staff member to provide race updates to the ACU Facebook page, including final results as soon as known.</p>
RD Signature
Date

Please return application and any supporting documentation to [events@canultra.ca](mailto:events@canultra.ca)