2017 ARC Grand Prix Rules

1. **Grand Prix Objectives**
   1. Provide a year-long format for competition and to recognize performance among Anniston Runners Club (ARC) members.
   2. Encourage participation in and support of quality area races and worthwhile charitable causes.
2. **Grand Prix Committee**
   1. Consists of the Grand Prix Coordinator, the ARC Vice President, and three to five at-large members.
   2. The Grand Prix Coordinator and at-large members are to be appointed by the ARC President and approved by the board of directors.
   3. Provided the Grand Prix Coordinator or the ARC Vice President position is vacant or both offices are held by the same person, one of the other board of directors or another ARC coordinator may fill the missing position on the Grand Prix Committee.
3. **Grand Prix Rules (for the ARC Grand Prix participants)**
   1. **Number of Races**
      1. The Grand Prix series consists of 14 races run throughout the year.
      2. Only the top ten best scoring races will be used to determine the score.
   2. **Eligibility**
      1. Participants must be in good standing with the ARC prior to the race for the event to count for points.
      2. You are not considered a current member of the club until you are current in RunSignUp. Note that if you send in a mail-in form, it will be delayed in being entered into the system.
      3. If there are any questions regarding eligibility for a specific race, the “Registration Date” in RunSignUp will be referenced and compared to the race date.
      4. Participants must complete a minimum of 7 Grand Prix races to be eligible for awards.
   3. **Levels or Groups of Competition**
      1. There are three levels of competition – Age Groups, Overall, and Athena/Clydesdale
      2. Age groups will consist of 10-year intervals with the exception that the first two age groups will be: 0-12 and 13-19.
      3. Overall winners will have the top five best total scores overall among all the runners in their perspective gender and will be places 1st through 5th overall. They will not be eligible for age group awards.
      4. Participants will automatically be moved from age group to overall rankings when their score is sufficiently good enough to rank in the top 5 runners of the Grand Prix participants.
      5. Athena/Clydesdale
         1. This option must be chosen before beginning competition.
         2. Weight limits are placed on Athena and Clydesdale competitors.
            1. Athena – 165lbs and Clydesdale – 220lbs
   4. **Scoring**
      1. Points will accumulate for each race a participant completes up to a maximum of 10 races. (best 10 of the 14 GP races run)
      2. Points are awarded based on the position you finish in the race overall.
      3. Race points will be weighted based on the size of the race.
         1. Races with under 500 finishers
            1. Points = total race finishers - participant place
         2. Races with over 500 finishers
            1. Points = (total race finishers - participant place)/2
   5. **Awards**
      1. Awards will be given to the following groups
         1. The top 3 males and females in each of the age group brackets
         2. The top 3 males and females in the Athena & Clydesdale brackets
         3. The top 5 overall males and females
   6. **Scoring Disputes**
      1. If a runner feels that he/she has been scored incorrectly in a Grand Prix event
         1. An appeal must be made to the Grand Prix Coordinator or ARC VP
            1. Appeals must be made within 60 days of results being posted on the ARC website.
            2. A continued dispute where resolution can’t be found between the runner and the GP Coordinator, will be adjudicated by the Grand Prix Committee.
   7. **Age** 
      1. The age of the participant will be determined by the age of the participant on 12/31 for the Grand Prix series of that year.
   8. **Volunteerism**
      1. To participate in the Grand Prix it is asked that all participants take part in volunteering in some manner to help the club. Any of the following and many others may be considered.
         1. ARC run race volunteer (Half Naked Marathon, Canyon Climb, Plucked Turkey, Woodstock)
         2. Working the ARC tent for any race
         3. Being a coordinator, leader, or board of director for the ARC
4. **Grand Prix Race Selection (for the RD’s and GP committee)**
   1. **Ballot**
      1. Online ballots will be available to provide a persistent means to collect votes.
      2. Paper ballots will be available for households that do not have an email address on record.
   2. **Race Qualifications**
      1. The race should benefit a charity or other worthwhile cause.
      2. The registration form shows the race as an Anniston Runners Club Grand Prix event.
      3. Anniston Runners Club members should receive a discount of at least $2 if preregistered.
      4. The course is clearly marked.
      5. The course is marshaled adequately for safety purposes.
      6. There are water stations along the course and at the finish.
      7. Awards are given in age groups and trophies are given to overall 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers, male and female.
      8. Awards for at least 10 year age groups.
      9. Food is provided post-race (minimum of fruit and snack-type foods).
      10. Event insurance is highly recommended.
      11. Race should have a minimum of 100 participants.
   3. **Race Selection**
      1. All races will be voted on equal terms on the ballot.
         1. The exception to this rule is the Woodstock 5k and it is always automatically added to the Grand Prix schedule.
      2. There will be no special categories for distance or type of race.
      3. Though more races may be on the ballot, only 14 races will be selected for the Grand Prix.
      4. Grand Prix races must meet the qualifications found in 4.2 to be eligible.
         1. Races will be approved by the Grand Prix Committee to be sure they meet the qualifications.
      5. The ARC Grand Prix Committee reserves the right to remove or replace any Grand Prix event. If the event is cancelled, postponed or removed, a replacement race maybe sought but is not required. If a suitable replacement is not found, then the schedule will be updated to remove the race. The Grand Prix schedule should be adjusted as quickly as possible to reflect any changes that have to be made by the Grand Prix Committee.
      6. Races may not occur on the same day.
         1. If two events receiving the most votes fall on the same weekend, the Grand Prix Committee will at its discretion only keep one race. Several factors may be used to make this determination.
            1. Which race historically held that date?
            2. Which race turned in their form claiming that date first?
            3. Does the race truly meet all qualifications?
            4. Which race will better fit the Grand Prix?