Stewarts Road Race Grand Prix Events 2011

Last year 231 athletes scored points in the fifth year of the Stewarts Road Race Grand Prix format and **scottish**athletics is pleased to confirm that Stewarts - a leading print and digital media company based in Central Scotland - has extended its sponsorship through 2011.

Building on the success of previous years, this year's series, which commences in April, will see competitors record their best four results from five available scoring events (compared from five of seven last year), focusing on the peak road running months and Scotland's foremost races with varying distances. The Grand Prix races have been aligned with the newly introduced Scotlish Road Race 5K Championship and focuses on all of the Scotlish Road Championships at 5K, 10K, 10 miles, 1/2 marathon and marathon.

£4000 of prize money is available to current scottishathletics members as follows: overall Grand Prix winners (male and female): £750; 2nd: £375; 3rd: £250; 4th: £200; 5th: £150; 6th: £100; 7th £70; 8th £50; 9th £40; 10th £30

Awards to the winners will be awarded at the **scottish**athletics Annual Awards Dinner in November.

The fixtures for the 2011 Stewarts Scottish Road Race Grand Prix are as follows:

10 April 2011: Tom Scott Memorial 10M (Motherwell)

11 May 2011: Run & Become 5km (Silverknowes, Edinburgh)

26 June 2011: Dunfermline Half Marathon (Dunfermline)

19 September 2011: Stirling 10km (Stirling)

2 October 2011: Loch Ness Marathon (Inverness)

Ron Morrison, Road Running & Cross Country Commission convenor said:

"The Road Running and Cross Country Commission are delighted to see the return of the Stewarts Road Race Grand Prix. This year we have introduced a new 5K Scottish Road Championship and focussed the Stewarts Grand Prix on all of the Scottish Road Race Championships. We have again aligned the series with the Home Countries International Series to give an emphasis on quality fields in Scotland in the context of mass participation events."

Terry O'Hare, Managing Director of Stewarts, said:

"We are delighted to continue our support of the Scottish Road Race Grand Prix in 2010. Since our initial involvement in 2008 it's been great to see so many of the country's top athletes battling it out in events throughout Scotland, ensuring that the standard of competition, at the sharp end especially, is high. The decision by the RR&CC to align the series with the Scottish Road Championships events will further improve the overall series profile"

"This is a very exciting time for athletics in Scotland with the London Olympics and Glasgow Commonwealth Games coming up in the next few years, and more immediately, the Delhi Games in October. Our athletes, such as last year's women's winner Toni McIntosh who is targeting the Commonwealth Games marathon, have an important summer ahead as they give their all to achieve qualifying standards across a number of events. I hope that our involvement is a small contribution to that effort."

Additional notes

- * Stewarts of Edinburgh Ltd is a leading print and digital media company, specialising in high quality printing, direct mail and office supplies. Founded in 1879 Stewarts employs 66 staff in the East of Scotland. Stewarts is the first print media company in Scotland to be accredited with the three top environmental awards, ISO 14000, FSC and PEFC certification. For further information visit the Stewarts website at www.stewarts.eu.com or call: 0131 659 6010
- * The Grand Prix format, introduced for the first time in 2006, is an exciting and innovative competition through which five of the country's top road races are linked, contributing to raising the profile of road racing in Scotland and supporting the work of Scotland's leading road races in improving domestic standards
- * The winners of the 2010 Stewarts Scottish Road Race Grand Prix Series (best of five from seven races) were Tsegezab Woldemichael (Shettleston Harriers) and Fiona Matheson (Falkirk VH)
- * The Grand Prix challenge is open to members of **scottish**athletics, including jog**scotland** gold members, and will see runners striving to win points at each race, with a maximum 20 points for the winner, down to 1 point for 20th place