

Physically Challenged Report
by George Rehmet, January 15, 2012

- PAUSATF's PC page was amended to reflect that everyday wheelchairs can be used and that wheelchairs must be *manually* propelled.
- A t-shirt design was created for physically challenged/wheelchair athletes.
 - Shirts to be given out to inaugural athletes.
 - Shirts have been made.
 - An idea is to give shirt out at the PAUSATF banquet.
- 2 PC athletes at Marin Memorial and 4 PC athletes at Zippy's 5K.
- One wheelchair racer was at Marin Memorial and the Redwoods Half Marathon, but not at Clarksburg.
- Low attendance due:
 - distance for the Redwoods and Clarksburg,
 - a wait and see approach for the first year,
 - and conflict with other events that have established relationships with PC/wheelchair athletes.
- Marin Memorial 10K – physically barrier on course for wheelchair; great to have bicycle escort.
- San Rafael 1 Mile – would not recommend for wheelchair to sharp downhill curb.
- PC/Wheelchair athletes who participated were grateful about the categories.
- Best publicity is by word of mouth by PC/wheelchair athletes.
 - Geoff Turner, an amputee runner and part of the Challenged Athletes Foundation, traveled around region to promote the PC division. Funds to be used to reimburse for travel expenses.
- Possibly open up new category for visually impaired for next year.
- Physically challenged category now recommended for future road racing events.
- For 2012:
 - 2500 new postcards were created, printed, and started to be distributed.
 - PC category acknowledged in 2012 Road Racing schedule.
 - Finalizing races with PC divisions.
 - Kick-off events for early 2012 set-up and paid for.