

Mike Waddington

Age 37

Hometown: Hamilton, Ontario

Club: Golden Horseshoe

Orienteering



Why you should bet your money on him:

- 1st 2005 US Team Trials Sprint
- 3 time North American Champion
- "I'm younger than Ross Burnett"

Magnus Johansson

Age 31

Hometown: An original
Swede, now living in
Vancouver

Club: Greater Vancouver
Orienteering Club



Why you should bet your
money on him:



- Swedes do it better!
- Winner of the sprint and the two day classic at last year's Canadian Champs in Whitehorse.

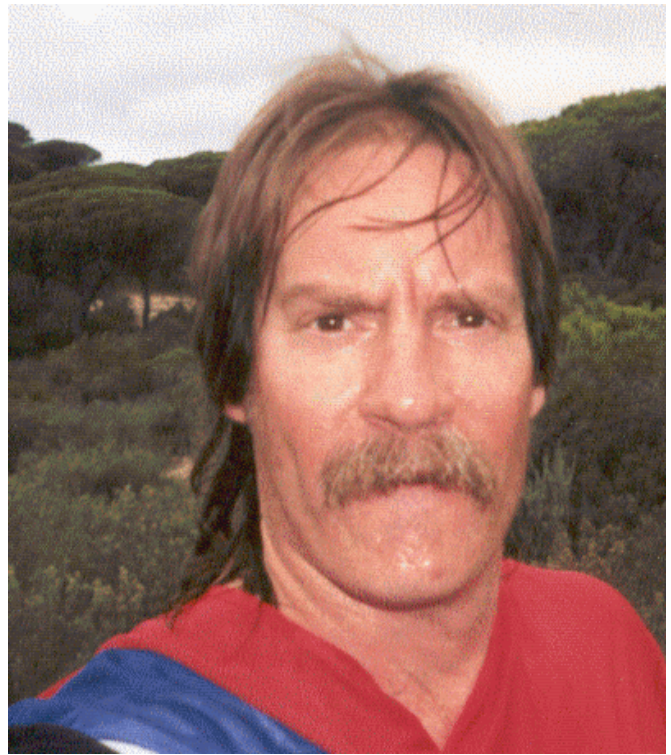
Ross Burnett

Age 45

Hometown: Vancouver

originally, now in Whitehorse

Club: Yukon Orienteering
Association



Why you should bet your money on him:



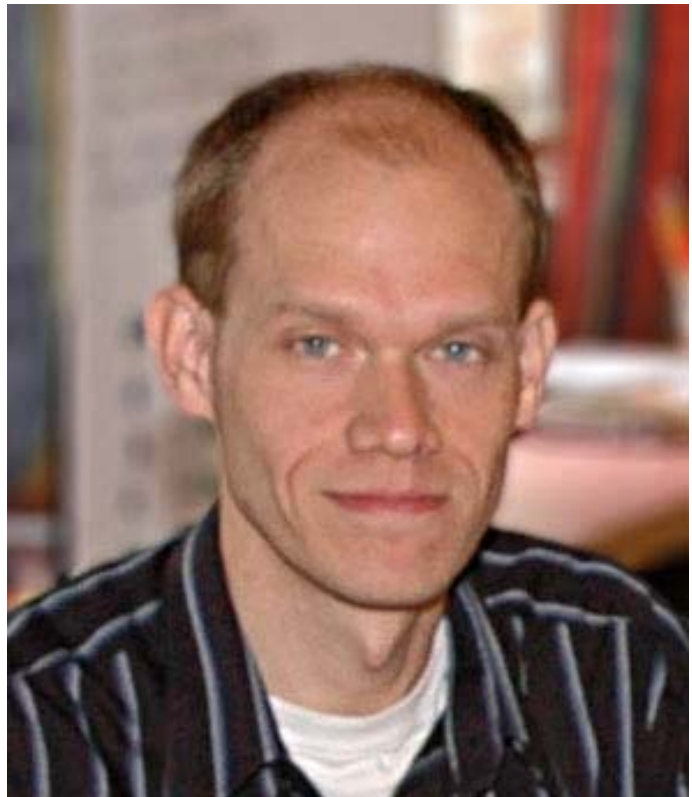
- 3 medals in Canadian Short Distance championships - 1995 Gold; 1997 Silver; 2002 Bronze.
- I am from the Land of the Midnight Sun where the days are much longer so running down south is like running in a time warp - time is condensed in such a fashion that for me the course will really only be about 2.15 km long (i.e. the stated distance of 2.52 km times the ratio of the two latitudes (52 degrees (Williams Lake) over 61 degrees (Whitehorse)).

Per Magnusson

Age 33

Hometown: Linköping,
Sweden

Club: Linköpings OK



Why you should bet your money on him:

- Currently ranked 261 in Sweden
- Came in 3rd on the first day of the US Champs 1999
- This year I had the 8th best time on my leg in the 10Mila-relay in Sweden
- If I have overcome the jet-lag on the day of the event I think the others will have to do very well to beat me.

Christiaan Piller

Age 30

Hometown: Toronto, ON;
currently residing in Victoria, BC

Club: VICO



Why you should bet your money on him:



- One of Canada's top adventure racers; I shifted my focus to orienteering only a year ago, quickly joining North America's tight group of elite orienteers and gaining a position on Canada's 2005 national team.
- Consistently topping the podium for orienteering on Vancouver Island; I will bring that winning speed to the open park lands of Boitanio Park.
- Sporting my aerodynamic spandex I'll be 'time trialing' past my O-suit wearing competition with their great wind-drag ...and of course looking great doing it!

Jon Torrance

Age: 34

Hometown: Originally from Ottawa,
currently in Washington, DC

Club: Ottawa OC and Quantico OC



Why you should bet your
money on him:

- It's mathematically certain that I will still be leading Peter Gagarins' Sprint Series on the day of the race - a pretty good reason to bet on me.
- But we have a better one - after sprints in Hamilton, Guelph and Savona, I am undefeated sprinting on Canadian soil (and snow) in 2005*.



*Disclaimer: this could be due to correlation rather than causation. Victory not guaranteed in this or other sprint races held in Canada in 2005. Some assembly required. Objects in the mirror may be closer than they appear.

Charlotte "Longshot" MacNaughton

Age 38

Hometown: Calgary

Club: Foothills Wanderers OC



Why you should bet your money on her:



- Remember Steven Bradbury - the short track speed skater from Australia who won a gold medal in Salt Lake City when all of his opponents in front of him fell down
- Remember the 1980 US "Miracle on ice" hockey team
- Remember Lithuania beating the Dream Team
- Remember the 2004 Calgary Flames' run at the Stanley Cup
- Remember the horse named

"Upset" in 1919 that - with 100-to-1 odds - handed Man O' War the only loss of his career...

Philippa McNeil

Age 32

Hometown: Ottawa, now living in Whitehorse

Club: Yukon Orienteering Association (YOA)



Why you should bet your money on her:

- I am a sprint specialist; I missed the 2004 WOC sprint final by only one place.
- I train specifically for shorter distances.
- I am a really consistent orienteer so I am a safe bet.
- I am a 15 year veteran of the national team so I know how to handle the pressure 😊
- The men's course will be too long, so a woman will win anyway!



Cherie Mahoney

Age 29

Hometown: originally from New Brunswick, now in Ottawa

Club: Ottawa Orienteering Club



Why you should bet your money on her:



- After spending many hours studying the Google satellite images of Williams Lake's Boitano Park, including optimum route choices for potential legs, I feel extremely well prepared for this race.

Pavlina Brautigam

Age: still young by heart and mind

Hometown: ran for Bulgaria until 1993, when was abducted and converted to US orienteering at WOC'93

Club: Western Connecticut OC



Why you should bet your money on her:

- I won once a showcase event in Norway during the Norwegian championships.
- Current leader of the prestigious Peter Gagarin's Sprint Series
- After all, if you know who will win we wouldn't have to race

Louise Carolyn Oram

Age: 21

Hometown: Vancouver (currently in Calgary for the summer)

Club: Greater Vancouver OC



Why you should bet your money on her:



- I have been known to be reasonably fast, and sometimes can have reasonably clean runs.
- And, I'm the only one well under 30!

Katarina Smith

Age: 34

Hometown: Sweden but have been living in Canada for 1,5 years.

Currently living in Sudbury but will experience living in the north of Ontario for a while, starting in September



Why you should bet your money on her:



- I'm a former world-class orienteer with many good results from World Cups and World Championships. My technical skills and the ability to focus when I am racing are my strengths right now. Since I have retired from the top orienteering scene a couple of years ago my physical skills are not what they used to be. It makes the races I take part in even more interesting for me! One day I can feel really fast and the next it might feel like if I am running in sand.
- So, if you want to bet on me, be prepared that anything can happen. I might be fast, fast, fast! But I also might also be slow, slow, sloooooow!