**The Use of GPS Devices for Navigational Purposes**

**From 1 January 2019, the use of GPS devices for navigational purposes is not permitted at any WFRA registered race.**

**Rationale:**

The use of GPS devices for navigational purposes is not commensurate with the ethos of our sport. The use of such devices is no different from flagging the whole route of any race for someone using such a device.GPS track use takes away a fundamental element of our sport – that of route choice and finding your own way using mountain-craft, (as well as map and compass).

Fellrunning is a simple sport - you have some hills and some checkpoints to visit. You use your skill and fitness to get between these points as fast as possible. Sometimes the RO flags it if they want you to go a certain way, or gives specific instructions. Other than that, it is up to the runner - **that is fellrunning**.

The widespread use of GPS devices for navigational purposes threatens the fundamentals of our sport.

**Explanatory Note:**

At WFRA registered races, you are allowed to:

* wear a watch/ carry a device with GPS functionality
* record your route using such a device
* have distance travelled displayed
* use an altimeter

**In an emergency: You are, of course, allowed to use a GPS device to navigate yourself to safety, but must declare yourself as a ‘non-competitive’ participant at the finish.**

You are not allowed to:

* follow a pre-loaded GPS (‘breadcrumb’) route
* use a GPS device which displays a map or load checkpoints onto the GPS device.