

Split Second Software Change Request

Software version: National/FIS 6.12 rev. 5

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Subject: Provide field(s) for client app data to support interoperability

Type: enhancement

Importance: high

Description:

The Rocky Mountain Masters division has a set of software applications designed to support their membership and race operations. This system is also starting to be used by several other masters divisions. The systems are designed to interoperate with race timing software and specifically our objective is to optimize interoperability with the Split Second Timing software.

We would like to have additional racer data field(s) that are specific to our client applications that would be preserved in the Split Second race data file xml and supported in interchange formats so that client app racer data values can be carried through the operational cycle from the registration/membership system into SST for race operations and back to the client app for race post-processing. The standard interchange technique relies on CSV format to load racer data into SST and export results data out; it might also be useful to have the external data field(s) supported in the FIS XML export format from a masters race.

The client application values we currently associate with a racer entry are:

- member id – a division-specific id value
- reg id – a racer id value associated with the specific race entry

These values could be carried in a pair of additional fields supported in an SST data file **<Comp>** entry or alternatively in a single field whose contents would be encoded in a standard format by the external processing application, e.g., an “external processing info” value that is preserved but ignored by SST:

```
<Comp>
  ...the usual elements...
  <xpi>memberid=xxx;regid=yyy</xpi>
</Comp>
```

The values do not need to be editable within Split Second (in fact, probably should not be allowed to be modified). It may be helpful to have the values displayed to the operator when present in the file.

[RDB: is display of our client app data necessary? Mandatory, optional, desirable, undesirable??!]

Workaround:

Use an existing field supported by Split Second s.t. we “hijack” a field from its originally intended purpose and instruct race administrators and timers not to use or touch that field. E.g. preempt the Club field or use Notes. However, the risk here is collision with other usage (we shouldn’t prevent RA’s from using Notes but we can’t risk them inadvertently changing/remove the external app info if we used that field).

Additional Information:

The Split Second Club software has some interesting capabilities for configuring optional and custom fields in a race file. Perhaps some of this capability, or a simplified form of it, could be supported in the National/FIS software to enable external applications to attach their custom data values to a Split Second race file with import/export interchange capability.