

New York State Bicycle Racing Association 1Q Officer's and Board of Directors Meeting

7-8pm, 16 March 2011

Secretary – Red Notes

Attendees:

Jeff Poulin (President), Andrew Ross (Vice President), Nancy Robertson (Secretary), Rod Millott (Treasurer); **Brian Klotz (Central)**

Absent:

Todd Scheske (Western); **Myles Romanow (Long Island); Eric Ragot (NYC); Dieter Drake (Adirondack)**

1. President's Report (Jeff)

- Introducing yourself to your regions
 - **Brian did a great job contacting via email. Other Directors are encouraged to follow suit and introduce themselves to their regional members in a similar manner.**
- Grant Status
 - **Brian Klotz requested an Officials grant for Hornby Hills Kermis and Jeff Poulin for Binghamton Circuit Race – Both were approved by Board.**
 - **The Columbia University Collegiate grant request for the Grants Tomb Criterium race was approved.**
 - **RPI has not put in an official request for a collegiate grant, but NYSBRA is on the flier. Request is expected to be made after race, which is the weekend of March 19-20th.**
 - **Rod Millott has scheduled an introductory official's clinic over 2 nights in April. He is waiting on the USAC posting.**
 - **NYBRA needs to get more grant requests from promoters in the state.**
 - **Suggested options on how to get more grant requests – Contact promoters directly and more promotion on NYRaces email list.**
 - **Jeff has a list of open permits and will contact promoters directly to join nyraces.**
 - **NYSBRA needs to identify ways promoters are slipping through the cracks and not getting the word that there is money to be granted out.**

2. Treasurer's Report (Rod)

- Transfer of account
 - **There were some delays in signatures to transfer accounts – but that is all resolved**

- Received \$9,216 check from USAC for final 2010 money
- Currently \$36k in account which \$4k is for admin
- Rod will investigate a ladder of CDs as an investment option for protection
- Rod will organize online banking access, since there is only 1 Key Bank in NYC

- Payment of grants and obligations

- Rod wrote checks for 3 outstanding Jrs grants from 2010 and reimbursement checks to Rod, Andrew, and Jeff for travel expenses to the annual meeting in Albany
- Brainstorming on what kind of grants can be given out with the money we have
 - a. Using a 10k grant for a track
 - b. Using the money for Championships – creating a situation that promoters will want to hold the Championship
 - c. What is the Champ jersey worth to racers and promoters? The recommendation is that promoters will decide if they will waive entry fees at races for champs who wear their jersey during the race. Option was presented to give the champs (about 84) \$100 each. Another option was for the promoter to get the money if they advertised that champs get free entry. The racer must wear jersey during race. Time line is from champ race to champ race – year to year. How to admin and cost to consider.
 - d. ACTION – Jeff will draft a grant framework for champ reimbursement.
 - e. Purchase a chip timing system for NY State. Limitations presented were size of state and how to admin the system. Chip systems start about 15k. Local orgs and commercial services are in a better position admin wise for such a system.
 - f. Subsidizing promoters to use chip timing at races, to ensure correct and timely results. Reimburse for the use of technology at races.
 - g. ACTION – Andrew will draft a proposal on a state wide grant program.
- NY State Championship Races – Discussion on what NYSBRA expects promoters to do in exchange for their grant from NYSBRA.
 - a. NYSBRA MUST be on all promotional material about the race
 - b. Championship should be promoted heavily – especially on BikeReg to gather racers from across the state – not just locally
 - c. Artwork of jersey should be on BikeReg
 - d. Discussion of additional sponsors of races.
 - e. ACTION – Jeff will communicate to championship promoters that NYBRA has high expectations that these races will draw riders from across the state and not just locally.

3. Secretary's Report (Nance)

- Web site updates
 - Web pages have been streamlined. The 3rd level menus have been removed and content absorbed elsewhere. General updates and maintenance is complete.
 - BOD has been updated, New Upgrade info and videos posted, Rankings and race schedule posted. All Yahoo Docs have been moved over. Many general updates made.
 - Andrew will have a page under Races titled 'Results and Photos' for such things he will post.
 - Investigation in some revamping of site is ongoing. Nancy is looking for a new format for front page and picture.
 - ACTION – Nancy will verify and contact club links on site to be sure they are up to date. This will also entail contacting clubs to post a link to NYSBRA on their site.
- Twitter
 - Twitter issue on posting on NYBRA has been resolved. New posts go out to Twitter feed.
 - Asked and received input on what we should Tweet about. Tweets will go out a few times per week – announcing races and other clinics.
 - ACTION – Nancy will gather website and Tweet stats

4. Vice President's Report (Andrew)

- Upgrade Video
 - Andrew did a great job on the upgrade video. USAC has mentioned in their web design that they will now consider making a new video after seeing Andrews.
- Upgrade status
 - 76 upgrades requested, 41 5 approved. There were a few duplicates, making approval about 50%
 - There is a backlog of 7 requests - from Cat 5 to 4 – in NYC due to the results issue. Eric R is working on resolving them.
- "If a rider can't see their results, NYSBRA can't either"
- Results are not making it into the database. CRCA now has a good process for results. This has not been the case in the past. There is a lot of manual labor looking for the results

from 2010 upgrades for races – pulling race rosters, releases. They are looking to get the Cat 5 results loaded and this will make it easier for upgrade requests.

- Andrew voiced some concern about the timeline of requests. Brian was the only rep in attendance. Andrew would like good communication on requests.
- Andrew also suggested sending an auto reply to rep and requestor that the regional rep is in process giving all parties notification.
- Andrew proposed processing all requests, if they were reasonable and pushing the complicated/confusing ones down to the Regional Rep.
- Brian voiced that he felt there should be a reasonable time frame for the rep to respond before Andrew reacts.

5. Topics:

- Cat 5-4 upgrades: credit for “up to 5 races” for clinics (incl. training races)
- The intention of the guideline is to standardize the experience of the rider. It is important for the safety of the rider to have the experience to be able to race in a higher class, without issue.
- Cat 5-4 upgrades: reporting training races to USAC
- Not all training rides are permitted/sanctioned. It is up to the clubs to permit rides and get insurance from USAC. There is a fine line between the two (permitted and nonpermitted) and the intention is to not count non-permitted rides.
- Grant discussions (Covered – see above discussions)
- Official’s Clinics in 2011?
- ACTION – Ask Todd Scheske to hold Officials Clinic in western NY

Draft Upgrade Guidelines

| USAC Cat 5 to 4 Upgrade Guideline: Experience in 10 mass start USAC permitted races.

The USAC rulebook clearly allows Local Associations to establish policies where upgrade credit is given for taking a sanctioned rider education clinic.

NYSBRA board discussed & agreed on a policy, but it was not written down or formally voted upon.

Limits on Clinics:

- Must be Sanctioned - have a valid permit (There is some question on terminology of sanctioned vs permitted – are they one in the same? NYSBRA interpretation is yes)
- Includes Camps, Clinics and Training events
- Must be clear evidence of successful participation in the clinic
- Must be clear evidence of successful participation in at least 5 USAC races

Discussion Points:

- Lack of entry in USAC database for some sanctioned races... (this has been a big issue in the past - some promoters are not posting results)
- Specific evidence needed for clinics? email to NYSBRA@gmail.com vs. emails to Regional Representatives?
- How much credit to be given? (e.g., how many training races equal 1 USAC race, all day clinics vs. 1 hour clinics)
- How to handle testimony from Club Officers, Permit Contacts & Coaches; both positive and negative?
- Role of Regional Representative vs. consistent policy across state?
- Bottom line: Upgrade Official must have evidence to implement the USAC guidelines subject to our policy to ensure the rider can safely race as a Category 4.
- General guidelines for clinics need to be drafted. Clinic implies instruction or education; where as a training ride is a practice race.