

New York State Bicycle Racing Association Board of Director's Quarterly Meeting

8pm-, 14 September , 2011

Dial in: 310-539-2229, Participant code: 110084

Attendees:

Jeff Poulin, Andrew Ross, Brian Klotz, Eric Ragot, Nancy Robertson, Todd Scheske, Rod Millott, Dieter Drake

Absent:

Myles Romanow, Gary Toth

1. President's Report (Jeff Poulin)
 - a. Topics and minutes below capture the highlights of the 3rd quarter.
 - b. Still only in it's 3rd year, in 2011 NYSBRA continues to outpace it's combined activities in the first 2 years of it's existence.
2. Grant Program (Jeff Poulin)
 - a. Mission grants. We approved \$1500 this quarter to send 3 juniors to Tour de L'Abitibi and \$500 for a skills clinic in NYC. We turned down one grant for a Cat 3 rider to travel to Belgium to train.
 - b. Junior grants. 11 grants ytd (3 from 2010). Season is about to start; everyone please encourage your juniors to take advantage. Jeff will post a grant reminder to nyrares. Should we also do direct emailing to juniors? What else to include? After discussion, ideas include summary of activities to date, benefits of upgrading, and examples of grants given to date. We need to repeat the message. Jeff to do nyrares announcement; in 4-6 weeks depending on response Nance will compose a direct email to juniors.
 - c. Grants for Mountain biking? NYSBRA does not cover mtb; however we received one junior grant that was a mix of road and mtb. How should we handle? Recommend adding the following statement to the grant policy: "NYSBRA grants apply towards road, track, and cyclecross related events. Mountain bike events are not normally eligible for grants as they are not covered by NYSBRA." Approved.
 - d. Mission grants for other than Worlds and Natz? We have approved for large scale events (i.e., Tour de L'Abitibi in Canada). Recommend adding the following to the grant policy: "For individual riders needing funds to participate in national or world championships, or other events as approved by the board." Approved.
 - e. Recommend adding the following due to several "last minute" requests: "NYSBRA normally requires a minimum of 30 calendar days to review grant applications." Approved.
3. Vice President's Report / Upgrades(Andrew Ross)
 - a. Upgrade Statistics
 - i. For 2011 up to Sept 9th; 379 upgrade requests have been approved. In comparison for the same YTD in 2010 only 255 requests had been approved. This is a significant increase in approved upgrade requests.
 - ii. For 2011; 31% of total request have been denied compared to 34% in 2010. So, increase in total approvals appears to primarily represent actual growth.
 - iii. USAC has established a upgrade request processing standard of 7 days, unless additional information is required of the racer in which case an additional 15 days is considered

acceptable. USAC has also begun to generate reports detailing upgrade backlog status.

iv. According to Frederike; NYSBRA timeliness performance is very good.

b. Providing upgrade information: It is the rider's responsibility to ensure the information is available (not the upgrade official's, who in NY is the NYSBRA Regional Rider Rep). Our goal is to ensure promoters always submit race results to USA Cycling so the rider's race results are immediately available on-line to the upgrade official and to calculate the rider's National Ranking.

c. Upgrade policy

i. Cat 3-4 races count for Cat 2 upgrades in accordance with USA Cycling rules. (Action: Andrew add text to website), specifically:

"For the tables that follow, note that if the field contains mixed categories (i.e. cat 3-4), then the number of starters is the number of riders that are the same category or higher as the person requesting the upgrade (i.e. in a cat 3-4 combined field, all riders count for a 4 to 3 upgrade, but only the threes count for a 3 to 2 upgrade.) The placing is the rider's placing across the line. In a mixed category field, the riders in a higher category are not subtracted out (i.e. in a combined cat 3-4 race, if a category 4 rider is 6th across the line but is the 2nd cat 4, that rider gets 6th place points and not 2nd place points.)"

d. Cyclocross upgrades. CX upgrades follow the rules in the USAC rulebook. Our interpretation of the rule 1D5 is that the Cyclocross conversion rule applies to riders who have demonstrated at least a basic level of skill in cyclocross. Therefore a member who has never ridden cyclocross is not given an automatic upgrade to the applicable conversation category by virtue of their road or mountain category. A conversion upgrade may be granted after the rider has demonstrated sufficient experience as determined by the NYSBRA upgrade official.

e. Upgrade appeals

i. We need a review process for riders to take in the case they are denied. Jeff's intention is for the rider to email nysbra@gmail.com (Andrew) first, who will consult with the rider's upgrade rep and mutually agree, with input from Jeff and/or Randy if necessary, to a response to the rider. Note that we could have the rider appeal directly to Randy Ingliss, but NYSBRA really should attempt to resolve the rider's concern before raising it to USAC.

4. Treasurers Report (Rod Millott)

a. Rod prepares brilliant monthly budget reports for the Officers and Board

b. We are on track to spend in 2011 all moneys received from USAC in 2011; in short, a perfect budget year.

c. CX season is starting, Rod has no data on CX to budget for the 4th quarter.

d. NYSBRA has not received the invoice for Champions Jersey yet.

e. Rod intends to prepare a budget for each grant category for 2012.

5. Secretary's Report (Nance Robertson)

a. NYSBRA currently has 2669 licensed riders.

b. Commercial Email program: Our email to all NY licensed riders in July largely bounced. To remedy, Nance has used a commercial email program.

c. Emails for families, especially those with Juniors, tend to all go the same email address.

6. Web Site <http://www.nysbra.com> (Nancy Robertson/Andrew Ross)

a. 2011 CX schedule is posted

b. Nance has reorganized the web site to make commonly requested information easier to find.

7. Permits (Gary Toth)

a. tbd

8. Other Business? (All)
 - a. Official's Clinics. Todd has a list of about 6 interested. Suggest we schedule clinics over the winter for Eastern and Western NY. Todd to post "call for interested parties" to nyrares c. 1Oct., emphasizing the on-line courses and the "free officials" NYSBRA grant program.
 - b. Motivating promoters to submit results. The NYSBRA grant policy only pays upon submission of completed USAC paperwork and race results. Upgrade officials must continue to require riders to insist that promoters submit results! Rod Millott has done a great job getting promoters to submit more NYC results into USAC.
 - c. Using a publically shared "Google Calendar" for NYS Race schedule. I'd still build the calendar in Excel but having it on Google would allow anyone to add it to their personal calendars. NYSBRA board members could edit and public could read it. Jeff and Nance will discuss for next meeting.
9. Agenda for December meeting (All)
 - a. Strategic focus areas:
 - i. Individual grants help individuals, not necessarily the sport overall in NYS
 - ii. Are we interested in improving participation or quality or both at races in NYC
 - iii. What else can we do for cyclocross?
 - iv. Should we have a program to support women's racing; e.g. provide grant funding for races that run a separate Women's category 4 or separate Women's category 3 race.
 - v. Consider a NYS rider competition based on USAC rankings points
 - vi. Improvements NYSBRA can make to the Championship events (TT, RR, Crit, CX)
 - vii. THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING will tentatively be late Jan/early Feb 2012 at the Vestal, NY Public Library meeting room.