

New York State Bicycle Racing Association (NYSBRA*) Annual Meeting

*pronounced NEES-brah

10am-1:35pm January 2012

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

Attendees: Jeff Poulin (President), Andrew Ross (Vice President), Rod Millot (Treasurer), Randy Inglis (USA Cycling Regional Rep), Dieter Drake (Adirondack Rider Rep), Todd Scheske (Western Rider Rep), Marsha Kapinus (Tioga Velo Club), Wayne Miner (Tour de Syracuse Race Director) **by telecon** Gary Toth (NYSBRA Race Permit Coordinator), Alan Atwood (NYSBRA rep to the USAC Regional Technical Commission), Myles Romanow (Long Island Rider Rep), Anthony Jay Van Dunk (NYC Race Director)

Message from the President:

In 2011 NYSBRA really got the grants program off the ground and I plan to keep expanding the participation through increased advertising, especially to juniors.

In 2012 we will focus on what I believe is the #1 issue that NYSBRA faces: consistency of rider upgrades. This issue has two parts:

- First, rider upgrades depend on having their race results in the USAC results database. Riders have the responsibility to make sure their results are in the database, but some promoters simply do not submit them. Riders must help by insisting that promoters submit their results. NYSBRA will work to assist and encourage promoters to submit results.
- Second, rider upgrades must be done consistently in accordance with USAC rules and guidelines. If a rider has enough points in the USAC database to upgrade, the rider shall receive their upgrade. If the rider is close on points, the upgrade may use discretion as per the guidelines to allow the upgrade. Riders must help by protesting all results within the 15 minute protest period if their correct result is not posted. NYSBRA will ensure the upgrade requests are processed fairly and promptly (normally within 1 week), and will resolve any appeals submitted to nysbra@gmail.com.

Thank-you! Now let's go out and ride!
-jeff

1. President's Report (Jeff Poulin)

- a. Dave Beals joins NYSBRA Board of Directors as CX Rider Rep: Dave has coordinated the NY CX schedule and numerous CX activities in NY for many years. It is my pleasure to announce Dave has accepted an appointment to a new position on the NYSBRA Board dedicated to CX, effective immediately.
- b. Secretary vacancy: Nance Robertson, who faithfully served as secretary for 2011 has resigned due to conflicting priorities. NYSBRA is looking for volunteers; primary responsibilities include webmaster, ~monthly email distribution to all riders (via Mailchimp), representing NY riders on key issues, and voting on all NYSBRA grant requests.
- c. Central and Hudson Rider Rep vacancies: NYSBRA is still looking for volunteers. Primary responsibilities are representing rider interests at quarterly Board meetings and voting on Mission Grant requests. The six regional rider reps form the NYSBRA Board of Directors.

- d. Championships: NYSBRA will continue to enhance the visibility and prestige of the NY Champions with the Championship jersey program. In 2012 we will change suppliers to the USAC-sponsored supplier to expedite delivery of jerseys. Riders will receive a voucher on the podium and will order their jersey and any extras from the Voler website. Jerseys should ship in 3 days.
- e. Wear of Championship jerseys: is subject to rules similar to the national champion jersey rules; i.e., champions can only wear their jersey in their discipline during the year of their reign until the beginning of the next championship event.

2. USAC Regional Coordinator Report (Randy Inglis)

- a. NY Statistics:
 - i. NY licenses were up ~2% in 2011
 - ii. NY had 3626 licenses, of which 2676 were road
 - iii. NY had 104 clubs, 74 of which were road, 15 collegiate, and 15 other
 - iv. NY had 160 events, of which 96 were road (including training and clinics), 22 mountain.
- b. USAC Results database: new simple format allows promoters to upload results with a minimum of only 4 fields (license, place, first name, last name)
 - i. 25 promoters submitted 89 competitive event results
 - ii. With the new simple 4-column format, all promoters should submit results.
- c. USAC Registration system: Promoters get \$.40 back per rider for using the USAC on-line registration system. In addition, USAC allows on-line waivers with the USAC system. Note: BikeReg is the leading on-line registration service in NY with 33% of races; USAC is 6th with 4%.
- d. USAC Race Director Program: USAC will soon require all Race Directors (i.e., promoters) of higher level races (A, B, C) to hold Race Director's license. The idea is to establish a pool of experienced personnel able to promote quality events and reduce the risk associated with large events.
- e. Mountain Biking: Randy serves as the coordinator for mountain biking in NY and will continue to work with the mountain promoters to coordinate with NYSBRA.

3. 2012 NYS Road Schedule (Jeff Poulin)

- a. Jeff presented the "final" schedule. Jeff will publish the final schedule after receiving a few last minute updates.
- b. Schedule will be posted to <http://nysbra.com> in traditional PDF and a new "pretty format" for ease of use; comments welcome!

4. Grant Program (Jeff Poulin)

- a. Application is easy! See simple examples on web site. In general, requests are made in advance and payment is made after all paperwork and results are filed with USAC.
- b. Mission grants: no changes except the Mission Grants policy will be updated to target elite and juniors for funding as follows: "For individual riders needing funds to participate in elite or junior national or world championships, or similar events."
- c. Junior grants: no change; juniors are eligible for 1/2 of racing expenses incurred up to \$200 (i.e., \$100 mailed to the junior)
- d. New official grants: no change; promoters may be reimbursed the assistant official fee (\$50) for new C officials.
- e. Championship grants: no change; promoters of NYSBRA Championship events (TT, RR, Crit, CX) receive \$500 to enhance the event. The Board voted to include Track as well, subject to widely advertising the track (and all) championships. Jeff will update the NYSBRA Grant Policy to add "advertising" to the intended list of uses for the targeted championship grants.
- f. Collegiate grants: no change; colleges/universities are eligible for a \$500 to enhance the event and bring riders into the sport.

- g. Free entry for Champions: no change; promoters offering free entry to reigning champions (who wear their jerseys) receive \$100. Participation is up to the promoter.
- h. Grants to attend Natz or Worlds: The Board voted to amend the mission grant language to specify guidelines for a maximum amount per rider per annum (\$500) and the priorities on grants made to individuals; i.e., 1. Worlds, 2. Nationals, 3. Other major events and master riders.
- i. New Targeted Grant for separate Junior and Women Fields: The Board voted to add a new \$100 grant to any promoter offering a separate field for Juniors and / or Women Cat 4 riders.

5. Vice President's Report / Upgrades(Andrew Ross)

- a. Upgrade appeals: Any rider wishing to appeal an upgrade decision should first contact their upgrade official to understand the reason. If the rider does not agree, the rider may appeal to nysbra@gmail.com. Normally, Andrew Ross will work with the upgrade official to agree to a course of action and notify the rider. If Andrew is the upgrade official then Jeff Poulin will handle the appeal.
- b. Cat 4 upgrades: New USAC rule requires 10 *finishes* in mass start races (as opposed to just *starts*). Recommend pre-2012 races use the old rule. Promoters now must submit finish lists with results (using DNP if a rider finished but did not place, and DNF if a rider did not finish).
- c. Upgrade credit for rider clinics: USAC sanctioned and approved rider education clinics (at least half day), will count as three qualifying races for Category 5 to 4 upgrade up to a maximum of 5 qualifying races. Riders upgrading to Cat 4 road will receive two race days credit for participating in a mentored-race experience, where the mentor is at least a Cat 3 rider and a USAC Certified Coach.
- d. CX upgrade credit for road category reduced: Cross Cat 4 to Cat 3 upgrades still requires only experience in 10 qualifying races. However, conversion upgrades from Road to Cyclocross are reduced by one level; i.e., Road 3 = Cross 4, Road 2 = Cross3, but Road 1 = Cross 1.
- e. Encouraging promoters submitting results: The Board discussed but did not approve a proposal to create a "NYSBRA Seal of Approval" designation and logo that promoters can use if their event meets certain standards established by NYSBRA; i.e., online registration, commitment to post results to USAC, includes separate fields for Juniors and Women, etc. Please send comments and other ideas to NYSBRA!
- f. Promoters that do not submit results: Andrew Ross will contact 2011 promoters that did not submit race results to identify and potentially remove obstacles for 2012.

6. Treasurers Report (Rod Millott)

- a. Treasurer presented final financial statements for 2011 which were subsequently approved by the Board
- b. NYSBRA received \$30,448 from USAC during 2011, spent \$33,067, and ended the year with \$33,692.
- c. A preliminary budget for 2012 was presented to the Board. Revenue from USAC of approximately \$28,500, mission expenses are budgeted at \$21,200 and administration expenses are budgeted at \$11,400, for a deficit of \$4,000. The board will approve the budget after a detailed breakdown is presented.

7. Secretary's Report (tbd)

- a. n/a

8. Web Site <http://www.nysbra.com> (Secretary tbd / Andrew Ross)

- a. Facebook: A NYSBRA Facebook page would feed riders to <http://nysbra.com>. Andrew Ross volunteered to investigate.

9. Permits (Gary Toth)

- a. Gary reported no major issues with permitting events in 2011.
- b. Gary will continue as the 2012 NYSBRA permit coordinator.

10. Regional Technical Commission Update (Alan Atwood)

- a. USAC Policy on “Nepotism”: USAC desires to ensure all officials have fair and equal access to officiate events and gain experience. Towards that end, USAC is making all A race and higher official assignments, and will be pushing LAs to make all official assignments for lower level races in the future, but NYSBRA does not view this as a priority especially for small Cat D and E events.
- b. USAC Officials Assignment Policy IV: This policy provides guidelines for the number and minimum qualifications of officials for different types and levels of events. NYSBRA has objected to the number of officials required for smaller events and will be submitting suggested changes to USAC.
- c. USAC-Officials tools (<http://www.usac-officials.org/>): This site has excellent tools for officials. NYSBRA encourages (but does not require) its use. Gary Toth will enter all CRs into the tool when he approves the event permit. The CR may use the tool to fill out and manage the crew, and officials may indicate what races they want to race in the tool.

11. Other Business? (All)

- a. Next Annual Meeting: Jeff announced that next year we will meet in NYC or vicinity.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 1:35