

## New York State Bicycle Racing Association 4Q Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Telecon: 7pm, Wednesday, 12Dec18

Dial in: 1 (605) 475-5920 Participant code: 298-2449#

PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE UNLESS SPEAKING- PLEASE KEEP STATEMENTS CONCISE AND COURTEOUS

Officer/Board Attendees: Jeff Poulin (President), Noel Bonk (Secretary), Rich Scaduto (WNY Rep), Lucia Deng (NYC Rep), Tony Saylor (GG and GF Rep), Myles Romanow (LI Rep), Mark Walling (Secretary-elect), John Roden (Junior Rep), Gary Toth (Permit Coord; Adirondack Rep), Leona Chin (Junior Rep), Liz Marcello (Officials Coord), Jim Lyman (Track), Ken Hammond (CX Rep)

Officer/Board Absent: Tom Weichmann (Vice President), Mike Cormier (Treasurer), Ben Freer (Member at Large), Eric Ragot (Hudson Rep), Kelly Neuner (Women's Rep), Lloyd Campbell (Central). Shane Ferro (Women's Rep)

*I'd like the main part of this call to be dedicated to upgrade rules and guidelines. To do this, we'll quickly tick through the reports from each position then turn it over to Lucia Deng for the rest of the call. -jeff*

- **President's Report (Jeff Poulin)**

- a. Officer Elections for 2019-2020:

- i. We did not require an election because the elected positions all had only one volunteer. The board approved the full slate of elected and appointed positions for 2019-2020 on 7Nov. The 2019-2020 Board is as follows; the secretary term starts transition immediately and formally begins at the annual meeting, whereas since the two appointed positions are new, they both start immediately:

- President- Jeff Poulin
      - Vice President- Tom Weichmann
      - Secretary- Mark Walling
      - Treasurer- Mike Cormier
      - NYC Rider Rep- Lucia Deng
      - LI Rider Rep- Myles Romanow
      - Hudson Rider Rep- Eric Ragot
      - Adirondack Rider Rep- Gary Toth
      - Central Rider Rep- Lloyd Campbell
      - Western Rider Rep- Rich Scaduto
      - Junior Reps- John Roden and Leona Chin
      - Women's Rep- Shane Ferro
      - Gravel/Gran Fondo Rep- Tony Saylor
      - CX Rep- Ken Hammond
      - Coaching Rep- Noel Bonk
      - Track Rep- Jim Lyman
      - Permit Coordinator- Gary Toth
      - Official's Coordinator- Liz Marcello is stepping down; I am covering.

- Members-at-Large- none.
- b. 2019 NYSBRA Championships Events
- i. Bids are in as follows. I recommend accepting all bids as there were only one bid per race type.
  - ii. RR: Bristol Mountain Road Race, hosted by Rick Dalton of Western NY Bike Racing Club (WNYBRC), Bristol, NY, 2Jun19
  - iii. Crit: Trumansburg Criterium, hosted by John Compton of Main Street Bike Shop, Trumansburg, 10Aug19
  - iv. Gravel: The Prattsburgh Gravel Classic, hosted by Tony Saylor of Livingston Cycling Club/ Sam Patch Promotions, Inc, Prattsburgh, 20Apr19
  - v. TT: no bids. Jim Walker was going to do it in Lake Placid but can't; I am willing to do it in 2019 (tent. 14Jul19) and Jim will pick it up in 2020. I sent a "last chance to bid" email to nyraces on Friday, 7Dec. Since there were no replies, I will host the NYS TT.
  - vi. Track: All hosted by Jim Lyman of the New York Velodrome Association at the Kissena Velodrome in Flushing:
    - Elite/Master Endurance Champs, 27Jul
    - Elite/Master Sprint Champs, 18Aug
    - Junior Champs, 24Aug
  - vii. Vote to approve: Approved.
  - viii. ACTION: Jeff to advise race hosts (DONE!), add to race calendar (DONE!), notify Voler (DONE!), and announce on nyraces (DONE!), and Noel to post in the next newsletter and on the website.
- c. 2018 Officer and Upgrade Official Stipends:
- i. Percentage allocations for officers are consistent with past years; 25% for President, 15% for VP, 12.5% each for Treasurer and Secretary
  - ii. Percentage allocations for upgrade officials remained the same at 5% except Lucia the same at 10% for the additional workload from NYC
  - iii. Total budget for the above stipends is \$8k, of which \$7,600 will be paid out
  - iv. Stipends for appointed positions for permit, officials, and CX coordinator remain the same, except that I added the equivalent of ~5% to Liz for the additional work she did this summer with the NYC races. These are paid from the administrative budget.
  - v. The stipends are a token but sincere "thank you" to all the volunteers on the Board!
  - vi. Vote: Approved
  - vii. ACTION: Mike to distribute checks.
- d. NYSBRA-branded Junior Racing Team (update)
- i. Doug Toback (Director Sportif of Cuevas Cycling), Noel, and myself are making progress on the "NYSBRA state/Regional Junior Racing Team;" the idea is to get the best NY juniors riding together as "Team NYSBRA" at the biggest races in the Northeast/Atlantic region.
  - ii. On 22Oct we had a great kickoff telecon with NY junior team leaders (~47 invited, ~20 attended) and the consensus opinion was positive!
  - iii. Noel put out a call to NY coaches to support the team
  - iv. Doug, Noel, and I are interviewing the three applicants this week.
  - v. Near term goals for the team are:
    - A 2-day intro "training camp" c. March
    - Racing as a team at an early season race (e.g., Trooper Brinkerhoff)

- e. Adding “Fat Bike” category to recommended additional categories at NYSBRA CX Champs
  - i. Fat Bike is very popular and growing. It is established as a standard field at every upstate NY CX race I’ve been to; the field is usually one of the largest and includes men and women of all abilities.
  - ii. I recommend adding it as a “recommended champ category” like we do for Single Speed
  - iii. There is no extra cost or effort to NYSBRA or the RD, and we will get more happy people coming out to race for another chance at NYSBRA jersey. RDs can already add additional championship categories if they want so this just formalizes the suggestion.
  - iv. Gary pointed out during the call, USAC rules allow riding a Fat Bike in a CX race (which is a huge disadvantage) but Fat Bike events require tires with a 3.8” min diameter.
  - v. Ken (CX rep) strongly recommends adding the “Fat Bike” as a NYSBRA Championship category
  - vi. Ken wants to build the Fat Bike scene and has asked for that responsibility as part of his CX Rep role. Two years ago USAC added a stand-alone Fat Bike National Championship ([https://s3.amazonaws.com/USACWeb/forms/natchamps/2017/2018\\_FatBike\\_Eligibility\\_Rules.RLS.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/USACWeb/forms/natchamps/2017/2018_FatBike_Eligibility_Rules.RLS.pdf)). If Ken is successful, in 2-3 years I would love to see a stand-alone “NYSBRA Fat Bike Champ Race” with all the standard fields for categories and age groups!
  - vii. Due to confusion amongst the board members, the vote to add Fat Bike as a “recommended additional category” for the NYSBRA CX Champs was deferred to an email vote after the meeting.
  - viii. Approved! ACTION: Jeff to add to the [NYSBRA Championship Categories](#) (DONE!)
- **Vice President’s Report / Upgrades (Tom Weichmann)**
  - a. Upgrade status:
    - i. n/a (Tom is traveling)
  - b. Upgrade Policies:
    - i. Lucia led a discussion on consistency of upgrade policies in NYSBRA; discretion, guidelines, etc.
    - ii. Lucia explained that it is very hard in small fields that are often combined (mixed fields) to get upgrade points. This especially affects women and juniors. To help address this NYSBRA adopted NEBRA’s expanded upgrade point table for CX.
    - iii. Lucia would like all upgrade officials to agree that if a rider earns enough points for a mandatory upgrade that, except in exceptional circumstances, all upgrade coordinators strictly enforce the mandatory upgrades; e.g. upgrade the rider as soon as they earn the mandatory number of points.
    - iv. Note that riders normally have a time buffer between earning enough points for upgrade (voluntary upgrade) and when they earn enough points for mandatory upgrade.
    - v. There was general agreement that we all follow the USAC rulebook and that we always need to apply our common sense and discretion when applying the rules
    - vi. Since we are all different, what each upgrade official considers “exceptional circumstances” will vary
    - vii. We encourage upgrade officials to consult other upgrade officials (e.g., via the NYSBRA-Board Google Group) or the VP if the upgrade official has any questions about an upgrade. This will help ensure consistency and fairness.
    - viii. Reminder: NYSBRA has a long-established policy on how to appeal upgrade decisions; in short: first to the VP, then the President, then to USAC.

ix. [View the NYSBRA Upgrade Information.](#)

• **Secretary's Report (Noel Bonk)**

a. Road/Track/TT Race Schedule: [Add the NYSBRA Google Road/Track/TT Calendar to your own Google Calendar](#)

b. Newsletter:

i. The next newsletter will come out the week of 17Dec and include:

- Reminder to juniors to claim their 2018 grants!
- Article about NY Juniors at Nationals
- 2019 Champ Events

c. Transition to Mark Walling: Noel is working with Mark to ensure a smooth transition to Mark!

• **Web Site <http://www.nysbra.com> (Noel Bonk)**

a. Changes to website:

- Added new pictures and ongoing maintenance
- Noel will transition webmaster duties to Mark.

• **Treasurers Report (Mike Cormier)**

a. Financial Update:

i. n/a (Mike has a conflict tonight)

b. BikeReg Sponsorship:

- BikeReg mailed NYSBRA their 4Q sponsorship check.
- The BikeReg sponsorship for 2019 totaled \$2,136.15 and remains key to NYSBRA's budget.
- Well done, Jeff! Thank you, BikeReg!

• **Grant Program: (Jeff Poulin)**

a. Grant Status: NYSBRA has committed about \$21,465 and paid out \$16,831 in grants YTD

b. Proposed change to Junior Development Grant: John Roden would like to expand the Junior Development grant, especially to help juniors who race a lot. We discussed several options and settled on this:

- The current grant offers 50% reimbursement of up to \$200 in expenses (i.e., \$100 ea) for juniors that race at least 5 times
- We'd like to add that NYSBRA would also offer 50% reimbursement of up to \$300 in expenses (i.e., \$150 ea) for juniors that race at least 10 times
- Stats: Sixteen of 21 Junior grants YTD were for the full \$100 amount and not all sixteen raced 10 times. The estimated additional annual cost to NYSBRA is therefore \$500-\$750.
- The max grant amount of \$100 has remained unchanged since 2008 so this addition both adjusts the max grant amount for inflation and creates an incentive for juniors to race more.
- Proposal to become effective for 2019.
- Discussion at the meeting included:
  - Suggestion from Gary to also add "1/2 of \$400 if they race 12 times"
  - Concern from Lucia about how this affected stipends for board members
  - Lucia requested to defer the vote, so we deferred to an email vote as follows.

c. As a result of the discussion at the 4Q telecon, the Junior reps and officers recommend extending the Junior Development Grant as follows. The current grant, consisting of "1/2 reimbursement of up to \$200 expenses if they race at least 5 times" has been in place over 10 years (since 2008) without any adjustment for inflation. This Junior Grant is one of our most popular grants and it is one of my favorite grants because it puts money right into the pockets of some of our most important customers.

- i. Proposed change: Adding “1/2 of \$300 if they race 10 times” and “1/2 of \$400 if they race 15 times”
  - ii. So a junior can get one of:
    - up to \$100 if they race 5 times, or
    - up to \$150 if they race 10 times, or
    - up to \$200 if they race 15 times.
  - iii. This should incent juniors to race more. The changes take effect in the 2019 season.
  - iv. The estimated additional cost to NYSBRA is \$1000-\$1500. The Treasurer confirms that NYSBRA has sufficient Mission Budget to cover this. In addition, Leona has personally raised approximately \$1600 this year with more coming. This money is earmarked for junior programs and Leona wants the funds to go to this change, so essentially, she has self-funded this change for the next two years.
  - v. A reminder about NYSBRA’s budget since Lucia raised the question during the telecon: officer stipends are part of the Admin Budget, which is completely separate from the Mission Budget.
- d. Approved! ACTION: Jeff to add to NYSBRA Grants document. Jeff/Noel/Mark to publicize in a Spring 2019 Newsletter
- **Permits (Gary Toth)**
  - a. Permits pending:
    - i. One permit for 2019 “New Year’s Day Ride” already permitted!
    - ii. Permits will be approved after we “finalize” the 2019 Race Calendar at the annual meeting, 19Jan
    - iii. No permits will be approved without a CR identified. For series permits, the CR is responsible for ensuring either the identified CR or a suitable replacement is at every race in the series.
- **Officials Coordinator (Liz Marcello)**
  - a. NYSBRA is still short officials:
    - i. We especially need new officials in NYC and WNY
    - ii. 2019 clinics are on the calendar!
      - 10Feb in Muhlenburg (hosted by NJ/PA)
      - 16Mar in Danbury (hosted by NYSBRA/NEBRA)
      - There will also be a clinic focused on the Kissena track, date tbd.
  - b. [Officials need to request races they want to work in our Officials Assignment Tool!](#)
- **Cyclocross (Ken Hammond)**
  - a. CX Schedule: [Add the NYSBRA Google CX Calendar to your own Google Calendar](#)
  - b. CX Champs: Ken will solicit input for the 2019 CX calendar and issue a call for the 2019 Champs at the conclusion of the CX season
- **Women’s Cycling (Kelly Neuner, Shane Ferro)**
  - a. Women’s CX Clinic Results:
    - i. Nine of the women who did the NYSBRA-supported women's cross clinic here in NYC in August started the Rainey Park race last weekend. Two of them are already cat 3s, and the other 7 made up half of the women's 4/5 race. I feel really good about the NYC women's cross community that NYSBRA has helped build.
    - ii. This clinic was supported by a NYSBRA Mission Grant.

- **Junior Cycling (Leona Chin)**
  - a. Savers' FunDrive 3Q Campaign:
    - i. Resulted in \$291 donation to NYSBRA for Juniors. Well done, Leona!
    - ii. Leona will have another FunDrive in the spring
  - b. The Modell's Campaign runs until Christmas; contact Leona for a discount coupon and NYSBRA gets cash back!
  - c. Leona has raised approximately \$1600 in 2018 for Junior Cycling. Well done, Leona!
- **Gravel and Gran Fondos (Tony Sylor)**
  - a. GGs and GFs continue to grow!:
    - i. Adding 35+ and 65+ Masters categories for the Championships next year
- **Coaching (Noel Bonk)**
  - a. Coaching advocacy has started!:
    - i. [Noel has added a "Coaches" page](#) to help riders find coaches and to serve as a resource for coaching information
    - ii. Noel will add an egroup [NYSBRA-coaches@googlegroups.com](mailto:NYSBRA-coaches@googlegroups.com) to serve as a forum for his customers
- **Track (Jim Lyman)**
  - a. Welcome, Jim!
  - b. Growth on the track:
    - i. Registrations are up from past years, which is very encouraging
    - ii. Ongoing repairs are a constant concern.
- **Other Business? (All)**
  - a. No additional Business!
  - b. Next meeting: 3-7pm, Saturday, 19Jan19
  - c. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.