

Minutes of the 2010 Mid-Atlantic Bicycle Racing Association Annual Meeting

January 22, 2011

MABRA Members in Attendance:

ABRT

NCVC

Evolution

Artemis

Route 1 Velo

Pax Velo

WWVC

AVC

Squadra Coppi

Rock Creek Velo

Chesapeake Wheelmen

Charm City Cycling

Hub Racing

Winchester Wheelmen

Potomac Velo

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Meeting called to order and BOD welcomed attendees.

Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting approved unanimously

REPORTS:

- EQUIPMENT: Jim Patton provided a report on the race-related equipment owned by MABRA, including the purchase of new laptop to assist the finish line camera crew.
- BUDGET: Treasurer Betsy Baysinger gave a report on the 2010 expenses and the proposed budget prepared for the meeting. Discussion of the NCVC budget proposal as it related to the

proposed budget opened. Motion to table budget discussion and vote for consideration with other budget and other proposals following reports.

- **CYCLOCROSS:** Cyclocross Coordinator Chip Sovek noted that growth was continuing in both the number of riders participating and the number and size of events in MABRA. He anticipates as many as 16 events on the calendar for 2011. There were roughly \$7,500 in MABRA expenses related cyclocross in 2010, and with the increase in events it is likely that a second trailer and race kit will be necessary for 2011.
- **WOMEN:** Outgoing Women's Coordinator Evelyn Egizi reported on the state of women's participation and the Cat. 3 series.
- **JUNIORS:** Junior Coordinator Frank Loversky reported that there was substantial growth in 2010, with twice the number of clubs with junior-specific programs, roughly twice the number of junior racers taking part in at least one MABRA event, and four times the number of junior women racing. Loversky noted the benefit to racing of having multiple clubs with juniors at races, rather than 2-3 large clubs filling fields. Loversky also noted that modifications to the Junior entry fee reimbursement program had not resulted in a greater use of the program in 2010.
- **OFFICIALS:** MABRA Officials Coordinator Jim Patton reported on several USAC rule changes for 2012, including a change to the age restrictions for women racing in men's fields. Patton also reminded promoting clubs that all race volunteers were required to sign waivers before assisting with race promotion duties. Officials Coordinator Patton reported that 60 MABRA Officials had worked a total of 460 Official Days in 2010. He renewed a request for new officials to take part in the MABRA-subsidized training. Patton also noted that Steve Stone, a regular official in the area, had been named to the USAC Regional Tech Commission.
  - At the close of the Official's Report, Patton announced that Mimi Newcastle was MABRA's Official of the Year for 2010. Congratulations to Mimi, who also handles all permitting of MABRA events.
- **USA CYCLING:** USAC Regional Representative Randy Inglis complemented MABRA on having a high number of high-level officials, and for being one of the top associations in on-time results reporting. He noted that there was a positive response to online event permitting in MABRA. Inglis also reminded the member clubs that USAC had developed an online registration system that gave a direct rebate to promoters for each racer. To date, the response had been variable, with few events in MABRA utilizing the new system.
- **CHAMPIONSHIPS:** Chris Merriam of the BOD reported that the new online system for ordering championship clothing had generally simplified the process. Clothing was scheduled to arrive from supplier Voler in February.
- **BAR:** BAR Administrator Dave Harrell noted some difficulties with the BAR in 2010 which a pending update to the MABRA database could potentially address. Harrell then explained the details of his proposed changes to the BAR rules.

#### PROPOSALS FOR MEMBER VOTING:

##### **BAR:**

- BAR Administrator Dave Harrell (WWVC) proposed a number of substantive and technical amendments to the BAR Rules (attached). Substantive changes included recognition of a Junior Women's category, dropping the limitation of top three riders per team scoring (permitting all riders from one team to score), and allowing riders to score in multiple races in a single race day. Procedural changes included dropping the financial penalty to promoters for late result reporting (MABRA had nearly 100% timely submission to USAC), matching distance requirements for BAR status with USAC upgrade minimums, and a requirement for 30 days advance notice to the BAR Administrator for events seeking BAR status.

Vote called (out of agenda order), and the proposed changes were approved unanimously.

**Budget:**

- Budget proposal by NCVV to cap MABRA account at \$25,000 and refund excess to clubs based upon percent of rider fees submitted, to be implemented immediately.

Bill Leucke (NCVV) and Coppi noted that the MABRA balance has grown each year to current total of approximately \$50,000, while the annual expenses have remained below \$25,000.

Board members indicated that there were potential capital expenses (future purchase of timing equipment) that would be hampered by a fixed cash cap.

BOD (Merriam) asked for an amendment that any proposal passed go into effect in 2012 based on 2011 expenses. Rock Creek Velo (Frank Loversky) sought an amendment to cap the account balance at 2.5 times the prior year actual expenses, in order to preserve flexibility for capital expenditures while addressing the continued growth of the MABRA cash balance (discussion using 2010 actuals that would result in a balance cap of roughly \$50,000 if applied in 2011).

Vote called, and the proposal with amendments to modify cap to 2.5 times prior year's actual expenses and to implement for 2012 passed unanimously.

Budget proposed by the BOD was approved unanimously.

**Administration of cyclocross series:**

- AVC proposal that MABRA BOD administer the scope and membership of the MABRA Cyclocross series.

AVC's stated concern is that smaller events may draw fewer riders if not included in a MABRA series which includes fewer events than the current eleven.

As noted in the Cyclocross Coordinator's report, that branch of the sport has continued to grow rapidly, with many new riders and several new events in the MABRA region. The growth has resulted in increased competition for calendar dates and a movement by several promoters to

create a sub-series of races with standardized race day schedules and prize list requirements. AVC proposal is to have MABRA BOD oversee series requirements and membership.

BOD (Merriam) noted that cyclocross calendar decisions have been made at meeting of the promoters with BOD representation, and that promoting clubs are able to form 'series' of similar events without additional BOD approval beyond permitting/championship review (recent example of the time trial series of events which are internally scored). Merriam expressed his opinion that the administration of cyclocross should continue through the annual meeting of cyclocross promoters.

BOD (Baysinger & Holman) expressed support for a Best All-Around cyclocross competition to cover all MABRA cyclocross events to provide an incentive for participation in new and traditionally smaller events if a smaller series were put in place.

Vote called, and the motion was voted down with two votes in support.

#### **CHAMPIONSHIP BIDS:**

Senior Road Race – Page Valley: Unanimous Approval

Senior Criterium – Leonardtown/Pax Velo: Unanimous Approval

Age-Graded Criterium – AVC (WWVC withdrew): Unanimous Approval

Time Trial: Church Creek/ABRT: Unanimous Approval

Hill Climb: Highway to Heaven/Chesapeake: Unanimous Approval

No bid for Age-Graded Road Race, Track

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION:**

The slate of directors running for re-election was:

Chris Merriam – President

Will Miller – Vice President

Betsy Baysinger – Treasurer

Barry Holman – Member at Large

Ely Hengst was nominated to fill the BOD position vacated by Evelyn Egizi.

The slate of five BOD members was elected unanimously.

No additional business was offered, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.