

Mid Atlantic Bicycling Racing Association

Annual Meeting - Meeting Minutes

Feb 13, 2017

The Annual Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Bicycle Racing Association was called to order at 3pm EST on February 13, 2017.

Topics Discussed:

- Introductions of current and prospective Board members.
- Transition year for MABRA – changes to the Board.

Year in Review – Jim Patton

- Pre-reg numbers 50% increase from Sept 2016 – Jan 2017. Majority of racing days were CX days.
- Need to improve road numbers.
- MABRA will continue to subsidize Greenbelt and racer clinics with .50 per rider subsidy.
- Greenbelt is good for Juniors and less experienced riders to gain experience.
- Demographics: over 2200 racers. Juniors made up part of this increase.
- RCV, NCV, Baltimore Youth Cycling are doing well in getting Juniors into the sport.
- Challenge will be to keep them in the sport and moving up, especially the girls.
- How does MABRA develop, educate and retain the younger racers.

Women's Racing

- How to get women from CAT4 to CAT3 and up
- The percentage of elite women is small – hard for promoters to have separate categories due to field size.
- Women CAT3 need to be able to train/race at higher levels.
- Desire to grow the women's elites (CAT1/2/3)
- Large percentage of Junior Women are CAT3/4

MABRA Committees

- Committees for Women's Racing, CX, Juniors, etc instead of individual coordinators.
- MABRA to listen and work with race promoters to encourage participation
- Community dialog and transparency is the goal going forward.
- All information will be posted on the mabra.org website

Officials in MABRA – Jim Patton

- Rules for 2017 are available on the MABRA website
- CAT5 Women is new category starting 2017. CAT5 Women will be in Women CAT4/5 fields until the CAT5 field grows.
- New definitions for composite teams – read the rules for more information
- New finish line camera system obtained
- Road Race calendar for 2017 is posted on mabra.org – the spreadsheet will no longer be maintained
- Still a need for new officials – new Officials clinic scheduled for Feb 25.

Promoters

- New promoters need guidance for putting on races.
- There is a lot of institutional knowledge that needs to be documented and shared.
- Dana Mellerio is putting together a promoter's guide based on USAC and MABRA resources.
- Nessim Mezarhi is the Community Outreach Chairperson and will work with local jurisdictions/municipalities.

MABRA BAR Survey

- Respondents to survey reflected MABRA demographics.
- Racers don't know or understand what the BAR is about.
- On a scale of 1-10 (where 1 was very unsatisfied and 10 was highly satisfied): BAR races scored a 2 and BAR rules scored a 3.
- Majority of the input was that the rules are too long and complicated.
- BAR is no longer needed for its original purpose which was to keep racers racing locally instead of racing in Southern VA or PA.
- Rob Kelly will be heading up a five person BAR committee comprised of two women and three men.
- No changes for 2017 racing season.
- Full scale revamp of BAR for 2018.
- Draft BAR rules will be out for review/comment in early summer.
 - Scoring will be simplified.
 - Full podium competition for individuals and teams over a season.
 - No reduced fee/entry for BAR winners in 2017 for 2018 season.
 - 2016 winners will still receive reduced entry in 2017.
 - New title will be MABRA Road Cup.

MABRA Revenue Stream

- \$10 from USAC per full priced licensed racer who lists CX or Road as their primary race discipline
- MABRA fee of \$1 per racer/per day
- No Juniors or Officials included
- USA Cycling Racer day program – \$0.17 per racer/per day

Pilot Fee Collection for 2017

- Funds will flow directly from BikeReg to MABRA – instead of the Race Director or Race Promoter getting paid then having to pay MABRA.
- Trial races will be Church Creek 1 & 2 and That Dam TT since these are pre-reg events.
- Goal is to streamline and reduce the workload of the Board, Race Directors and Race Promoters
- Day of racers will present a challenge and details are being worked on.
- \$1 MABRA fee goes to different programs – see slide deck for more information.
- Reference Annual Meeting slides for details on collection fees. Additional information will be communicated via the MABRA website and the MABRA Facebook page.
- If any race directors want to include this for their 2017 race, please contact the MABRA Board.
- Impetus for this change is to educate racers on MABRA and where the money goes.
- If anyone has a concern, please contact the MABRA Board.

2017 Budget/Financials

- Projected flat – same as 2016.

- Reduced budget for Junior bike program – shifting to CX program.
- Funds added for the Women’s program.
- MABRA is currently carrying a bank account balance between \$15,000 and \$16,000.
- MABRA is still awaiting payment from USAC for the 4th quarter license and rider day fees they owe us

MABRA 2020 – Long Range Planning

- See Annual Meeting Slides – more information will be coming.
- Three committees for outreach: CX, Juniors and Women Racing.
- Championship events – are they as good as they can be?
- Beginner racer program for 2016 was a huge success – possibly a Beginner Women’s racer program for 2017. Looking for help promoting and supporting. Please contact the MABRA Board if you’d like to help.

2017 Volunteers

- Junior’s Chairperson: Ryan McKinney, DC Velo
- CX Chairperson: Taylor Jones, Crosshairs Cycling
- Women’s Chairperson: Deirdre Mullaly (temporary), Sticky Fingers
- BAR Administrator: DJ Brew, DC Velo
- Community Outreach/Relations Chairperson: Nessim Mezarhi, District Velocity
- Communications/Sponsorship Chairperson: Angela Parrotta, Sticky Fingers
- Special Projects: Stuart Ross, DC Velo
- Race Director Coordinator: Dana Mellerio, Squadra Coppi
- Permits Coordinator: Mimi Newcastle
- Officials Coordinator: Jim Patton
- Upgrade Coordinator: Lew Shrader
- Championship Coordinator: ?????
- Need for a Championship Coordinator.

Elections

- Board slate of Rob Kelly, Michael Levesque, Kaitlyn Mittan, Deirdre Mullaly and Glenn Stevens was approved by a majority of voters at the Annual Meeting.

2017 Road Championships

- Proposals on slide deck.
- Current races have “de-facto” championship races.
- Are there other races that could server the purpose of the Championship races – other venues that haven’t been used in the past?
- Suggestion to break out races by different categories at different races (e.g. Ride Sally Ride for Juniors, Bunny Hop for Women) – under consideration.
- The following 5 races were awarded 2017 Road Championships without objection:
 - Road Races:
 - Page Valley- Senior Championship (Page Valley Cycling Club)
 - Miller School- Age-Graded Championship (Monticello Velo Club)
 - Criteriums:
 - TOWC Kickoff Crit (Antietam Velo Club)
 - Riverside Frederick (Antietam Velo Club)

- Schedule of which crit championships will take place in each race will be posted once finalized.
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- Time Trial: Church Creek 2 (ABRT)

2017 CX Championship

- The board had received requests to delay awarding the CX championship until the CX schedule was finalized later this year however the consensus at the meeting was those requests came too late in the process and if other teams were interested in hosting the championship they should have submitted proposals.
- The proposal from TEAM Fuji/Rock Creek Velo for hosting the 2017 MABRA CX Championship at Taneytown was approved.

2017 Policy Proposals (as posted on the mabra.org website)

- The Team Bikenetic Surcharge Proposal was approved. Fun rides and gran fondos now have to pay a \$.50 per rider per day fee. Other areas of the surcharge remain as they did before.
- Team Sticky Fingers/TEAM Fuji Age-Parity Proposal was approved. This expands the Women's Master BAR series and Championships to include the same 55+ and 65+ categories the men's side already has and also specifics that Championships should be awarded in 5-year age increments for age 55, 60, 65, 70 as per USAC guidelines. Races are not required to offer separate start times for these fields.
- MVC/Sportif Master's Women Proposal was approved. This is a technical change to the BAR rules that clarified that there are no minimum required raced distances for a race to qualify for MABRA BAR eligibility and was a substitute for a proposal originally from MVC regarding minimum race distances for Master Women's fields.