

MABRA 2013 Year-End Annual Meeting
January 25, 2014
Alexandria, VA

ATTENDANCE: 18 clubs were represented

AABC	Chesapeake Wheelmen	Potomac Velo Club
ABRT	DCVelo	Rock Creek Velo
Antietam Velo Club	District Velocity Racing	Squadra Coppi
Artemis	Evolution	Deep Blue
Battley Ducati	MVC	AMV
CAWES	NCVC	FUJI

BOARD ATTENDANCE:

Evelyn Egizi: President, Bar Coordinator
Eli Hengst: Member-At Large
Robin Meidhof: Treasurer
Kornel Schuebel: Secretary

Volunteer Coordinators:

Frank Loversky: Juniors Coordinator
Lew Strader: Upgrade Coordinator
Jim Patton: Officials' Coordinator

Welcome and introduction- Evelyn Egizi

Official's Report: Jim Patton

USAC rules changes for the upcoming racing season included:

- Event permit fees
 - If you are a procrastinator and submit 48 hours before, you will not have an event. Fees must be submitted at least 72 hours before event start (non-negotiable)
 - 5% of race prize from E, D and 7% from C-A
- Insurance certificate
 - This has changed a little bit, but we don't have special endorsements in this area so no need to worry about that change at this time
- Race director certification
 - Race Director certification is in effect, but not mandatory this year. It has been delayed due to feedback, but it is coming
 - Race director is responsible for the "acquisition and publication" of results, which allows for chip timing and photofinish technicians to replace some judges

NEW RULES

- Racing age now starts at 9 years old
- One day license is now \$15 (where a new rider is considered to be any unlicensed rider who's NEVER held a USAC annual license, at any time in the past).
 - Its intention is to be an introductory license for beginners trying the sport
 - Still \$10 for mountain bike races.
- Field limit for Cat 5 men and Cat 4 women increased to 75 riders
 - The promoter and chief referee can lower this to 50
- MVR process – All race drivers will need a motor vehicle review as well as a driving record review – *Having insurance for the driver protects the Race Director and the Club*
- PRO rider definition has been changed
 - 1) Rider with UCI team contract
 - 2) Only race in PRO category
 - 3) CANNOT participate in State Championships
- Year in review- it was a GOOD year!
 - Overall growth of 7% over last year

- 74 events were planned and 6 were cancelled
- 19K registered riders, with 8K riding cyclocross
- Officiating Report
 - Robin Meidhof and Paul Berhrends earned Cat A officials status
 - Wayne Lerch won "MABRA Official of the Year"
 - Low response to request for officials to renew licenses. 5 officials finished the Cat C clinic for 2014, but we need 10 more. The new requirements (background check, increased fee, etc) may be the reason for the drop-off in officials.

Upgrade Coordinator Report: Lew Strader

Upgrade Requests for 2013

- 406 upgrade requests, including both road and cyclocross, were made and 272 (67%) were approved. A few track requests were made, but those generally go to the regional coordinator.
- Average time to get a decision was 1.7 days
- Vast majority were Cat 5's upgrading to Cat 4 and were road racing upgrades
- Changes for 2014: no more mailing of upgrade stickers
 - Riders who have upgraded will have to come to races with Authorization to Ride on paper or show registration electronically
 - Lew does not have authority to do a mandatory upgrade, but if someone refuses to upgrade, Lew can talk with Randy and make that happen; peer pressure is also effective

Junior Coordinator Report: Frank Loversky

The original goal to attract 100 junior riders was surpassed in 2013.

- New goals are to encourage growth of teams to foster larger junior representation.
 - Draft-legal triathalons are a good source of recruitment
- Bike Loaner Program: 45 bikes (including both road and cyclocross bikes) are currently available
- Additional comments by Greg Abbot from NCVC regarding the financial aspects of the juniors program were presented.

Treasurer's Report: Robin Meidhof

- Proposed budget for 2014 distributed. Hard copies of 2013 accounting distributed.
- Members reminded that budget information available on the mabra website
- Concern expressed over late-submitted receipts; e.g., over \$2,000 issued in reimbursements for championship medals and awards purchased for 2011 and 2012 seasons. This cut into proposed 2013 budget. MABRA is responsible for accurate accounting filings with USAC and these one-offs are not ideal when trying to determine proposed budgets year to year.
 - Membership signaled support for the Treasurer to limit reimbursement requests to only those that are timely.
- Proposed budget for MABRA Bar Jersey Offset was not used because there was a failure of Championship Coordinator to communicate with the membership regarding the MABRA reimbursement of \$30 to those riders who purchased BAR jerseys.
 - Membership representatives were asked to alert their teams so requests for reimbursement made within 30 days could be honored.
- No funds are proposed to be allocated in 2014 for Drug Testing because the funds allocated for 2013 were not used. USAC sent MABRA contract in late July. \$6,000 had been allocated for 2013 and MABRA paid \$3,500 for tests which will now be conducted during the 2014 season.

BAR Coordinator Report: Evelyn Egizi

Review of how tabulation worked with the use of Bike Reg

- Current use of BIKEREG for MABRA BAR continues to have flaws, and is less burdensome to the Coordinator in terms of data management, but has other high attention needs.
 - The strict BAR criteria as it relates to riders' categories, how they register their name for events and the club stated on their licenses remain as issues related to accuracy.
 - The current BAR Rule puts more responsibility on the promoter to check this data and report it completely in the results submission to both USAC and Bike Reg.
 - The Team BAR has not been calculated for the past two seasons due to this.
 - It has been necessary for the BAR Coordinator to watchdog Bike Reg for correct postings and to work with promoters in getting their results to Bike Reg in the requested format
 - The current required BAR registration set-up for Bike Reg has proved difficult for promoters
- Use of the USAC Registration format could help alleviate many of the issues stated above, as all names, license numbers, and clubs would already be in the system.
 - The actual registration system performs in the same way that Bike Reg does.
 - Use of the USAC registration would be supporting our organization vs. an outside company.
- Randy Inglis, our regional USAC representative, described the recently enhanced and streamlined software upgrades and review stream in more detail.
 - The USAC system has already been adopted in many, if not most of the rest of the country but within MABRA territory the BIKEREG usage far exceeds USAC.
- A discussion led by Ken (AABC), Ruth (MVC) and Eli (Battley), and others weighed the benefits and disadvantages of the current BIKEREG system for meeting MABRA's needs.
 - BIKEREG currently receives hundreds of thousands of dollars from MABRA riders, and yet their system for BAR record keeping is inadequate.
 - Some teams are sponsored by BikeReg (i.e., AVC), so that presents a conflict with using USAC. *Board raised possibility of waiver for those teams sponsored by BikeReg.*
 - Since no proposal was rendered, no vote was taken and the decision to revisit this issue at the next annual meeting was made.
 - *Board suggested an ad hoc meeting in October 2014 to discuss so the BAR registration can be decided before promoters register race for 2015 in Bike Reg.*
 - Lew Strader asked Randy to provide Membership with contacts from other Local Associations so that MABRA promoters could email them and ask how they view their experience with USAC registration
- The current BAR Rules will be amended for clarification and ease, and will be sent to the members present for approval.

Updates from USAC LA summit, November 1-3, 2013: Evelyn Egizi

- New terminology for Race Promoter is now "Race Director"
 - Each event now requires a Race Director, with full implementation of this requirement by 2015. Use the 2014 season to get prepared/conduct test run.
 - Each club registered with USAC gets one free Race Director
 - There will be 3 categories of Race Directors, denoted Level A, Level B and Level C.
- The Race Director (RD) will have more of a role with working with Officials and race officiating needs.
 - The RD's new role will primarily involve SAFETY, including proper instruction for race marshals, and assuring volunteers (even club members) sign the "release form", proper insurance needs, liability concerns, etc.

- *Save those hard copy waivers for 10 years!* It was noted that if we went with the USAC system, the waivers would be electronic.
- ONLY Parents or Legal guardians can sign race release waivers for Juniors. Copies of signed forms are not acceptable; must provide a “wet” signature for juniors to race.
- Insurance programs are available for competitive events as well as Gran Fondo events, and non-competitive rides and clinics.
 - For non-cycling attractions at events (food trucks, vendors, Beer Gardens, etc.) additional insurance is highly recommended, as the standard USAC insurance does not cover this.
 - Several optional insurance programs are available.
 - Individual Event accident medical insurance includes 25K excess accidental medical insurance for USAC riders at USAC events
 - Optional bike insurance for USAC members includes crash damage and theft of insured bikes
- RACE CLEAN Program: The program performed 264 tests at 46 events in 2013.
 - MABRA region did not get tests done due to the delayed roll-out of the program.
 - Funds from 2013 will be rolled over into 2014
 - Currently for 2014, 25 USAC regions have signed up for the program
- MABRA BOD updates:
 - Chris Merriam resigned as a board member leaving one position (5 positions are required in the MABRA charter).
 - Pete Lindeman was nominated to fill the position. His nomination received a unanimous vote of approval. Welcome Pete!
 - Eli discussed Board’s goal to create a Facebook page to describe race-related weather updates, race schedule updates, etc.
 - Evelyn communicated that the Board has struggled to maintain committed volunteers and suffered burn-out from those who have given their time and service for years.
 - Robin stated desire to step down after 2014 as Treasurer. Position requires approximately 10 hours a month of time. No small task.

MABRA BAR and Championship Proposals

- 7 categories were under consideration, 5 without contest. These 5 were voted on “en bloc’ and unanimously approved by vote (18 to 0)
- Two events were contested.
 - The Masters-Age-graded RR went to the Miller School Road Race (Ruth Stornetta from MVC bike club was present) by a 13 to 0 vote. Five clubs abstained from voting. The Warrior Road Race received 0 votes (no Adventures for the Cure representative was present).
- Page Valley RR was awarded Senior Championship RR by a vote of 18 to 0. This event is also the VA State Championship event.
- Joe Jefferson (AVC) will put on both Age-Graded and Senior Crit Championships. He wants to make sure the Age-Graded Crit does not happen when Masters Natz is (July 6th)

MABRA Track Championship, Cheryl from Artemis and Pete Czapiewski

- 2 proposals were considered
 - 1) Can MABRA buy the jerseys? Passed 16 to 2.
 - 2) Increase the number of BAR points to 30? Passed 18 to 0.

Paracycling, presented by Will Reynolds

- Proposal for 4 paracycling categories: 1) handcycle; 2) physical disability; 3) recumbent/trike; 4) open with creation of a new BAR category with a Time Trial including in 2015 and 1 jersey in each category. Proposal was accepted 18 to 0.
 - Board acknowledged that it would need to work with Pete Swann and determine how to best incorporate this category into the BAR.

Template for 2014 BAR jersey, presented by Greg Abbott, NCVC

Passed 18 to 0

Proposal for a MABRA “Composite” team, Eli Hengst

Any team in the MABRA territory can contribute elite riders in one of 3 categories, Men Women, Juniors. The proposal was funded for its initial phases for \$1,500 by a vote of 18 to 0.

Meeting Adjourned due to start of Awards Banquet.