

# 2011 New Mexico Bicycle Racing Association Annual Meeting Minutes

**Date and Time:** Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011, 5 p.m.

**Location:** 1309 Arizona St. NE, Albuquerque NM 87110

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

New Mexico Bicycle Racing Association (NMBRA) Secretary Jennifer Buntz opened the meeting by handing out the most recent issue of *New Mexico Sports Magazine* and explaining that the magazine editors have a publication goal of covering a bicycle event in every issue of the quarterly journal. She suggested that any meeting attendee with a bicycle story idea or bicycle event to promote should call the number listed in on the masthead and ask for Susan. If anyone has difficulty reaching Susan, Jennifer can give you her e-mail address. Jennifer explained that Susan's support of cycling-related stories put the writer on the top of Heartbreak hill to experience a local race this summer. Jennifer added that it would be worthwhile for cyclocross riders to alert Susan about cyclocross stories particularly the night event because it would provide the opportunity for a good photo for the magazine.

NMBRA President Steve Mathias said in order to hold the meeting and conduct voting, a change to the bylaws would be necessary. He requested that the Board approve an amendment to Article IV Voting to define a quorum as consisting of 50 percent of the meeting attendees rather than 50 percent of the total membership. All were in favor. Steve said the NMBRA Bylaws will be revised and reposted on the nmccycling website.

President Mathias then called attendance to determine which clubs of the 34 NMBRA members were in attendance and asked which individual member would be voting on behalf of each club. Fifteen clubs were in attendance.

Club Name	Present	Not Present
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Bike n Sport Racing	X	
Cafe Guiseppe		X
City of Farmington		X
Colavita		X
Deeside Thistle Cycling Club		X
Duke City Wheelmen	X	
Event Lab Racing	X	
Get Out! New Mexico		X
Goathead Jr. Devo	X	
High Desert Bicycles Team	X	
Jackal Pack	X	
La Tierra Torture Organizing Committee		X
Los Alamos Ski Club		X
New Mexico Junior Mountain Bike Club		X
New Mexico Spokettes Racing Team	X	
New Mexico State University		X
New Mexico Velosport	X	
Nob Hill Velo	X	
Northside at Taos Ski Valley, Inc		X
Olev Rapido	X	
Red River Bike Club		X
Rez Dog Racing		X
Rio Grande Racing Team	X	
Roadrunner Cycling Club		X
Rob and Charlie's		X

Socorro Striders and Riders		X
Sport Systems Cycling Club	X	
Sport Systems Mountaintop Cycling	X	
Team Cross (TCNM)		X
Team F.I. Taos		X
Team Never Stop		X
Tour of the Gila Inc.		X
University of New Mexico	X	
ZiaVelo Racing Club	X	

## 2. Elections

Terms ending:

A. Nominations and election of Treasurer (currently held by Brandi Hibner)

- Brandi Hibner indicated she would be interested in continuing the position.
- Jill Langendorf was nominated.

Brandi and Jill L. leave the room for the vote.

**Vote:**

Brandi Hibner - 3

Jill Langendorf - 11

Jill Langendorf is the new NMBRA Treasurer

B. Nominations and election of Member at Large (currently held by Al Waters)

C. Nominations and election of Member at Large (currently held by Pamala Thullen)

D. Nominations and election of Member at Large (currently held by Dave Halliburton)

E. Nominations and election of Member at Large (position open due to resignation of Jerry Kiuttu)

After some discussion over whether a separate nominations and voting process should be made for each individual Member at Large Position or whether all the nominations should be accepted to select all four positions at once, it was decided that the votes would be taken as a group.

Five nominations for four positions. Each club was permitted to vote for four of the five candidates.

- Dave Halliburton - 15 votes
- Michael McCalla - 5 votes
- Andrea Schoeney - 10 votes
- Pamala Thullen - 14 votes
- Al Waters - 11 votes

Board Members at Large for 2012-2013 will be Dave Halliburton, Andrea Schoeney, Pamala Thullen and Al Waters.

Resignations:

F. Nominations and election of Secretary (position open due to resignation of Jennifer Buntz)

Nomination:

- Jill Janov

Jill Janov is the new NMBRA Secretary

### **3. Financial Report**

NMBRA Treasurer Brandi Hibner

She said most of the money came from USAC, off-road series and road series more. She said there was a donation from Sports Authority for prizes for the race series. She added that most of the money went to jerseys for tonight for the series and for food for tonight.

Brandi said we spent \$1,000 on race kit items for this year, printing and stopwatches, which we bought before the Galisteo race.

She said there is \$6,000 in the account now with \$4,000 from USAC. NMBRA received \$10 for every road license and the same amount for MTB licenses from USAC.

Steve Mathias pointed out that when a racer buys a road license first and then mountain license, NMBRA receives \$10 for each. But if racers buy the licenses in the other order, the NMBRA does not receive any money for the road license.

George Haggerty of USAC said that procedure might change.

Steve Mathias said this year's financial report will be on the website as it was last year. Steve then introduced George Heagerty, the regional coordinator for USA Cycling.

#### **4. USA Cycling Update**

George Heagerty thanked the group for creating its race calendar, being officials and just growing the sport in general.

George reported that our region lost 6 officials last year down to 40 from 46.

Al Waters said that there will be a clinic for new officials in January or February at REI (in Albuquerque).

George said that USAC has a new race director certification program for 2012 and the results and ranking program has been revamped.

George emphasized that race director is the now the preferred moniker - not promoter. The race director certification program will offer licenses good for two years at the A, B or C level depending on the quality of the event and the risk involved. Each club will be able to designate one person to attend the event (race) director training free

of charge. The beginning level certification for race directors will be offered as an online program starting in 2012.

George said the results and rankings on the website relaunched in September and is not based on events but on the quality of the fields. So far the feedback has been good on this new ranking system. Out of the top 10, seven were correct. There are questions about why it is not being used for TTs.

Online registration will hopefully increase especially with iPhone and other smart phone registration and one-click registration in addition to electronic signatures, George said. He added that racers using the system will no longer have to sign waivers at the event.

Race directors in the room asked if this electronic signature and race registration would be available to other online race registration websites. George said that because of the risk, safeguards have been set up so USAC can guarantee that the person registering for the race is the person offering the electronic signature. At this point, there is no timeline for expanding the system to independent online registration websites because of the risk.

George explained that for events using USAC's online registration system, USA Cycling would give back 80 cents for each racer. This amount will be split between the local association and the race director. It will be payable on a quarterly basis. Race directors who use the USA Cycling registration system can settle at the end of the event.

George said the permit fees will change. There was a 7 percent sticking point with an unknown origination. This only pertains to the Gila. It was restructured and is now transparent based on the actual cost.

George offered some suggestions for race directors to help prevent potential lawsuits. Some things he thinks will help include:

- Getting all volunteers to sign waivers.
- Give marshals more training because they have a high level of responsibility in races. He said to take 5-10 minutes to talk to marshals and explain their responsibilities in the race. He said this is the race director's job to do this.
- Avoid cases in which the motor removes the rider.

- Don't make promises you can't keep such as race fliers that indicate the course will be closed when it won't actually.
- Never make a decision where you compromise safety over cost.

Several race directors said there are always tough decisions to be made regarding safety and cost and they asked for some examples. George did not have an example, but explained that the main difference would be between "negligence and gross negligence." Steve said if any race directors want more information, he can put them in touch with the USA Cycling expert on this topic.

Another race director asked if there were guidelines for race marshals when using city or county law enforcement personnel. George said he has some basic guidelines for marshals, which need to be reviewed by the USA Cycling CFO before they will be distributed.

George closed by saying that all race directors who are certified will get a discount on their permit fee and in the first year, the beginning race director course will be free.

## **5. Membership**

Steve Mathias reviewed the NMBRA membership definition and requirements, which require members to permit, promote and conduct a USA Cycling race according to the USA Cycling rulebook, maintain status as a USA Cycling Club or Event Organizer, and attend NMBRA meetings. There are five clubs/event directors not in good standing with USAC and four not in good standing with NMBRA.

## **6. Race Surcharges**

Steve explained the \$1 per racer charge in New Mexico was intended to support the race series and pay for the jerseys and the meeting and that it's not intended as a barrier to put on races. He asked if this charge should be added only for races in the series. The cost for the jerseys was \$1,500. He said money from USAC is replenishing the race kit. Most of the race kit expenses are last-minute needs and nobody is managing the kit. Nobody volunteered to take on the job of managing

the race kits, which is stored in the basement of the Trek Superstore on Menaul in Albuquerque. Jennifer Buntz said she will continue to take care of the race kit, but hopefully someone will step up to handle this job in the future.

One team manager said it is harder to put on omniums because the charge is \$1 per racer per day and suggested the charge should be \$1 per racer for the entire event. Steve explained that it is structured that way because omniums are counted separately for race series points. Steve pointed out that this applies to all races except the crit series because it doesn't make sense for that particular event.

No one disagreed with the point about the crit series, but other race directors said they thought the charge was fair for all other races. Even if they are not part of the series, they are interested in paying the fee to support NMBRA because it maintains the website, race kit and lists the races on the website calendar. If race directors hear from racers who have a problem paying the fee, it was suggested that race directors send an e-mail out to the racers signed up for their race explaining why the fee is charged or assign a designated person on the club to distribute NMBRA information to the members on a regular basis so they better understand where the fee goes.

Jennifer Buntz said the money also goes toward paying official licenses at the end of the year for officials who officiate during at least five racers. Steve said some of the reason NMBRA has a surplus is because USAC paid NMBRA for two years because it couldn't pay the first year when the association wasn't yet set up.

**7. The calendar discussion** was skipped because the meeting started late and was running late.

## **8. 2012 Road Series**

The Road Series has the following seven race groups: Men Cat 1/2/3, Men Cat 4, Men Cat 5, Masters Men 50+, Women Cat 1/2/3, Women Cat 4, Juniors 16 and under. Steve Mathias said with limited resources, it will be difficult to add extra categories and make everybody happy.

There was discussion about the cost and benefits of photo finish cameras and chips to help officials score. Some officials said the cameras would be much more reliable than the chips. Either way, the cost was determined to be too high for these systems.

The following proposals were presented for voting:

- Keep the Masters start. Age group awards will be given within categories.
  - Vote – 10 in favor - ? against
- Keep Masters age at 50+ instead of lowering to 45+.
  - Vote – 7 in favor - 4 against
- Exclude Cat 5 men from the Masters race. The NMBRA Road Series organizers recommend a vote FOR this proposal.
  - Vote – 10 in favor - ? against
- Exclude Cat 1 men from the Masters race. The NMBRA Road Series organizers have no opinion on this proposal.
  - Vote – 6 in favor. 1 against.

### **Rule Changes**

- Steve Mathias said that a change to rules was made so that riders upgrading to higher USAC categories during the season no longer take 1/2 of their points from the lower category to the new category competition. Now they retain points in the lower category and start from zero in their new category. The old rule that allowed riders to take their points with them was intended to encourage upgrades, but this year there were a few circumstances that some riders would have won their new categories automatically by virtue of upgrading. That wasn't the intent. Under the new plan, a rider can theoretically win more than one category.
  - Vote 10-2 in favor of this move
- Points will be awarded to more places to encourage participation and help in the fields with multiple categories.

### **9. State Championships**

Beginning in the 2012, NMBRA will institute a bid system to host the state championships for the following:

**Road:** Road Race, Time Trial, Criterium, Hill Climb and Cyclocross

**MTB:** XC, Downhill and Endurance

In order to host a State Championship event, a club or promoter must submit a proposal to NMBRA by mail on the approved form by Jan. 15. Bids will be evaluated by the NMBRA Board and winners selected by majority vote. NMBRA will announce the State Championship events on March 15. In the event that a proposal is not submitted for one of the above events, a State Championship in that event will not be held for the current racing season.

Dave Halliburton will submit a proposal for the MTB XC State Championship to be awarded to the NMORS winner instead of a one-day race.

## **10. Official of the Year**

Pamala Thullen was nominated and approved as NMBRA Official of the Year.

## **11. Race Kit Storage.**

The race kit has been moved from Exustar/Q Cycle to the Trek Superstore basement in Albuquerque.

## **12. Community Input / Comments**

Racer Tove Shere brought up the possibility of putting on a relay race to gauge racer interest. It could be on Oak Flats course where racers would have to come up with teams of four people each doing one lap. Each team would have a Cat 1 or 2 racers, a Cat 3 racer, a Cat 4 or 5 racer and a racer aged 50+. Teams could be all men or 2/2 men/women. There was a lot of enthusiasm for such a race because it would cross categories.

## **13. Adjourn**