

NEBRA Board Call, November 4th, 2024 @ 8pm

Board Members Present:

Alan Atwood
Kaitlyn Agnew
Mike Rowell
Ron Jacobs
Chris DeHahn
Tim Cary
Brian Wolfe
Leslie Timm (Treasurer)

Board Members Absent:

Agenda:

1. Approve minutes from October meeting **approved**
2. **{Leslie}** Financial update as of 9/30. *(Ed Note: sorry, this should have been part of October meeting)* **update received**
3. Updates from previously discussed topics:
 - a. **{Brian}** Support for nationals participation; Update old/draw up new documentation? **To be continued**
 - b. **{Alan}** Medals for NE Regional Championships; arrived in time for Regional Champs on 11/2. Cost for 26 sets was \$843.50.



Will seek reimbursement upon Board approval. **All medals distributed at Tree House. Reimbursement approved.**

- c. **{Kaitlyn}** Form committee to coordinate 2025 road schedule requests to begin in October.

- i. Sending another message to RD's via direct e-mail (Alan can assist in compiling list of USAC RD's) **Kaitlyn to send targeted emails to 2024 promoters. Paul Boudreau looking for open weekends.**
- ii. After infrastructure (i.e. forms) are in place, have a Zoom call on a weekday evening with the RD's to "open" the road calendar gathering process and to talk to them about current trends (racers not doing 2 events on the same weekend; splitting weekends by geography to maximize racer attendance): Where are we with this? **12 responses from folks interested in pre-summit event.**
- iii. Alan also updating other non-USAC events on the calendar as they show up on BikeReg. **To be continued**
- iv. Conflict management: USAC mentioned on the most recent LA call that they would back up LA's (denying permits) if the LA had concrete policies in place that restrict types of conflicts (i.e. same discipline on same day). Do we want to review our policies based on this or if everyone's comfortable where we are. **To be considered as arises**
- d. Need to form a sub-committee to work on recruiting new board member(s)
 - i. Mike Rowell is term-ing out and will end his boardsmanship in Feb '25
 - ii. Ron, Kaitlyn, Tim & Chris: Their terms end Feb '25. All to seek re-election.
 - iii. We received an unsolicited request from Bryan Wynn (545 Velo); Alan responded to confirm the request. **Interested in joining the Board. Alan told him to hang tight, go through the process**
- e. **{Kaitlyn}** Hall of Fame nomination update **4 responses, to be included in next month's newsletter – Mike Norton, Gary Kessler (2 nominations), Alan Atwood; nomination period closes end of this month**

4. New Business

- a. Lincoln Phillips traveled to Colorado Springs to take the A class, which if passed will make him another national level official in New England. **He passed**
 - i. Already approved \$750 reimbursement for him
 - ii. Short writeup from Lincoln on his experience with the class.
 - 1. See Appendix 1 below
 - iii. Budget this under the OIP program?
So resolved. Can discuss whether in future this should be for new officials or advancement. We did incentivize him to travel to take that class with the grant. **Travel expenses \$1,400; we subsidized \$750 – check to be sent**

Chris noted that another took the program, don't know if passed; did not apply for reimbursement.

- b. State and Regional Championships
 - i. Classes Awarded: Finding that some of the designated categories are not getting enough participation to warrant awards (if only one medal goes

out the other two are essentially wasted – we don't want that especially if NEBRA will have to supplement USAC allotment of medals in the future).

101 sets of medals left over

1. Would like to initiate discussion on trimming of categories.
2. Based on attendance from some state championships that I (Alan) have been to; would like to consider adjusting categories based on type of championship.
 - a. State: u12, u15, u19, Elite, 40, 50, 60, 70 for M and W.
 - b. Regional: u11, u13, u15, u17, u19, Elite, u23, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 for M and W
 - c. Rationale would be that more eligible riders for regionals than state to fill classes; we would also save on USAC medals and use the new ones we created for regionals.**to be continued**
- ii. Need to add clause that no race can be both state and regional; must choose one **So resolved**
 1. Prioritize Regional Championships over State Championships.
- iii. USAC medal count: 101 sets in our possession. With updated classes for states, would have enough for 6 state championships; adding another allotment of 80 from USAC would give us enough for all 2025 state championships.
 1. Still would have to look at supplementing down the road. (80 sets would equal 5 state championships; we had more in '24)
- c. 2025 Budget
 - i. Sub-committee to work with Leslie on creating the 2025 budget. **Chris volunteers**
 1. Budgeting programs that we have that are being used and removing/reallocating those that are not being used.
 2. Reviewing all expenditures to trim fat and eliminate ones not being utilized.
 - ii. Must have final budget ready for Annual Meeting in February.

5. Other Business (open floor)

Chris proposes starting a support fund with funds on hand akin to the Raguin fund but that is available for crits – to be discussed; discussion regarding whether to open the Raguin fund to gravel, if a USAC event

Appendix 1 - Lincoln's Letter to the Board

I'd like to thank the Board of NEBRA for providing me with some support to attend the Road A training in Colorado Springs. One of the issues that USA Cycling faces on getting officials trained up—especially more diversity among the officials-- is the expense of doing something like this—it will be a barrier for most to spend the money

on the course registration, airfare, hotel, taking days off work, local transportation, etc. Your support made this doable for me.

The course began at 5pm on Thursday October 17th, and ended on Sunday October 20th at 12 noon. Pretty much every minute of these days, 8:30am-8:30pm was filled with sessions. So, it was pretty intense. On Friday evening we did have a social hour with the other course going on at the same time for Chief Refs. An overview of the topics includes:

- Introduction that included the structure of USA Cycling, Regulations Framework and USA Cycling Policies.
- Roles of a Road Commissaire
- Caravan Management
- Working with Organizers
- Responsibilities of the Chief Judge at Stage Races
- Time Trials, including bike controls using the jig
- Brief Session on Cyclo-Cross
- Technical Guides
- Meetings and Communications

The focus of the sessions and learning was relevant to multi day stage races. One highlight for me was getting a better understanding of the different approach and responsibilities for the commissaires/PCP at a stage race, compared to the Chief Ref at the kinds of races we typically officiate here. Bonnie suggested that I try to work an upcoming race like Redlands or Tour of Gila next year and I hope to do that to be able to work with a more experienced official and put some of this into practice. I appreciated learning about how the technical guides are developed and utilized—as we don't have many large stage races this is not something we see typically done by the race organizers, but seeing some examples was eye-opening for me. Relevant to our work here, we talked a lot about the working relationship that is required with the race organizer. We already have standards and practices that we use here, but what I learned about this related to these larger events will improve my approach to this at any race I work. Also applicable to the work we do here is how I will approach overall management of the caravan, and the utilization of Motos, Comm and Neutral Support—their placement and how they support the race as it moves.

My license is in the process of being updated to the Road A status. Thanks again for your support.

Schedule Next Board Call: Monday, December 2nd @ 8pm via Zoom. **Approved**

Post-Meeting Thoughts

Chat content