

NEBRA Annual Meeting Minutes, September 8th @ 8pm

Board Members Present:

Alan Atwood
Tim Cary
Ron Jacobs
Kaitlyn Agnew
Chris DeHahn
Derek Ludwig
Brian Wolfe

Agenda:

1. The Board unanimously approved the minutes from the August meeting.
2. Updates from previously discussed topics:
 - a. **Topic: Establishing list of clubs in NE for website**
 - i. Alan presented a draft list of active clubs that he compiled from race results (link removed). Alan requested feedback on the list and mentioned plans to use it for the Women's Project and to recruit officials for upcoming races.
 - b. **Topic: Continuing conversation on how to get more women involved in the sport**
 - i. The Board also discussed the need to draft a document outlining their approach to the Women's Project, with Alan offering to take the lead if no one else volunteers. Derek, who was absent in August due to personal commitments, expressed his intention to help with the Women's Project in September.
 - c. **Topic: Document procedures on disabling/deleting BOD member accounts in Google Workspace after terms end**
 - i. Tim discussed procedures for deleting former board members' accounts, focusing on email and document retention. Document accepted as reference for electronic information retention policy for website.
 - d. **Topic: Keene Pumpkin CX**
 - i. Alan discussed a compromise with a race promoter regarding the number of officials required for a cyclocross race. The promoter initially wanted to pay for only two officials, but Alan proposed using Nebra funds to cover the third official, allowing the promoter to maintain their State Championship status while meeting minimum standards. It was recommended that he put in request for a grant to cover cost of 3rd official.
3. New Business
 - a. **Topic: Scheduling road promoter's meeting in October**
 - i. The Board discussed plans for a promoters meeting in October to finalize the 2026 race schedule. Kaitlyn agreed to duplicate the current race submission forms and spreadsheet for 2026, while Alan will lead the meeting and coordinate with Kaitlyn to determine the best date.

- ii. There have been 2 requests so far regarding the 2026 schedule. Kaitlyn, and Tim for communications, will assist Alan, in scheduling and holding an October promoters meeting.
 - b. **Topic: Getting BikeReg schedules in line with race flyer and/or other mediums.**
 - i. Chris raised concerns about the quality of race information in Bike Reg, emphasizing the need for a more thorough review process. The issues will be summarized and presented at the upcoming promoters meeting.
 - c. **Topic: New USA Cycling Policy VII: Competition Category**
 - i. The Board discussed USA Cycling's new policy regarding transgender athletes, Race promoters are considering how to implement it as they continue to permit events. Some promoters are discussing making certain categories open to all genders for local races. Race officials will not be involved in enforcing the policy but are to direct questions to USA Cycling. It is up to USA Cycling, and not individual officials, to establish/challenge any racer's category status.
 - d. **Topic: Newsletter**
 - i. The Board discussed several topics including a newsletter announcement for an upcoming race promoters meeting in October, which Tim agreed to include in the general newsletter to race directors.
 - e. **Topic: Early Season Cyclocross Participation**
 - i. The Board discussed the decline in cyclocross racing participation, particularly noting that Charm City had only 250 racer days registered, compared to Rochester's 500 (with UCI rider numbers significantly down). It was noted that while local race numbers were mixed, with some events like Blunt Park seeing increases, the overall trend showed fewer participants, especially at the professional level. It was noted that there is evidence that suggests many casual racers who used to participate in 2-3 events per year were now less active, suggesting a broader decline in community involvement. Alan suggested exploring changes to event formats to attract non-competitive participants. The question came up about the need for more of a social media presence, and should we consider hiring someone to manage it? Research will be done to foresee the cost of hiring someone and effectiveness of previous social media initiatives at other organizations.
4. Other Business (open floor)
- a. **Topic: NEBRA Transgender Policy Page**
 - i. Our website reflects Policy 7. Kaitlyn does not think that we should maintain USA Cycling policies on our site, as a matter of practice for myriad reasons. Ok to provide a link. A decision will be made to update the NEBRA transgender athlete policy page on the website, or decide to remove the outdated copied text and replace it with a link to the current USAC regulations, or remove the page at all.
5. The group agreed to meet again on Monday, October 6, at 8 PM.