

ABRA board meeting minutes Jan. 25, 2012

Board members participating: Kiral (Tom) Thompson, Melanie Meyers Colavito, Nippy Feldhake, Alan Fischer and Marty Ryerson. ABRA administrator Don Melhado also attended.

The board budgeted funds to pay Nancy Ellis \$750 to continue compiling Copper Cup points.

The board budgeted funds of up to \$500 to purchase software and other materials so Bill Barnes can take over on a volunteer basis ABRA's financial books.

The planning meeting for the 2013 season will be held in late October or early November to accommodate promoters who wish to put on races in January. A date will be set later in the year.

Members of clubs who are not in compliance with ABRA rules (paying dues and race promotion/co-promotion) will not accumulate Copper Cup points. Such riders will be denoted in red in the Copper Cup point listings and placed at the lowest rankings. Points will be awarded after their club comes into compliance.

Policing sponsors and advertising on the clothing of riders not eligible to wear such clothing was discussed. USA Cycling has said that local officials are responsible for the enforcement of this rule. A decision on ABRA's role was tabled until a future meeting. Policing the eligibility of riders to wear kits which denote sponsorship is beyond the ability of ABRA and officials to effectively control at this point. Currently, ABRA supports race promoters who choose to exercise due diligence on club names, so that no non-clubs may appear in results if the promoter wishes.

The board decided to embrace social media, and is now utilizing Twitter and Facebook to quickly spread news and information. We will also be setting up a Google Group for e-mail updates and communication as well.

Timing chips were discussed. The board will contact other local associations investigate their use of chip systems to determine what works best and investigate the feasibility of existing systems. Further discussion will follow.

USAC decided to discontinue the Masters 30-34 category for national championships. The question has come up concerning State Championships and the 30-34 category. The board opted to leave the decision on the 30-34 age group up to individual promoters. Arizona promoters can continue to have masters racing beginning at age 30, including the state championships, if the promoter desires. It should be noted that ABRA only requires promoters to offer State Championship Categories for the same categories that are offered for the National Championships.

The board discussed starting a women's cycling task force to investigate ways to encourage and grow women's racing in Arizona.