



ABRA Meeting Notes 08/25/2007

Method: Meeting at Hotel Casa Grande, Casa Grande AZ 12:00 PM

In attendance:

SK - Sujeet Karna

MR - Marty Ryerson

DM - Don Melhado (via telephone)

NE - Nancy Ellis

RB - Robert Ball

A. Planning Meeting

- Date set for Sunday, November 4, 2008, 12pm at the Hotel Casa Grande
- Motivation for the early date is to allow those with early season races to secure permits earlier
- Next, was a brief discussion on the current tier system. New board members learned the system is primarily based on tenure. Definitions are as follows:
 - o Tier 1 - State Championships and major stage races (i.e., VoS, Bisbee, TBC, formerly North End Classic)
 - o Tier 2 - 10+ years running
 - o Tier 3 - 5+ years running
 - o Tier 4 - 1+ years running
 - o Tier 5 - All new races
- Dates are set systematically, tier by tier. The schedule is first published with the Tier 1 races, then next tier is evaluated and published, then the next and so forth.
- The intent of the tier system is to streamline the planning meeting, so the schedule is set and the planning meeting is used only to resolve conflicts
- It was agreed that it was worth reevaluating the existing tier system and generate a proposal in time for the planning meeting. Detailed discussion of the proposed system took place after other administrative topics were covered (See below for minutes on new system)
- Critical to note is that a proposal for the new system will be generated to be voted on by the reps 9/29. If the new system does not pass as proposed, the board will automatically proceed planning 2008 season under the existing tier system.

B. Goal Setting & Charter

- The board also agreed to engage the reps and members in a series of open discussion meetings to learn what is going well, what is not, and receive new ideas.
- These meetings will produce a series of ideas/issues to be evaluated, which the board will broadly categorize then survey the reps to prioritize.
- Additionally, any member of ABRA may submit an email to the board during this period.
- The top issues will be what the ABRA board will focus to accomplish in 2007-2008.
- New ideas will be continuously received after the charter is set, but will be tabled for evaluation until the stated goals are addressed or upon the new board taking over

- The intent is to keep the board focused, show results, and keep the workload of all involved at a manageable level
- Presentation of the board's charter is targeted, but not committed to be presented at the planning meeting

C. Upcoming Schedule to Meet the Planning and Goal Setting Objectives

- Communication to reps from Sujeet, with Don's help and board review to introduce the new board and announce the planning meeting (8/31)
 - Communication will include explanation of planning process under existing system
 - Communication will also include explanation of new tier system
 - Announcement of 9/10 deadline for rep feedback on new system
- Board will quickly evaluate feedback and revise new system as necessary to generate a formal proposal (9/17)
- Votes will be due 9/29. The new system will be implemented only if passed as proposed, otherwise the board will revert to executing under the existing tier system.
- Targeted feedback sessions with reps & riders:
 - 9/15 - Tucson during packet pick-up for State TT / TTT). Don to get approval from Nippy and publish time.
 - 9/29 - Phoenix during the Buckeye crit. Sujeet to gain approval from Brian Lemke\.
 - 10/13 - Flagstaff during packet pick-up for State RR. Don to get approval from Summit Velo.
- The board will regroup to review and consolidate the ideas 10/20
- A survey to the reps will be published 10/27
- Results will be compiled prior to the planning meeting on 11/4

D. Financial Review - Financials reviewed and looked to be in order - attachment A

E. Transparency - The board agreed to publish all future meeting minutes and financials to the web

F. New Tier System - Discussion

- Criteria for a new process of establishing the planning tiers was discussed
- The intent is exactly the same as that of the exiting tier system: To keep the planning meeting focused on resolving scheduling conflicts only.
- Much debate was had around what the right criteria is: Tenure, prize list, attendance, execution, paperwork, popularity and race format amongst others
- The criteria selection was tenure, paperwork compliance, attendance and race format
- For now, equal weight is being applied to each area pending rep feedback
- General discussion on each of the areas and reasoning for selection versus leaving out:
 - Tenure - Must consider extenuating circumstances such as Kitt Peak road paving just prior to the race, Mt. Lemmon fire cancelling the TT a couple years ago, etc.
 - Board agreed to allow 1 year exceptions for reasons such as those before
 - But 2 years of cancellation results in tenure starting over
 - Paper Work Compliance
 - Motivated primarily by the fact the many clubs continue to take longer than 3 weeks to submit results and/or do so in the improper format. This impedes the ability keep the Copper Cup updated in a timely manner amongst many things.

- It was unanimous that there are no excuses for this.
 - Prize List - More value to more money
 - Complications arise as from determining what is a prize?
 - What about merchandise products?
 - What about day-of prizes that are not published and documented?
 - What about last minute adjustments due to low attendance?
 - How can this be verified?
 - If the prize list actually lures more riders to a race, than this should be reflected in the attendance
 - Some clubs rely on races as the primary means to fund their activities
 - Also, it's proven that there are plenty of events that draw large attendance without large prize lists
 - Thus the decision was to leave out due to the complexity involved in measuring prize lists and that it could be argued that the result is reflected in the attendance numbers
 - Attendance
 - This is number of racers. It was determined to allow double registrations (i.e., crits) to count twice.
 - Also extenuating circumstances would have to be considered here such as the snow the TeamOne TTT experienced a couple years back. In these cases the prior year's attendance would be used to evaluate the race.
 - The idea is a good race, draw good crowds and should help to elevate the race's status on the calendar.
 - Popularity (i.e., direct rider feedback)
 - A variety of methods were discussed to take in direct rider feedback as to whether they liked an event or not. Rate on a scale of 1 - 10.
 - Suggested methods included putting an email/survey link in the calendar after the event is completed.
 - In light of the short timeframe to the planning meeting, it was determined that this would be good criteria to amend the system in 2009, but not feasible to include for 2008, thus left off
 - Format
 - Here it was acknowledged that stage races require an entire week end and involve a lot of work versus any other one day event
 - Note State Races and NRC events (should we have any) will continue to get automatic Tier 1 status, thus the entire system really does not pertain to them, but the system can be used when evaluating new state race candidates.
- Individually rank or rank to tiers?
 - It was decided to score races to tiers rather than individually rank. Promoters should do their best to maintain their tier status, but variables do fluctuate, thus there will naturally be movement within the tier, and there's no need to penalize a team for small movement within the tier
 - Thus the process will be to resolve scheduling conflicts by tier. If the conflict involves races in the same tier, the points will be a deciding factor. If a tie in points, then the reps will vote at the planning meeting. If a tie between the reps or a decision is required outside the planning meeting, the ABRA board will decide.
- The Point System
 - The following point system guideline was developed assuming equal weight and is still a working model.
 -

Criteria	Scale	Guideline
Tenure	1 - 10	1 point per year of continuous execution. 1 year of extenuating circumstance will be allowed. 2 years of cancelling results is resetting the clock. 1 point min for new races.
Paperwork Compliance	0 - 10	0 for being late 5 for on-time, wrong format 10 for on-time, right format
Attendance	1 - 10	1 for less the 100 4 for 100+ 7 for 200+ 10 for 400+
Format	1 - 10	5 for single day event 7 for a series event 10 for a multi-day event

Tier	Total Points Needed
I	35+ State & NRC races are automatically qualify
II	25+
III	15+
IV	5+
V	<5

Example Scoring

Race	Tenure	Paper-work	Attendance	Format	(Rider Feed-back) *	Total	Tier	Notes
Big Stage Race	10	10	10	10	(10)	40 (50)	I	
Training Series	10	10	1	7	(7)	29 (36)	II	
Hill Climb IT	10	10	7	5	(10)	28 (38)	II	250 riders
State Race	3	10	7	5	(10)	25 (35)	II	State race, upgrade to Tier I
Spring Crit	2	10	7	5	(10)	24 (36)	III	
Young Stage Race	2	0 Late	4	10	(7)	16 (23)	III	Tier II if paperwork was on-time

* Hypothetical category for this exercise, not included in 2008 criteria

ATTACHMENT A

ABRA

08/23/07 Balance Sheet as of July 31, 2007

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Wells Fargo	17,001.67
Total Checking/Savings	17,001.67
Total Current Assets	17,001.67
TOTAL ASSETS	17,001.67

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Race Deposit	-450.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	-450.00
Total Current Liabilities	-450.00
Total Liabilities	-450.00
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	6,960.38
Retained Earnings	-1,574.38
Net Income	12,065.67
Total Equity	17,451.67
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	17,001.67

08/23/07 Profit & Loss January through July 2007

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Membership Dues	16,919.00
Total Income	16,919.00
Expense	
Administrative-Web Site	600.00
Advertising	469.64
Jr Incentive	100.00
Medals and Trophies	812.51
Professional Fees	
Consulting	1,750.00
Legal Fees	1,121.18
Total Professional Fees	2,871.18
Total Expense	4,853.33
Net Ordinary Income	12,065.67
Net Income	12,065.67