

2/16/08 8:30 am  
2008 TBRA Winter General Membership Meeting  
Edward Labry Hall  
Cumberland University  
Lebanon TN

**Officers Present:**

Todd Nordmeyer	President
Ian Lochridge	Vice-President/Treasurer
Tim Hall	Director of Road Racing
Jennifer Morehead	Director of Mountain Bike Racing
Dan Werle	Director of Cyclocross Racing
John Carr	Secretary
Bill Parsons	Director of Points

**Clubs Present:**

Cumberland Transit Cycling	John Carr	
Cumberland University	Tim Hall	
Harpeth Bicycles/Reliant Bank	James Andersen	
Jackson Spokes	Gib Morehead	
KnoxVelo	Jim Wachter	(via phone)
Memphis Velo	David Bell	
Middle Tennessee Velo	Ian Lochridge	
NashvilleCyclist.com	Tim Hall	
ReMax/Yahoo	Dan Werle	(non-voting)
Scenic City Velo	Matt McAfee	
SCO/Bike Zoo	Jay Nevans	(via phone)
Team Bikers Choice	Joey Holland	
Tri-Cities Road Club	Reneau Dubberley	
TriStar Cycling	Mike Moore	
Velo Bella Kona - TN	Jennifer Morehead	
Velo Vixens	Karen Rogers	

**Guests Present:**

Mark Fasczewski  
Robbie Kidd (via phone)  
Phillipe Once (via phone)  
Geof Vickers

**Opening Remarks:**

The President called the meeting called to order and welcomed all in attendance in person or via conference call.

**Open Business:**

2007 Financial Review and Presentation of 2008 Budget -

Ian Lochridge presented the Treasurer's report and 2008 TBRA budget. Highlighted cash balance of approximately \$27,500. Significant income derived from USA Cycling membership rebates and TBRA \$2 event fee.

Funding priorities for 2008 are the Jr/U23 Development Grant program, \$5000 for Special Projects to include timing services and creation of race series including top Road events in the state. 2008 budget includes a projected operating loss of \$5,400. Recognizing the Association's current cash position and that a reduced rider fee may assist events with small operating margins, the TBRA board recommends reducing the event rider fee from \$2 to \$1; with a resulting increase of the budgeted 2008 net operating loss to \$10,400 .

Discussion followed where additional suggestions were offered for use of cash balance and adjustment to event fee. Proposals included keeping the fee at current levels and reducing fees to \$1.50. Consensus was reached that event fee is to be used for special projects and for funding Jr/U23 development, with further adjustments to the fee to be considered on as-needed basis. Reneau Dubberly moved that the TBRA rider fee be lowered from \$2 to \$1, Ian Lochridge seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Jr/U23 Grant Participation-

The President designated 10 minutes for discussion to encourage club participation and ask for suggestions that will increase participation. Discussion was used to gauge a sense of the membership. Ideas to promote participation will be posted on the tbra.org forum. The Board will work to increase visibility of program on website. Reimbursement dates may be adjusted to accommodate timing of development camps. Board to pursue the idea of funding both camp/event attendance and grants to member clubs.

#### Special Projects-

Special Projects includes allocated money for event management services, marketing or institution of an additional, shorter series within the TBAR series.

Marketing initiatives may include direct mail, a poster campaign, or use of promotions company to encourage club membership or race participation.

Updates to TBRA site now include a link to new rider pages. Primary focus is for new riders to contact nearby cycling club. Member clubs are advised that club contact information must be updated, and updated contact information may be sent with TBRA membership dues check. [\$35 before March 1; \$50 after March 1]

#### **New Business:**

#### Non TN clubs to be members of TBRA /Club of Year-

Wood-n-Wave (KY) has made a request to be an eligible club. Discussion reviewed the potential impact of a rule change to TBRA series participation, with emphasis on potential positive effect on TORBAR series. Reneau Dubberly moved that TBRA accept Wood-n-Wave on temporary basis for 2008, and allow the scheduled April race at LBL be eligible for inclusion in the TORBAR series. Motion was seconded by Joey Holland, and the motion passed without dissent. Additional requests for eligibility will be brought before the membership.

#### Eligibility for races to be part of TBRA without being in the state of TN-

Todd Nordmeyer stated that the Huntsville weekend has requested that the race be part of the TBRA series. Todd also recommends partnership with neighboring races and associations in order to provide competitive events and quality racing fields. Clubs are advised that other Local Associations have

permitted non-state events. Discussion included concerns that out-of-state events would increase travel time in addition to time spent traveling throughout TN. The TBRA Board recommends adjustment of points series rules to allow a limited number of 'dropped' results; this adjustment may mitigate concerns on time and expense of travel. Ian Lochridge moved that non-TN venues for BAR series events be reviewed/approved by the TBRA board on a case-by-case basis. The motion was seconded by Todd Nordmeyer, and was approved by roll call vote [14-1].

#### Modify free race entry fee for series champions-

Ian Lochridge reviewed the proposed idea of modifying the free race entry fee for series champions. The free entry fee is viewed as a 'perk' to the rider, but is a cost for clubs promoting events. In the BAR series/Cup of most states, racers are chasing the recognition; TN is unique in providing a large financial benefit. The benefit sounds good, but imposes undue financial hardship on small events, and does not significantly change individual behavior. A modification is recommended for the 2009 series.

Discussion followed regarding the promotional/sponsorship value of having TBRA champions at events and the financial viability of funding racing for series champions. The entry fee benefit was compared to the concept of appearance fees [i.e. free entry fee equates to paying a small appearance fee to series champions]. TBRA submits that a rule change would not prohibit a promoter from offering appearance fees/reduced entry fees to champions wearing a series jersey; promoters are also encouraged to publicize jersey winners through posters, call-ups, etc. Ian Lochridge motioned to authorize the TBRA board to modify rules to exclude this benefit beginning with 2008-2009 BAR jersey winners. Reneau Dubberly seconded the motion, and the motion was passed without dissent.

#### Offering Masters Category 4 30+ -

Ian reviewed requests that have been received for a category allowing Master's to race against other beginning racers. This category is available to a promoter if able to include during finite timeframe of the event. Concerns were raised that the category does not offer opportunity for upgrade. Mark Fasczewski stated that he has spoken with USAC regarding the increasing demand this category; USAC recognizes the need for this category and is coming out with updated upgrade guidelines for age-delineated categories. With no motions made for action, Todd tabled the discussion. The topic will be moved to online forums and the promoter session.

#### Offer points series to Beginner category in TORBAR series-

Todd reviewed proposal for making a points series available for annual-license holders in Beginner class. Feedback is that some beginners are trying local races, but a reward may be helpful in engaging Beginner riders in races in other parts of the state. Todd stated that tracking series results may encourage riders to purchase an annual license. Gib Morehead stated that Beginner riders would like recognition, but recognition may not need to be a jersey. Promoters were reminded that recognition is a complementary effort to improve participation; event quality and a good experience for racers are suggested as primary reasons for increased participation. Consensus was reached that MTB points of annual-licensed Beginner racers will be tracked on tbra.org .

#### Improving participation of current TBAR series-

Todd announced a plan to revise TBRA series point rules as a way to improve racing. The board intends to revise series rules as posted and discussed in tbra.org forums. Goal of the revisions is to encourage greater competition within TBRA points series. Proposed revisions include a mechanism for counting a set number of a rider's results within each racing discipline (RR, Crit, TT, XC, etc) and include points for omnium placings. Preliminary recommendation for TBAR series is to count 28 out of 42 road racing events [including omniums]. Points structure for Divisions 1,2, and 3 will be maintained. Discussion

followed in order to gain a sense of the membership. The Board will work with a designated subcommittee to implement these changes for the 2008 series.

Announcement of new 'Tennessee Cup' series-

Tim Hall presented the creation of a 'Tennessee Cup' series comprised of the highest quality road racing events in the state. An elite group of races will be selected on the basis of safety of course, level of competition, prize money size and distribution, and overall quality. [Example: The Edgar Soto Memorial Stage Race]. The Cup series is to be an exciting component of the TBAR Series, but will also have its own rankings and prize list to incentivize participation. Intended benefits are to raise the quality of events in Tennessee and to draw additional participants to the state. The TBRA special project funds will be used to begin this series and assist with start-up expenses. Discussion followed about the details of this series and the potential use of event marketing firms and/or use of finish line services. The TBRA Board will evaluate event services firms for use in TBRA events. Further discussion of the series will occur with designated promoters and on tbra.org forums.

Host Southeast promoter/Local Association summit-

Todd Nordmeyer stated that Stuart Lamp is working to propose a solution to USA Cycling in order to reduce event scheduling conflicts. He is looking to institute this summit in 2009.

Additional items-

Following discussion of the above-mentioned items, there was a review of several additional topics. Todd Nordmeyer reminded member clubs to submit club dues, and recommended forum participation. Bill Parsons is able to add additional authorized participants for each club. Todd Nordmeyer announced that Series and state championship jerseys have been received for Road Racing and Mountain Biking; the order for cyclocross is scheduled for October delivery. Jay Nevans announced that a level-c officials training clinic will be held in Knoxville, on March 15. Training for motor-referees may be offered if there are more than 8 participants; 6 are currently registered. Todd Nordmeyer invited promoters to attend the afternoon promoter's forum.

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There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Carr, Secretary