

ACA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
18-Jan-2024

A meeting of the 2024 board was held on 16-Jan-2024 at Elise's home. Elise, Shawn, Jack, Steve, Anna-Lena and Olivia were present. EJ, who replaced Judy Davis as Treasurer, Mike and Sara were present through Zoom. Fred was unavailable due to travel.

The primary purposes of the meeting were 1) to firm up the 2024 schedule and race categories so that permits from USAC and the City of Pgh could be applied for and issued and 2) determination of race and membership fees.

It was agreed that the racing season will begin on April 16 and April 17 and would run through August 20 and August 21. This will allow for 19 weeks of racing. A race clinic for Women will be offered on Tuesday April 9 and a clinic for Men the following day (April 10). Points will be offered in June, July and August, with the exception of July 2, 3. It was decided that the annual picnic will be on Tuesday July 2, with races for all cats that night and that there will be no races on Wednesday July 3. Race format for the season, i.e., P-course, etc. was not discussed, but it's tentatively assumed to be the same as 2023.

It was decided that the W12 race will be eliminated from the Masters 40+ race and instead a W123 race and a W45 race will be run simultaneously on Tuesday evening. The format of the race will be a pursuit, with the W45 given a "head-start" of perhaps 1 lap -200 meters or 1 minute or something similar. The two cats will be scored separately with respect to points. It was not determined if separate prize money will be offered for the two races. Women's eligibility in the Masters 40+ race will revert back to 2022 policy, i.e., 35+ Women Cat 1, 2, 3.

Allowing Cat 1 Men racers back into the Masters 40+ was discussed. Shawn stated the consensus among 40+ Cat 1 racers he knows is that they want back in, and a number of them had been disappointed by their exclusion in 2023. A decision regarding this was deferred until the next meeting. The possibility of a pursuit with the 40+ Cat 1's vs the 40+ Cat 234's was also briefly mentioned.

It was decided that at least 5 participants will be required to hold a separate race otherwise the race will be combined with another race on the same night. For example, the B's with the A's on Wednesday and Women with the C's and/or the C's with the M40+ on Tuesdays. In addition, it was decided that at least 5 racers will be required for a points race to be counted and for a payout to occur. Points scoring in combined races (due to weather, e.g.) was discussed but no firm decision was made.

EJ stated that the current fee structure \$13 per race for members, \$18 per race for non-members and \$13 for juniors can be maintained, even though USAC insurance has increased from \$5.30 to \$5.99 for 2024. EJ also feels the current membership fee of \$50/\$65 is sufficient for 2024. It was agreed to continue the refunding of the \$50 membership fee for new cat 5 racers, as long as they race at least 10 races in 2024. The refund will be at their request.

Other items discussed were:

The need for an organizer or organizers for the picnic was brought up. Fred has volunteered to help with setup/teardown and EJ believes Russ would be willing to act as chef again, given that all food, drink and equipment, etc. was supplied for him.

The time and place for the 2024 banquet was briefly discussed, and a target date of mid-September was generally agreed to. The same venue (Hop Farm) as 2023 seemed to be agreeable to the attending members of the board.

Elise stated that all officials from 2023 have agreed to return for 2024. She will check to make sure they all have lock-box keys. EJ stated there may be a magnetic key holder with a key under the newer of the two boxes. The need for someone to assist the officials with setup/teardown on a weekly basis was discussed and it was decided to appeal to nightly racers to help out. Also, EJ reminded us that an inventory of the medical kit is needed prior to the start of the season.

It was decided to follow the USAC recommended official's fees of \$110/\$90 per evening of racing.

EJ mentioned the need for an ACA Venmo account, to avoid sending checks to prize winners who do not deal in PayPal and will investigate setting one up.

Anna-Lena agreed to look into recruiting riders from the Tuesday evening Taza D'Oro group ride to race at the Oval and the possibility of them changing their group ride to Thursday evening e.g.

Our next meeting will be scheduled for late February to firm up issues not yet decided for the 2024 racing season.

Jack Neyer, Secretary