

BBC December meeting minutes 12/19/2016

Officers in attendance:

Robert Johnson, President

Tim Williams, Vice President

Steve Mongiello, Treasurer (elected unopposed at 2016 Banquet)

Marit Ogin, Secretary (elected unopposed at 2016 Banquet)

President Intro

Robert Johnson recognized several meeting attendees. We are fortunate to have a number of NYSBRA (New York State Bicycle Racing Association) representatives who are also BBC members. Congrats and thank you to:

NYSBRA newly elected Vice President Tom Weichman, Treasurer Mike Cormier, Western Rep Rich Scaduto. If you have any questions on upgrades, categories, contact Rich

Thank you to Matt Ronan for serving as Treasurer last year, and to Tom Robinson for his years of service as secretary. Tom still plans to remain active and assist with some BBC training race/race director activities.

Treasurer Report

2016 balance started~ \$27,000 ended ~\$18,000

The net spend of ~\$9000 last year enabled many activities including but not limited to:

- Offering affordable BBC Kits: ~75 sold
- Larkinsville Criterium series to be held without outside financial sponsors
- It was recognized that having cash balance on hand is necessary to secure events such as Hamburg

Larkinsville Update

Great participation in 2016: ~130 races per week.

Thank you to Frank Grillo for organizing another great year; John Roden for promoting the kids/junior races; Chris Tirone for supporting the juniors with supplemental prizes and riding with the juniors; Craig Labadie for supplementing women podium prizes, and the local bike shops who provided wheel pit support.

Great dates for 2017!! May 25 and the 4 Thursdays in June. Since we will have more daylight, may be able to run a Junior/kids race every week.

We are looking for sponsors for this year's events to help defray costs: ~\$2000 of BBC's net spend in 2016 was on Larkin.

Discussion about switching Larkin to Friday before Hamburg, or to Sunday after Hamburg to make a race weekend out of it. **UPDATE! NEWS FLASH!!** Since the meeting, it was confirmed that we have Sunday June 11 for a Larkin Crit, the day after Hamburg road race June 10. We expect this will draw more participants to both events.

Tom Weichman provided an update on the following:

Effective 2017, a Category 5 field will be added for Women. 10 mass starts requirement to upgrade to Category 4. (Applied to cross as well).

Those who are already licensed can remain in Category 4. There will be a one time optional chance for Category 4 women to downgrade (if they have less than 10 races).

Note: At this point plans are for Larkin to still have one women's start field scored separately.

NYS time trial does not yet have a venue, approaching BBC if opportunity to combine with a local Buffalo race. Hamburg? Hamburg Larkin and NYS TT make a stage race? Some options discussed but no action plan identified.

Hamburg

2016 net \$700 gain – great reviews on the alternate venue

140 registrants

For 2017, Hamburg original course in Hamburg has been secured for June 10. We will have the park near the start line for registration.

Will approach fire/police for assistance with marshalling

Discussion regarding Women Cat 5. Discussion on if start separate? With juniors? With 4's? Will wait for demographics, but will score sep. Mike Cormier will not be racing Hamburg, he volunteered to officiate (thank you!).

Last year people liked venue of Arcade. If use same course for a sanctioned race in future would have to make the lap longer or have 2 mass starts. August 26 late season race opportunity? Would be same weekend of Knox day before. Discussion was that Cross is very popular and belief would get low

participation and would pull from volunteers that would be setting up at Knox. Will consider looking at something else possibly earlier- July. Thanks Tom Robinson for all your work on Hamburg!

Discussion of potential circuit race in East Aurora day before Knox. Possibility of working with local sponsors for both events

BBC website good for this year, but maybe next will need new website due to server obsolescence. May be a cost we will need to absorb. More to come.

Proposed Women's Skills Clinic (Alisa Mertens)

Alisa Mertens has done legwork on scoping, scheduling, securing venue for a basic skills, nutrition, climbing, group ride skill clinic for women, to be facilitated by USAC certified female coach.

May 7, Hamburg area. One day clinic. Individual registration fee TBD. Will limit participation to 30.

Looking for BBC for permitting, assistance with volunteers to help with clinic/skills portion.

Would add Mara Miller as promoter to BBC site.

Will use Bike Reg to sign up.

Working with NYSBRA to get on NYSBRA calendar.

Could be a good way to increase women participation.

Thanks Alisa- more to come!!

Separate BBC skills clinic – open (men/women)

Exploring possibility of utilizing Peter Cummings, skills certified training instructor for this year's BBC skills clinic. May be a 3 day format: Friday class, Saturday skills, Sunday training race (one of the BBC courses). Need in-course mentoring. Could also approach Peter to do a subset for women if possible. More to come on this- stay tuned!

How to get more participation?

Make sure some of the training courses are flat, circuit, More in race coaching?

Discussion on draw of Cross vs road races.

Road races more aggressive, dangerous, demeaning.

Perception of roadies is unfriendly and you'll just get dropped.

Sense of comradery within Cross.

Ideas: have an ambassador who will welcome new people to training races, introduce people, volunteer to be last

Consistency of schedule: more BBC group rides?

Encourage people to post when they are riding on weekends off season – more experienced people reach out to the less experienced. Post expectations.

Lot of input that having a “BBC pamphlet” to handout would be great.

Elite/BBC teams

Was discussion of adding other groups such as women, but, don't want to fracture existing women's teams at this point – definitely a consideration for future.

Discussed adding a Cat 4 team to be feeder group for 1/2/3– not sure of interest – would this splinter men's teams as well? May be way to bring the whole group together again. No criteria, no selectivity.

Want more riders, but, would be completely voluntary. **Anyone interested in riding for BBC mens' 1/2/3 or for for cat 4, contact Frank Grillo.**

Reflections on 2016:

Was a trial year. Some riders will not be returning next year.

Would like to bring in more riders, but not sure how to proceed.

Steve is great role model for success of team – team rallied around BBC members to race for them. Growth, confidence, knowing other members have your back. May have been different expectations of participation/commitment amongst the team members.

The role of ambassadorship needs to be better defined.

Question raised: how much did membership grow last year? Didn't have the data -will follow-up.

Next meeting January 23, Tom's Pro Bike 7 pm. Come be part of the planning!