

Welcome!

On behalf of USA Cycling, we hope that you are looking forward to a new year of bike racing. We are glad that you are a member and hope that you will find many opportunities to enjoy mountain bike, road, track and cyclocross racing.

Good luck with your racing!

2008 Election Calendar

- 5/1 Nomination notices published online by this date
- 7/1 Nominations for Trustees received by USA Cycling no later than this date
- 7/15 Balloting available through membership accounts for internet voting on the USA Cycling website. Hard copy ballots will also be mailed to members who request them
- 8/15 Members to have completed online voting. Mailed or faxed ballots received by the Ballot Clerk no later than this date

This Rulebook is published by USA Cycling. It includes the upgrading procedures for road, track, cyclocross, and mountain biking, the racing regulations for road, track, cyclocross, and mountain biking, and selected bylaws and policies of USA Cycling. Copies may be downloaded from the USAC website at www.usacycling.org.

Officials are sent a hard copy. Other members may request a hard copy by sending a self-addressed mailing label and note that says "rulebook" to the address below.

USA Cycling
Attn: Technical Director
1 Olympic Plaza
Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5775

If you cannot download the rulebook online, but would prefer to have a PDF version on CD, just send a self-addressed mailing label with a note that says Rulebook CD.

Schedule of fees, complete Association Bylaws, USA Cycling Bylaws, Policies, Records, and Results of National Championships may be found online at www.usacycling.org

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2008 Categorization Guidelines (Upgrades)

The CEO is responsible for all upgrades.

General Information:

Rider upgrades are handled electronically. You can request an upgrade online through your USAC account. The request will be sent to the person responsible for your area and/or category. You will need to follow the instructions online and provide the information about your race experience and placings. The information you provide *must* include the race date, name, type of event, category, number of participants, and placing. If the administrator approves the upgrade, your account will be changed so that when you request a new license, the category will be changed. For road, track, and cyclocross category changes, local Association representatives will also provide stickers for your license if you are not requesting a new one. Note that road, track, and cyclocross category 1 and mountain bike Semi-Pro and Pro upgrades require a license reissue. A mountain bike Pro license must be an international license.

All mountain bike upgrades through Expert can be made by any USA Cycling mountain bike official by indicating the upgrade on the license. Semi-Pro and Pro upgrades must be done through USA Cycling via the rider's online account.

Road Upgrades

Guidelines and Notes by Category:

- 5-4: Experience in 10 mass start races.
Local Associations may also establish policies where upgrade credit is given for taking a sanctioned rider education clinic.
- 4-3: 20 points in any 12-month period; or experience in 25 races with a minimum of 10 top ten finishes *with fields of 30 riders or more*, or 20 pack finishes with fields over 50. 30 points in 12 months is an automatic upgrade
- 3-2: 25 points in any 12-month period
40 points in 12 months is an automatic upgrade
- 2-1: 30 points in any 12-month period
50 points in 12 months is an automatic upgrade

USA Cycling may add additional requirements for upgrading at their discretion. Any such changes shall be made available on the website.

Qualifying Distances for each category

To qualify for upgrading points, races must meet distance standards. Races shorter than the minimum distance do not qualify for upgrading. However, if a road race is less than the road race minimum but above the criterium minimum, it will count for upgrading using the criterium points schedule.

Category	Class	RR	Criterium and Circuit
5 – 4	Men	15 mi	10 mi
4 – 3	Men	25 mi	20 mi
	Women	25 mi	15 mi
	Junior	25 mi	15 mi
3 – 2	Men	50 mi	20 mi
	Women	40 mi	15 mi
2 – 1	Men	80 mi	30 mi
	Women	50 mi	20 mi

Points awarded for Criteriums and Circuit Races

Placing	Number of Starters			
	5-10	11-20	21-50	50+
1	3	4	5	7
2	2	3	4	5
3	1	2	3	4
4		1	2	3
5			1	2
6				1

Points awarded for Road Races

Placing	Number of Starters			
	5-10	11-20	21-50	50+
1	3	7	8	10
2	2	5	6	8
3	1	4	5	7
4		3	4	6
5		2	3	5
6		1	2	4
7			1	3
8				2
9				1

Points awarded for Stage Races (Cat 3 → 2 and Cat 2 → 1 upgrades only)*

Placing	Number of Starters			
	10-19	20-35	36-49	50+
1	5	7	10	20
2	3	5	8	18
3	2	3	6	16
4	1	2	5	14
5		1	4	12
6			3	10
7			2	9
8			1	8
9				7
10				6
11				5
12				4
13				3
14				2
15				1

* For points earned in stage races, GC and stage places both count for points, but only up to a maximum of 20 points for a cat 1 upgrade or 15 points for a cat 2 upgrade from a single stage race.

When deciding whether a rider qualifies for an upgrade, an administrator will take into account points earned in qualifying events per the table above. In the case of a rider

who is marginally qualified, the quality of the events and the level of competition may be taken into account.

Road Downgrades

A rider who wishes to downgrade may request a downgrade online. Such requests will be evaluated individually. **In no case will a rider be allowed to downgrade to category 5.**

Track Upgrades

All track upgrades and downgrades are made through the local association.

All track upgrades are processed using the following criteria:

Cat. 5 to Cat. 4	Complete a Velodrome Class or 4 race days.
Cat. 4 to Cat. 3	5 race days and 20 points
Cat. 3 to Cat. 2	5 race days and 25 points
Cat. 2 to Cat. 1	5 race days and 30 points

Points:

National championships, Category A, B, or C track race will be 7, 5,3,2,1 for each event.

For all other events, upgrade points are 5,3,2,1 and are based on an omnium of the event's races.

Additional Considerations:

1. Ten person field minimum for category 3-5 and 20 person field minimum for upgrade to category 1.

2. Fifty percent of Upgrading points and number of times raced will be carried over to the next year. Points do not carry over to the next category.
3. When upgrading to a Cat. 1, points earned need to be from more than one velodrome.
4. A race day is defined as one full day of racing. A race day can include a number of events such as a kilometer, sprints or time trial, but it only counts as one race day.
5. Women and Juniors earn one point for every five race days when upgrading from Cat. 4 through Cat. 2.
6. Races exempt from upgrading are Youth races and races of more than two categories (ie: "A" and "B" races).
7. Results from other velodromes will be considered for upgrading *only if the races were run under a USA Cycling permit.*

With the approval of a USAC licensed coach, riders who are Pro or category 1 on the road may be upgraded to category 2 on the track and riders who are category 2 on the road may be upgraded to category 3 on the track without first having to begin at category 5.

Downgrading:

A rider may be downgraded for the following reasons: unsafe riding; lack of ability to compete in current category; or lack of placing within current category.

Cyclocross Categories and Upgrades

Cyclocross categories are initially established one of two ways:

- (1) For a new rider licensing with USA Cycling for the first time, the CX category starts at 4*
- (2) For a rider renewing his or her license, the CX category is initially established based on the road or MTB XC category currently held per the table below:*

CX category based on road or XC category		
Road Category	MTB XC Category	CX Category
1	Pro	1
2	semi-pro	2
3	expert	3
4 or 5	beginner or sport	4

If the road and XC categories do not correspond to the same CX category, then the higher one will be used. If a rider upgrades his or her road or XC category during the season, the rider's CX category can be upgraded to match the road or XC category by request of the rider or by request of the administrator.

As it is quite possible for someone to be a more skilled CX racer than would be indicated by either road category or MTB XC category, a rider may also upgrade his or her CX category independently by earning upgrading points according to the table below:

Points awarded for Cyclocross Races

Placing	Number of Starters			
	5-10	11-20	21-50	50+
1	3	4	5	7
2	2	3	4	5
3	1	2	3	4
4		1	2	3
5			1	2
6				1

Requirements for upgrading via points:

- 4-3:** Experience in 5 races or 7 points in 12 months
- 3-2:** 10 points in 12 months (two wins is an automatic upgrade)
- 2-1:** 20 points in 12 months (two wins is an automatic upgrade)

USA Cycling may add additional requirements for upgrading at their discretion. Any such changes shall be made available on the website.

Mountain Bike Upgrades

Riders may advance as quickly as they wish up to Sport. However, once a rider has upgraded, he or she will not be permitted to downgrade to a less difficult category without making a formal request to USA Cycling. The upgrading of categories will be noted on the racing license by USA Cycling. The USA Cycling Official at the event may record the upgrade of a rider to Sport or to Expert. The official will then contact the USA Cycling Regional Coordinator to record the change. A

rider may also contact USA Cycling by email, in writing, or online to change categories.

Beginner racers **must** move to the appropriate Sport category after placing in the top five in five races. Failure to do so may result in license suspension.

Sport riders **may** move up to the expert category after two top five finishes by presenting an upgrade request and a resume to an official or to USA Cycling.

Sport riders **must** advance to the Expert category after placing in the top five in five races. Failure to do so may result in license suspension.

For mandatory upgrading purposes, classes must consist of the following competitors:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
Senior	15	10
Master age 30-39	15	10
Master age 40-49	10	5
Master age 50+	5	5

In those classes that require a minimum of ten competitors, the top three in the class are counted for upgrading. In those classes that require five, the top finisher will be counted for upgrading. Upgrades will be based on a rider's placings in his category over a calendar year.

Expert men riders may be eligible to be upgraded to Semi-Pro after a combination of achieving these minimum race results:

- two top-five finishes at USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Calendar Category 1 or Category 2 events;
- three top-three finishes in American Mountain Bike Challenge (AMBC) events or USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Calendar Category 3 or Category 4 events;

- four top-three finishes at a State or Regional Championship event.

Overall finish times are factored into upgrade requests. Riders must submit their upgrade requests through their USA Cycling online membership account.

Semi-pro riders may be eligible to be upgraded to Pro after achieving a combination of these minimum race results:

- two top-three or
- three top-five finishes at a USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Calendar Category 1 or Category 2 events.

AMBC, USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Calendar Category 3 or Category 4 events, and International events may also be considered. Overall finish times will be factored into upgrade requests. Riders must submit their upgrade requests through their USA Cycling online membership account.

Expert female riders may be eligible to be upgraded to Pro after achieving a combination of these minimum race results:

- two top-three or three top-five finishes at a USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Calendar Category 1 or Category 2 events.

AMBC, USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Calendar Category 3 or Category 4 events, and International events may also be considered. Overall finish times will be factored into upgrade requests. Riders must submit their upgrade requests through their USA Cycling online membership account.

No rider will be permitted to race Pro or Semi-Pro unless his or her license indicates the Pro or Semi-Pro category.

USA Cycling reserves the right to upgrade Experts or Semi-Pros at any time.

USA Cycling also reserves the right to downgrade riders from the Pro or Semi-Pro category at any time.

A rider who feels he/she has advanced too quickly or is otherwise no longer competitive in his or her category may ask for reclassification by submitting a written request to USA Cycling identifying his/her results and reasoning.

When a rider who is participating in a state or regional series has met the upgrading requirements in their current category, (s)he may petition USA Cycling for a written waiver to this policy allowing him or her to finish the series for a title. A rider must also have written permission from the series director to receive such a waiver.

USA Cycling Code of Conduct

Section 1. The mission of USA Cycling is to encourage participation and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of bicycling. USA Cycling grants the privilege of membership to individuals and groups committed to that mission. The privilege of membership may, therefore, be withdrawn or denied by USA Cycling at any time where USA Cycling determines that a member or prospective member's conduct is inconsistent with the mission of the organization or the best interest of the sport and those who participate in it.

In order to assist all members to better serve the interests of those who participate in cycling, USA Cycling has adopted this Code of Conduct

Section 2. Any member or prospective member of USA Cycling may be sanctioned under the racing rules, fined, suspended, denied membership, censured, placed on probation, or expelled from USA Cycling after being afforded the right to a hearing under USA Cycling Grievance and Hearing Policy, if such member violates the provisions of the USA Cycling Code of Conduct, set forth in Section 3 below, or aids, abets or encourages another person to violate any of the provisions of the USA Cycling Code of Conduct.

Section 3. The following shall be considered violations of the USA Cycling Code of Conduct:

(a) Violation of anti-doping provisions as established by USAC Policy II, the USOC, IOC, USADA, WADA, or the UCI

(b) Discrimination in violation of USAC Bylaw D or Article IV, Section 4(C)(6) of the USOC Constitution or Section 220522(a)(8) Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, which require that USA Cycling must provide: an equal oppor-

tunity to amateur athletes; coaches, trainers, managers, mechanics, administrators, and officials to participate in amateur athletic competition, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin

(c) Conviction of, imposition of a deferred sentence for, or any plea of guilty or no contest at any time, past or present for (i) any felony, (ii) any offense involving use, possession, distribution or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances, or (iii) any crime involving sexual misconduct.

(d) Any non-consensual sexual contact or advance or other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior or action directed towards an athlete by a coach, official, trainer, or other person who, in the context of cycling, is in a position of authority over that athlete.

(e) The sale or distribution of illegal drugs or the illegal sale or distribution of any substance listed on the recognized list of banned substances of the IOC, UCI, USADA, WADA or USOC.

(f) The use of illegal drugs in the presence of an athlete, by a coach, official, trainer or a person who, in the context of cycling, is in a position of authority over that athlete.

(g) The providing of alcohol, tobacco or other substance to an athlete by a coach, official, trainer, manager or any other person where the athlete is under the legal age allowed to consume or purchase alcohol, tobacco other substance in the state where it is provided.

(h) The abuse of alcohol in the presence of an athlete under the age of 18, by a coach, official trainer of, or a person who, in the context of cycling, is in a position of authority over that athlete.

(i) Physical abuse of an athlete by any person in a position of authority over that athlete.

(j) Any act of fraud, deception, or dishonesty in connection with any USA Cycling-related activity.

(k) Any non-consensual physical contact, obscene language or gesture, or other threatening language or conduct directed towards any person in connection with any USA Cycling-related activity.

(l) Any intentional damage to private or public property while at or near an event venue sanctioned by USA Cycling, or damage to USA Cycling property.

USA Cycling Policies

Policy I. Helmets

Section 1. Helmets Mandatory.

Part 1. At all times when participating in or preparing for an event held under a USA Cycling permit, including club rides, motorcycle drivers and all motorcycle passengers shall wear a securely fastened helmet that meets the US DOT motorcycle helmet standard.

Part 2. At all times when participating in or preparing for an event held under a USA Cycling permit, including club rides, all licensees who are mounted on a bicycle shall wear a securely fastened helmet that meets either the US DOT helmet standards or one of the following standards:

(1) American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard Z90.4;

(2) Snell Memorial Foundation Standard "B" or "N" series;

(3) American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standard F-1447.

(4) Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standard
CAN/CSA-D113.2-M;

(5) U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
standard for bicycle helmets;

(6) European CE standard (EN1078)

This provision does not apply to riders who are riding rollers
or any other stationary device.

Riders shall show documentary proof of this, such as a
manufacturer's label, upon request by event officials.
Beginning January 1, 2010, only the DOT and CPSC helmet
standards will be recognized.

Section 2. Responsibility Warranties.

The use of such helmets is strongly recommended for all
bicycle riders. It is the rider's responsibility to select and
wear such a helmet that offers sufficient protection against
head injury and does not restrict the rider's vision. USA
Cycling makes no warranties or representations regarding the
protective adequacy or fitness for competition of any helmets
and a rider, by entering an event conducted under USA
Cycling or any member organization rules, agrees not to sue
and to hold harmless USA Cycling from any and all claims
arising from the use of any particular helmet.

Section 3. Additional Requirements.

Associations may adopt additional, more stringent regulations
regarding bicycle safety helmets, provided that such
regulations may in no way supersede the requirements of this
Policy.

Policy II. Medical Control

USA Cycling has a zero-tolerance policy for doping in our sport. Fair play is paramount in maintaining the integrity of bicycle racing and the athletes who participate in it at any level and discipline. USA Cycling is committed to working with the United States Olympic Committee, the UCI, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, and the World Anti-Doping Agency to ensure a level playing field for all of our athletes.

Any USA Cycling member could be tested at any event and must adhere to all USADA and/or UCI anti-doping control procedures in effect at the event.

Section 1. USA Cycling has adopted and participates in the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) protocol for Olympic Movement testing (USADA protocol). The USADA protocol is incorporated herein by reference and shall prevail over any USA Cycling Regulation to the contrary. Their medical control regulations shall apply to USA Cycling, its Associations, and all members, licensees, participants in races granted permits by USA Cycling or Associations, and organizations affiliated with USA Cycling or Associations. For information on or a copy of the USADA protocol can be obtained from USADA at (800) 233-0393 or the USADA web site www.usantidoping.org.

In addition, UCI anti-doping controls are organized at many USA Cycling events. Any member may be subject to UCI testing at such events.

Section 2. Prohibited Substances, Boosting, and Penalties

Part 1. Use of prohibited substances or procedures that is detected by USADA using their test procedures or by the UCI

using their testing procedures and WADA approved laboratories shall result in the same penalties.

Part 2. Penalties for infractions of any section of these regulations shall be those set forth in the UCI Regulations from time to time and imposed by USA Cycling. Please refer to www.usantidoping.org or www.uci.ch or the current UCI Regulations.

Part 3. Prohibited Practices. No rider may use the substances listed in the current UCI list of prohibited substances. See Table 1 for a list of the more common prohibited substances. This list is not all inclusive and is subject to change at any time. For current substances contact USADA at (800) 233-0393.

Section 3. Testing Procedures

The testing protocol will be that of the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA).

Section 4. Tests Results and Evidence.

All testing and results will be the responsibility of the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA).

Section 5. Disposition

Any investigation, prosecution, and hearings shall be the responsibility of the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA). USA Cycling shall impose any sanction from the adjudication process when permitted under the USADA protocol and in accordance with the UCI approved sanctions.

FOR THE OFFICIAL AND MOST UPDATED LIST OF THE "PROHIBITED CLASSES OF SUBSTANCES AND PROHIBITED METHODS," PLEASE REFER TO WWW.USANTIDOPING.ORG

For answers to specific questions or more information on prohibited substances, please call the USADA Drug Hotline at 800-233-0393

Policy III. Administrative Grievances

Preamble

This Policy deals with administrative grievances only. Issues of rider eligibility and discipline are covered under Policy IV (Eligibility, Discipline, and Hearings). For the purposes of this policy, the term, "disinterested" shall mean a person who will not be personally affected by the outcome of an investigation or panel hearing and none of whose relatives, significant other, or team mates will be affected by the outcome. The term, "impartial" shall mean a person who harbors no prejudice towards nor preconceived notions about any of the parties to the grievance, any of the persons that may have information on the grievance as identified in the Grievance and any response to the Grievance by the Respondent, or the outcome of the Grievance.

Chapter I. Filing a Grievance

Part 1. Any member (the Aggrieved) of USA Cycling or one of its associations who believes himself/herself aggrieved by any action of USA Cycling, one of its associations, or one of its members, may file a Grievance with USA Cycling. To be considered for resolution through USA Cycling's Administrative Grievance Procedure, the Grievance must:

- (a) be submitted in writing to the CEO of USA Cycling at its principal place of business,
- (b) be signed by the Aggrieved,
- (c) include a concise statement of the Grievance, the individual or organization responsible for the Grievance and the relief sought,
- (d) be accompanied by a Grievance Procedure deposit of \$100, which will be refunded to the Aggrieved should investigation show that the grievance has merit, and

(e) be submitted within 60 days of the time that the aggrieved knows or upon reasonable investigation should have known of the grievance

Part 2. Should the Aggrieved believe that the CEO is not "disinterested" and "impartial" according to the definitions in the preamble to this procedure, the Grievance shall be submitted directly to the President of the Board of Directors of USA Cycling, or to the chairman of the Grievance Committee.

Part 3. For the remainder of this policy, all references to the "CEO" are to be replaced by the "President of the Board of Directors of USA Cycling" or to the "Chairman of the Grievance Committee" when appropriate per Part 2 of this Chapter 1.

Chapter II. Processing of the Grievance

Part 1. Upon receipt of a Grievance, the CEO will promptly:

(a) Appoint one disinterested and impartial member, employee or agent of USA Cycling to investigate the Grievance.

(b) Send the Aggrieved a notice acknowledging receipt of the Grievance.

That notice shall include:

(i) the name of the Investigator,

(ii) the date by which the investigation will be concluded, and

(iii) a copy of these Grievance procedures.

(c) Send to any individual or organization whose conduct is the subject of the

Grievance (the "Respondent") a notice of the filing of the Grievance and a copy of the Grievance. No notice need be sent when the Respondent is USA Cycling. The notice shall include:

(i) an invitation to respond in writing to the Grievance, which response must be received before the date scheduled for the completion of the investigation.

(ii) the name of the Investigator,

(iii) the date by which the investigation will be completed, and

(iv) a copy of these Grievance procedures.

Part 2. Should the Aggrieved or Respondent (“the Parties”) believe that the Investigator is not disinterested and impartial per the definitions in the preamble to this procedure, he or she will so inform the CEO of his or her reasons for requesting a new Investigator. In this case, the CEO may appoint a new Investigator.

Chapter III. Investigation of the Grievance

The investigation of the Grievance shall include a review of all relevant documents provided in the Grievance and interviews (or attempted interviews) with the Parties and other persons mentioned in the Grievance having information related directly to the subject matter of the Grievance. Within five (5) days of the end of the investigation, the Investigator shall prepare for the CEO a written summary of the investigation and a recommendation as to appropriate disposition of the Grievance. The CEO will send copies of the investigation summary to the Parties.

Chapter IV. Mediation of the Grievance

Without being limited by the recommendation of the investigator, the CEO may then attempt to mediate the dispute to the satisfaction of the Parties. If mediation is successful, the agreed upon resolution shall be recorded in a form which includes the written acknowledgment by the Parties of that resolution. Should the Investigator conclude

that the Grievance is without substantive merit, the CEO shall inform the Aggrieved that no further action will be taken on the Grievance. The Parties shall have no further procedural rights or appeal rights, nor shall they have the right to challenge in any manner, whether by arbitration or court action at law and/or in equity, the CEO's decision to take no further action on a Grievance based on the investigator's report.

Chapter V. Grievance Hearings

Part 1. If the CEO is unable to mediate the dispute to the satisfaction of the Parties within ten (10) days of receipt of the Investigator's summary and recommendation, the Grievance will be submitted to the Chair of the Grievance Committee. The Chair of the Grievance Committee will then appoint three members of that Committee to serve as the panel that will hear the Grievance (the "Hearing Panel"), and will name a chairman of the Panel. The Chair of the Grievance Committee may appoint himself/herself as Panel Chair or as a member. The Chair of the Grievance Panel may also select members of a Hearing Panel from outside the Grievance Committee when necessary to assure an impartial panel.

Part 2. The Chair of the Hearing Panel will select the time and place for the Grievance Hearing so as to have the hearing occur at the earliest convenient date. The Chair may choose to conduct the hearing by conference call or other similar electronic means. The Chair will communicate the information about the hearing schedule, along with the identity of the other two members of the Panel, to the Parties to the Grievance and the CEO. No party shall be entitled to an in-person hearing, rather all hearings shall be by phone conference unless decided otherwise at the sole discretion of the panel.

Part 3. Should either the Aggrieved or Respondent believe that a Hearing Panel member is not disinterested and impartial per the definitions in the preamble to this policy, he or she may challenge the participation of that member to the Chair of the Grievance Committee. After reviewing the reasons, the Grievance Committee Chair may choose to replace that member.

Part 4. Prior to the hearing, the CEO will provide to the Hearing Panel copies of the Grievance, any written response previously submitted by the Respondent, documents collected by the Investigator and the Investigator's summary. The Chair of the Hearing Panel shall cause to be sent to the Parties a written copy of the procedures to be followed at the hearing. Those procedures shall include the opportunity for each Party to be represented by counsel, to present oral or written evidence, to cross-examine witnesses and to present such factual or legal claims as desired.

Part 5. Decisions about the merits of the Complaint and form of remedies thereto shall be made by majority vote of the Hearing Panel. The Hearing Panel shall report its decision on the merits in the form of written findings of fact and conclusions within ten (10) days of the conclusion of the hearing.

The decision shall be sent to the Parties to the Grievance and to the CEO. The resolution of the Grievance pursuant to this Policy III shall be final. The remedies afforded the Parties under this Policy III shall be the sole and exclusive remedies available to them with respect to or arising from the Grievance and/or its subject matter, except as may be allowed under Article VIII of the USOC Bylaws, as may be amended or restated from time to time; provided, however, in no event shall any Party have the right to challenge or seek to overturn the outcome of the Grievance or the procedures set forth in this Policy III, in a court of law and/or equity.

Policy IV. Eligibility, Discipline and Hearings

This Policy deals with issues of rider eligibility and discipline. Administrative grievances are covered under Policy III. For the purposes of this policy, the term, "disinterested" shall mean a person who will not be personally affected by the outcome of a panel hearing and none of whose relatives, significant other, or team mates will be affected by the outcome of a panel hearing. The term, "impartial" shall mean a person who harbors no prejudice towards nor preconceived notions about any of the parties to the complaint.

Chapter I. Rider Eligibility

No rider who is otherwise qualified to compete may be denied entry in a protected event without the right to a hearing as described in Chapter III of this policy. Field of play decisions made by race officials during a competition are not subject to a hearing under Chapter III even if those decisions ultimately affect a rider's eligibility for a protected event or international competition.

Chapter II. Member Discipline

Section 1. Scope. All members of USA Cycling and all persons who participate in any official function of USA Cycling are subject to disciplinary action as provided in this Policy. For purposes of this Policy, the meaning of the term member includes members of USA Cycling; persons participating in a bicycle race held under a USA Cycling or Association permit; affiliated organizations; and race promoters and their employees, independent contractors, and volunteers. For the purposes of this Policy, members are also subject to

disciplinary actions for their conduct at bicycle races in other countries.

Section 2. Violations. Any breach by a member of a provision of USA Cycling regulations, rules, policies, Code of Conduct, or other actions which substantially prejudices either the ability of USA Cycling to carry out its tasks or the sport of bicycle racing shall be subject to discipline as provided in this Policy, including loss of eligibility or other appropriate penalties.

Section 3. Facility Agreements. Any member who acknowledges in writing any published rules of conduct for the use of a training, housing, or racing site obtained by USA Cycling or an Association and who subsequently violates these rules shall be subject to discipline as provided in this Policy.

Section 4. Financial Obligations. Members or other parties who present checks to USA Cycling, an Association, the UCI or to organizers of events for which race permits have been issued, which checks are dishonored by the banks upon which they are drawn, or who fail to pay any fine or other financial obligation due USA Cycling, an Association, or the UCI, shall be subject to the following procedure: The member will be informed of the obligation by telephone or served per Section 7, Part 1(b) of this Chapter. After receiving the verbal notice or service, the member will have ten business days to fulfill the obligation, failing which he or she will be subject to disciplinary action. Without limitation, this may include loss of eligibility to compete in USA Cycling or Association races or to do business with USA Cycling until the obligation is fulfilled, followed by an additional period of ineligibility to be determined by the CEO of USA Cycling. Should the offending party be an athlete that may lose eligibility to compete in a Protected Event (as defined by USOC bylaws) or international competition as a result of disciplinary action per this Section, a recommendation only

shall be made that the athlete lose eligibility, which recommendation shall be deemed to be a complaint as provided for in Section 7 of this Chapter and administered as such, including, but not limited to, the right of the athlete to a hearing as described in Chapter III.

Section 5. Club, Team, or Sponsor Affiliation. An Association may regulate when its members may establish or change club, team, or sponsor affiliations. A member who fails to abide by such regulations shall be subject to discipline as provided in this Policy. Without limitation, this may include loss of eligibility to compete in USA Cycling or Association races until such regulations are complied with, followed by an additional period of ineligibility.

Section 6. Due Process. Every member is entitled to due process in the administration of discipline.

Section 7. Complaints. A complaint is a written and signed allegation that one or more members have violated USA Cycling's regulations, rules, policies or Code of Conduct. A complaint may be filed by USA Cycling or one or more members who, collectively, are known as the complainant. The member or members who are alleged in the complaint to have violated USA Cycling's regulations, rules, policies or Code of Conduct are known collectively as the respondent. Complaints by members shall be filed with the CEO or the Technical Director of USA Cycling. The procedures listed in the balance of this Section 7 apply to all complaints except those arising from unfulfilled financial obligations, as defined in and governed by Section 4, above, subject to the right to a hearing as provided in the last sentence of Section 4.

Part 1. Service of Complaint.

(a) **Timing.** USA Cycling shall serve a copy of the complaint on the respondent, who shall have the opportunity to respond formally. Once the complaint is served, either party shall have

ten days in which to formally request a hearing, the procedures for which are defined below in Chapter III. If respondent requests a hearing, prior to or concurrently with the filing of the hearing request, he or she shall file with USA Cycling and serve on the complainant, an answer to the complaint. USA Cycling will provide both parties with the procedures for requesting a hearing. The request must be received at the offices of USA Cycling prior to the close of normal business hours on the tenth day following service of the complaint, and must be accompanied by the hearing request fee of \$200, otherwise the right to a hearing shall be deemed waived.

(b) **Service Methods.** For purposes of this Policy, service shall be accomplished by hand delivery; mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested to the current address of the party as reflected on the records of USA Cycling; or by overnight delivery by a recognized courier that maintains a record of the delivery, such as Federal Express, United Parcel Service, or DHL. Service shall be deemed given upon the earliest of hand delivery, three business days after mailing or one business day after sending by overnight delivery.

(c) **Waiver of Hearing.** Any party may waive his or her right to a hearing at any stage of the proceedings. The right shall be deemed to have been waived if respondent does not request a hearing and file a response to the complaint as required by Subparagraph (a) of this Part 1.

Part 2. Investigation.

(a) If allowed by the time constraints surrounding the complaint, such as a forthcoming event, competition or selection deadline, the CEO or his designee shall appoint an investigator who shall conduct an informal investigation and assess the evidence regarding the charges to determine if there is cause for disciplinary action. The investigator shall use his or her best efforts to hear all sides of the dispute and the investigation shall be conducted in any reasonable

manner, including by telephone. If the time constraints do not permit an investigation, the CEO shall so notify all parties.

(b) If an investigator is appointed, such investigator shall determine whether there is sufficient evidence to merit disciplinary action and, where applicable, a hearing, and shall submit to the CEO, in writing, the findings of the investigation and a recommendation of what sanctions, if any, should be applied. The investigator shall serve a copy of this recommendation on the complainant and respondent. Regardless of the investigator's recommendation, if any, respondent and complainant shall be entitled to a hearing if they timely file a request as provided in subsection (a) of Part 1 of this Section.

Part 3. Disciplinary Action

If no hearing is requested per Part 1 of this Section, the CEO shall determine the penalty, if any, to be imposed, which may include a suspension or other loss of eligibility. The CEO will determine the length of any loss of eligibility and the date on which such loss of eligibility shall commence.

Section 8. Observance. All components and Associations of USA Cycling shall follow these procedures and honor any suspensions or loss of eligibility imposed by USA Cycling.

Section 9. Suspensions by Other Organizations. USA Cycling and its Associations shall honor the suspensions or other disciplinary actions imposed by the USOC, the UCI, UCI member National Federations, and their affiliates, USA Cycling reserves the right to honor the suspensions of other domestic cycling organizations with whom it maintains reciprocity agreements. Should the offending party be an athlete that may lose eligibility to compete in a Protected Event (as defined by USOC bylaws) or international competition as a result of disciplinary action per this Section, a recommendation only shall be made that the athlete lose eligibility, which recommendation shall be deemed to be a complaint as provided for in Section 7 of this Chapter and

administered as such, including, but not limited to, the right of the athlete to a hearing as described in Chapter III.

Chapter III. Hearings

Section 1. If a hearing is requested, USA Cycling shall serve a copy of the hearing request on the other parties to the complaint, if any.

Section 2. The CEO shall appoint three disinterested and impartial persons, known as a Hearing Panel, to conduct a hearing. If the hearing pertains to an athlete's eligibility to compete in a Protected Competition or international competition under the "Ted Stevens Act", then one of the panel members shall be an Eligible Athlete, as defined in the Bylaws of USA Cycling. The hearing shall be conducted informally and may be accomplished in any reasonable manner including by telephone. In the conduct of the hearing, the burden shall be upon the complainant to prove the allegations of the complaint by a preponderance of evidence. If either party in the hearing makes a reasonable case that one of the Hearing Panel members is not disinterested and impartial, the member will be replaced.

Section 3. The respondent must be given a reasonable time between receipt of the notice of charges and the date of a hearing, if one is requested, to prepare a defense. This period of time shall be no less than 15 days but no more than 45 days; provided, however, that the Hearing Panel may shorten all time periods provided for in this Chapter as it deems necessary and appropriate in order to render a decision in a timely manner under the circumstance of the complaint and taking into consideration any related deadlines or forthcoming competition or event. The Hearing Panel Chair shall make every reasonable attempt to organize the hearing on a day and time such that the respondent and all other parties can participate either in person or via teleconference.

Section 4. In any hearing concerning the eligibility of an athlete, the athlete shall always have the right to an expedited hearing.

Section 5. All parties shall have the right to be assisted, at their own expense, in the preparation of their case at the hearing, including the assistance of legal counsel, if desired.

Section 6. All parties shall have the right to call witnesses and present oral and written evidence and argument.

Section 7. All parties shall have the right to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses.

Section 8. All parties shall have the right to have a record made of the hearing, at their own expense.

Section 9. The Hearing Panel shall determine by a majority vote if :

(1) the allegations of a complaint are true and there is cause for disciplinary action, or

(2) an athlete has been wrongly denied eligibility.

Section 10. If the Hearing Panel finds a complaint to be valid according to Section 9, subparagraph (1) of this Chapter, it may impose a sanction and, if appropriate, set the dates on which the sanction shall begin and end. If the complaint concerned misconduct at any given race or competition, the Hearing Panel may issue a suspension covering a period up to ninety days and may recommend to the CEO the imposition of a longer period of suspension. The CEO may determine loss of eligibility, including, without limitation, suspension, for any period after receiving a recommendation from the Hearing Panel.

Section 11. If the Hearing Panel finds that an athlete has been wrongly denied eligibility according to Section 9, subparagraph (2) of this Chapter, it shall declare the athlete to be eligible.

Section 12. A written decision, with the reasons therefore, based solely on the evidence of record, shall be served by the panel on all parties and the CEO no later than ten days after the hearing. The decision shall be final and shall not be subject to further challenge in any proceeding, including

litigation or arbitration, except as to those matters to which a hearing before the USOC or arbitration is provided for under the Constitution and Bylaws of the USOC. In connection with all hearings and arbitrations, each party shall pay its own legal fees.

Requirements of Riders

Competing Outside the United States

Licensed riders must obtain permission from USA Cycling to compete outside of the United States. Permission to compete is provided only for visits to federations that are affiliated with the UCI.

Each federation is allowed to set its own requirements for allowing foreign riders to compete. It is the rider's responsibility to meet these requirements when applying for permission. Note that you must have an international license in order to compete abroad.

Foreign Permission Application Procedure

(a) Proof of Citizenship. If you are not a US citizen (indicated on your license under "status") you must provide a passport (copy) or other proof of citizenship.

(b) An applicant must be a licensed rider with a valid International license. If the rider does not have a valid International license, the rider must complete and submit an international license application with the appropriate fee. This form is available from the USA Cycling Membership office, and is available via online application.

(c) Foreign Permission Letter.

Foreign permission letters can be requested online from your account at www.usacycling.org. If you have no access to a computer, a permission letter may be requested by writing to USA Cycling.

(1) Each request must show your name, license number, country(s) you wish to compete in, arrival dates and length of stay.

(2) Please allow at least one week to process and issue letters from the date of receipt in the USA Cycling office. Allow for sufficient delivery time to overseas addresses. Applicant is responsible for all "express" mail and fax fees.

USA Cycling Member Services will process the request in the following manner:

(a) A license validation check will be conducted from the USA Cycling computer files.

(b) Permission from the CEO will be requested.

(c) Upon license validation check and CEO's permission, a letter will be sent to the foreign federation(s) giving permission for you to compete overseas, and copies sent to you. You may have five letters free of charge annually.

(d) The letter authorizing competition in a foreign federation will contain:

- 1) Your Name (as it appears on your passport)
- 2) UCI code and country of origin
- 3) Club and or Team, if you belong to one
- 4) Racing categories by discipline
- 5) Your UCI class (Junior, Under 23, Elite, Master)

USA Cycling Staff

Chief Executive Officer	Steve Johnson
Human Resource Director	Debbie Francis
Chief Operating Officer	Sean Petty
Chief Financial Officer	Todd Sowl
Sponsorship and Business Development Director	Nick Adams
VP of Membership	Theresa Delp
Athletics Director	Pat McDonough
National Events Director	Justin Rogers
MTB Events and Program Director	Kelli Lusk
Communications Director	Andy Lee

Membership Director	Susie Diller
Technical Director	Shawn Farrell
National Events Manager	Tom Vinson
Collegiate Programs Manager	Daniel Matheny
Local Association Manager	Lisa Berggren

USA Cycling State Membership Coordinators

Please contact the appropriate coordinator for your state for assistance with event permitting and licensing questions.

NORTHEAST – CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV

Susan Diller – northeast@usacycling.org
Hours: 6:00 am-2:30 pm Mountain time

SOUTH – AL, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MI, MS, NC, OH, SC, TN, WI

Beth Vialpando – south@usacycling.org
Hours: 8:00 am-4:30 pm Mountain time

MIDWEST –AR, CO, IA, KS, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NM, OK, SD, TX, WY

Sarah Ross --, midwest@usacycling.org
Hours: 8:00am-4:30 pm Mountain time

WEST – AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, UT, WA

Linda Buffetti – west@usacycling.org
Hours: 8:00 am-4:30 pm Mountain time

USA Cycling Regional Coordinators

**NORTHEAST REGION – CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ,
NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV**

Randy Inglis, (443) 220 7371, ringlis@usacycling.org, 14
School House Lane, North East, MD 21901

**MIDWEST REGION – IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE,
OH, SD, WI**

Mike Hanley, (317) 823 5809, mhanley@usacycling.org, 8263
Carloway Road, Indianapolis, IN 46236

**SOUTHEASTERN REGION – AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC,
TN**

*Stuart Lamp, (719) 209-8211, slamp@usacycling.org, 302
Canal Street, Decatur, AL 35601.*

**MOUNTAIN AND SOUTHERN REGION – AR, AZ, CO, KS,
MT, NM, OK, TX, UT, WY**

George Heagerty, (210) 402-0636,
gheagerty@usacycling.org, 1016 Steubing Oaks, San Antonio,
TX 78258

WESTERN REGION – AK, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA

Jan-Luke Hamasaki, (760) 525-8557, jluke@usacycling.org
P.O. Box 231910, Encinitas, CA 92023