

# OBRA Officials' Training



**CORVALLIS, OR  
JANUARY 31, 2009**

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# Agenda



- **9am** - Core material (combined)
- **10am** - Referee & Judge specific training (split)
- **12pm** - Transfer to field session
- **12:15pm** - Organize
- **12:30pm** - Field session
- **2pm** - Return to classroom
- **2:30pm** - Recap, questions, feedback
- **3:30pm** - Finished
- **3:30-5pm** - Veteran Officials' Session (your welcome to stay)

# Training Organizations



- **General Information (Core)**
- **Domain Specific Training**
  - Referee
  - Judge
- **Practice (Field Session)**
- **Review**

# Core Training Objectives



## Overview of

- OBRA
- Your priorities as an official
- Race hierarchy and positions
- General information you will need
- Rules

# Overview of OBRA



- Oregon Bicycle Racing Association
- Non-profit organization
- Mission:



The mission of OBRA is to promote and develop the sport of bicycle racing in Oregon by providing the tools and resources necessary for competition. OBRA values safety, participation, sportsmanship, teamwork, camaraderie and fun.

# Overview of OBRA



## - **Brief History** -

- Founded in the late 1970's: Oregon Cycling Association (OCA)
- OCA was a district association of U.S.A Cycling
- Focus turned to assisting promoters make events happen
- OBRA centralized equipment purchasing and insurance
- In 1998, Oregon cycling clubs voted to separate from USAC

# Overview of OBRA



## - Structure -

### Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is comprised of a six member board of directors, each serving a 3 year term and is elected by a majority of clubs at the annual OBRA meeting held in January.

- Meg Mautner: Membership Services
- Mike Murray: Equipment
- Clark Ritchie: Marketing
- Glen Gann-Venue: Development/Protection
- Jeff Lorenzen: Athlete Development
- Brad Ross: Mountain bike

# Overview of OBRA



## - **Structure** -

**Executive Director: Kenji Sugahara**

- Day-to-day operations

**Assistant Director: Candi Murray**

**Webmaster: Cheryl Willson**

**Membership Coordinator: Kenji Sugahara**

**Equipment Manager: Dan Carleson**

# Overview of OBRA



## - Sanctioned Events -

- **Road Events**
  - Stage Race (multi-day events)
  - Road Race (including circuit races)
  - Criterium
  - Time Trial
  - Ultra Distance
- **Track**
- **Cyclo-Cross**
- **Mountain Bike**
  - Cross-Country
  - Downhill
  - Super-D
  - Ultra Distance



# Code Of Ethics



*unofficial draft*

- Cycling officials will maintain the utmost respect for the sport of competitive cycling.
- Cycling officials will conduct themselves honorably at all times and maintain the dignity of their position.
- Cycling officials must maintain impartial and fair judging of sports competitions. Without equivocation, race decisions which are slanted by personal bias are dishonest and unacceptable.
- Cycling officials have a responsibility to continuously seek self-improvement through study of the game, rules, mechanics and the techniques of race management. They have a responsibility to accurately represent their qualifications and abilities when requesting or accepting officiating assignments.
- Cycling officials will honor assignments or any other contractual obligation.
- Cycling officials will strive to achieve maximum teamwork with fellow officials.
- Cycling officials have an obligation to treat other officials with professional dignity and courtesy and recognize that it is inappropriate to criticize other officials publicly.
- Cycling officials shall protect the public (fans, administrators, coaches, athletes, et al.) from inappropriate conduct and shall attempt to eliminate from the officiating avocation/profession all practices which bring discredit to it

# Priorities



## - 1. Safety -

- Safety is everyone's first job.
- If there is anything that jeopardizes safety, it is your responsibility to mitigate it.
- Racers, volunteers, officials, spectators, or civilians
- Primarily, you will make it known to the Chief Referee, and they will handle the problem.
- If this is not possible, other actions may need to be taken, including stopping the race.

# Priorities



## - 2. Fair Competition -

- Be fair and impartial when enforcing rules
- Use good judgment in responding to events
- Irregularities should be reported to the Chief Judge and/or the Chief Referee

# Priorities



## - 3. Integrity -

- Maintaining the good name of OBRA and the event
- Ensure commitments are honored
- Enforce rules that affect public opinion
  - Public urination
  - Foul language
  - Littering
  - Blocking traffic

# Positions



- **Promoter**
  - Responsible for venue, equipment, volunteers and other related issues
- **Chief Judge / Chief Timer**
  - Results
  - Timing
  - Competition Fairness
  - Also:
    - ✦ All paperwork
    - ✦ Collecting reports from other officials
    - ✦ Keeps the results process flowing
    - ✦ Answers protests
    - ✦ Counts heads for insurance and fees

# Positions



- **Chief Referee**
  - In charge of interpreting and enforcing all the rules
  - Supervises the general conduct of the race
  - Empowered to make rulings on any point not specifically covered in the rules
  - Duties:
    - ✦ The general running of the race
    - ✦ Event safety
    - ✦ Competition fairness
    - ✦ Race categories
    - ✦ Prize lists
    - ✦ Race schedule
    - ✦ Course issues
    - ✦ Protests
    - ✦ Feed zones
    - ✦ Verifys that all the promoter commitments are met as advertised

# Positions



- **Assistant Referees, Starters**

- Work under the Chief Referee

- Roles:

- ✦ **Road**

- Follow vehicle
- Feed zone
- Roll out

- ✦ **Criterion**

- Service pit
- Lead vehicle (on motorcycle or in a car)
- Follow vehicle
- Roving

- ✦ **Time Trails**

- Stage/whip
- Holder
- Turnaround
- Course

# Positions



- **Assistant Judges / Timers**
  - Work under the Chief Referee
  - Roles:
    - ✦ Scoring
    - ✦ Data entry
    - ✦ Downstream judging
- **Motor Referees**
  - Referees on motorcycles!
- **Registrars**
  - Not normally officials
  - Handle sign-in and registration
  - Work closely with officials

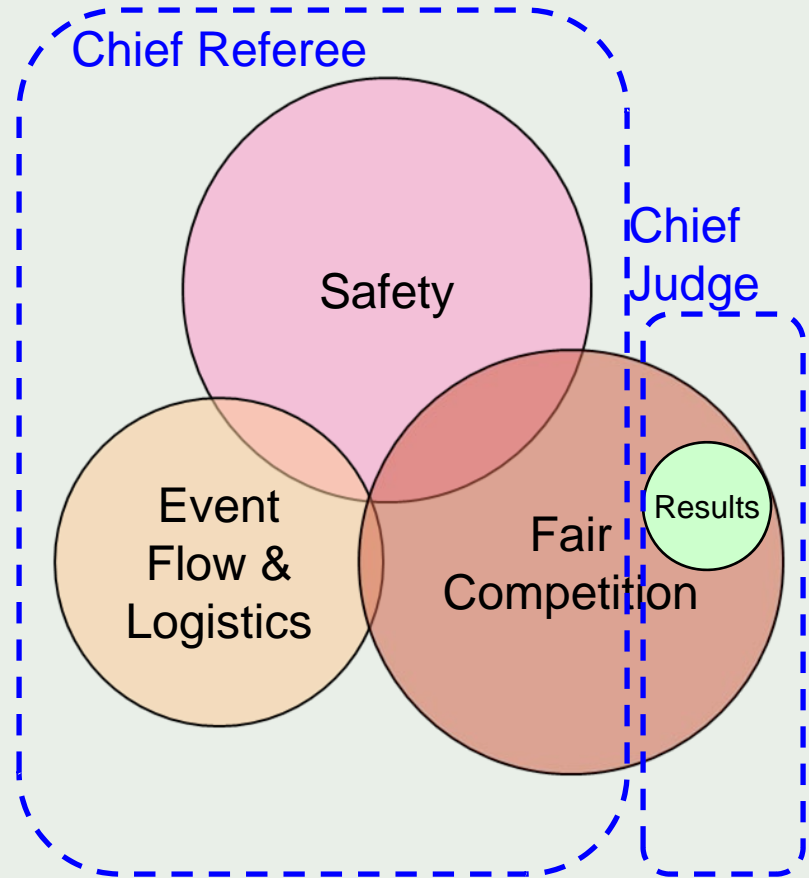


# General Information

## Event Chain of Command

- Chief Referee:
  - ✦ Assistant Referees
  - ✦ Starters
  - ✦ Motor Referees
  - ✦ Rules and safety
- Chief Judge:
  - ✦ Assistant Judges
  - ✦ Timers
  - ✦ Any issues related to results, scores, or timing

Both chiefs work with the promoter and registrars to make sure the event flow is maintained and registration information is accessible to the judges.



# General Information

## Officials Uniforms

- OBRA official shirt and vest
- You need to be clearly identifiable
- Yellow: If all else fails, wear it.

## Equipment

- Stopwatch
- Whistle
- Rulebook
- Pens, pencils
- Clipboard
- Paper
- Race schedule
- Watch
- Forms
- Other equipment specific to your duties



# General Information



## - Officials' Fees and Reimbursements -

### Race fees

- Based on the number of riders
- Overtime is added on after 8 hours
- See print material for detailed information

### Mileage

- Reimbursed at 45¢ per mile.
- Record your mileage before leaving home
- Report mileage to the Chief Referee

# General Information



## - Officials' Fees and Reimbursements -

### Meals

- For a single day race longer than 5 hours, the promoter will provide a meal or pay a \$10 per diem to each official
- For a full day stage race, the promoter will provide two meals or pay a \$30 per diem fee to each official

### Lodging

- Lodging is to be provided and paid for by the race promoter when needed

### Other Expenses

- Race promoter must reimburse other expenses that are reasonable and necessary for the officials duties

# General Information



- **Insurance & Liability**
  - OBRA's insurance covers officials for \$1M/\$3M.
  - For extra coverage, check with your insurance company about an Umbrella Policy
  - Alternatively, joining (\$94/year) the National Association of Sports Officials (NASO) automatically covers you while officiating, including:
    - ✦ \$3M per occurrence for liability
    - ✦ Covers all legal fees
  - Since 1980 there has only been:
    - ✦ 2 lawsuits related to bike racing
    - ✦ 1 lawsuit personally against an official

# General Information



## Handling Difficult People

- It is **NEVER** ok for a rider, coach, or other official to yell, verbally abuse, use obscenities, or threaten you!
- Don't stand for it; don't take it.
  - ✦ Keep a cool head
  - ✦ Be patient
  - ✦ Be the authority figure and stay in control of the situation
  - ✦ Don't take things personally
- Invite people to walk away and cool down
- If someone does yell at you, collect as much info as possible about the person and situation and report it to the Chief Referee. Penalties and suspensions should be implemented effectively and immediately.
- If you feel threatened, immediately remove yourself from the situation, and report it to the Chief Referee. Authorities may need to be called.



# Rules



- It is expected that you will read and learn the rule book.
- **Clothing & Equipment**
  - Helmets are always required
  - Riders cannot wear clothes of a team or club they are not eligible to represent
    - ✦ For lower categories (4/5), this is generally disregarded.
    - ✦ This is more heavily enforced for higher categories, and especially at stage races.
  - No headphones
  - No radios (except in certain pro/1/2 races)
  - Numbers
    - ✦ Only those provided by OBRA shall be used
    - ✦ Number can't be folded or cut
  - Numbers must be placed properly and be readable or rider may not be placed

# Rules



- **General**
  - Races cannot start prior to the time shown on the fliers
- **Conduct**
  - Riders are responsible for their own conduct
  - Any misconduct may be punished at the Chief Referee's discretion
- **Penalties**
  - Penalties are specific to the type of event being raced
  - All penalties may be appealed to the Chief Referee
  - Penalties can be applied to both individual riders and teams

# Rules



- **Protests**

- Protests can only be made by and against racers in the same event
- All protests must be made in writing
- Order of finish protests will go to the Chief Judge, whose decision is final (no fee needed)
- All other protests are directed to the Chief Referee
- Protests filed by riders concerning events during the race require a \$10 fee be paid to OBRA
  - ✦ The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld
- Protests concerning results must be made before results are finalized
  - ✦ Results are finalized 15 minutes after posting for all events except stage races
  - ✦ Results are finalized at the end of the next sign-in period for stage race events
- Judgments may be appealed to the OBRA executive director with a \$25 fee, whose decision will be final

# Rules



- **Anti-doping**
  - Don't Dope
  - Don't have or use any substance banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
  - Exceptions are made for prescription
    - ✦ Upon request, racers will need to be able to provide a doctor's note or prescription



# What Happens Next?



- **5 minute break**
- **Separate into group:**
  - Referees on one side
  - Judges on the other