

RMCCC Monthly Meeting  
**Thursday, July 25 · 6:00 – 7:00pm**

Time zone: America/Denver

In attendance: Chad Cheeney - Fort Lewis, Jeffry Biller – U.S. Air Force Academy, Maddie Blair – CSU, Brian Flaherty– CMU, Alan - CSU, Garret – US AFA, Vanessa Drummond – USA Cycling, Jim Castagneri - RMCCC

**Topics:**

- **USAC Collegiate News**

Vanessa shared the vision for a refreshed collegiate cycling program at USAC...some new efforts include;

Fewer hurdles during licensing

Rolling 12 month club memberships

Up to 10 Athletes for Nationals

Nationals schedule 2024 & 2025:

**MTB** - Ride Rock Creek, NC Oct 24-27, 2024

**Cyclocross** – Louisville, KY Dec 9-15, 2024

**BMX** – Ike Hamilton Arena, LA March 21-23, 2025

**Road** – Madison, WI May 2-4, 2025

Perhaps include gravel in 2026

New scholarship program, applications this fall

Event Assistance grant program for schools

Website updates

New Marketing and Promotional campaign

New resource guides and checklists for clubs and members

- **Board Member Nominations**

Jim asked that you please nominate and introduce yourself or others tonight.

Jim Castagneri nominated local USAC official Lynn Taylor for member of the board

Jim Castagneri nominated himself for 2025 Director....anyone else interested?

- **August Elections for Board and Director**

- We will vote on all nomination during the August meeting. Nominations fewer than 6 members will automatically be accepted and no vote is necessary.

- **2024 MTB Events Calendar**

DATE	School	Event Name	Location
Aug 24-25	Colorado Mesa University	CMU Rumble	Powerhorn
Sept 7-8	Fort Lewis College	Squawker Classic	Durango Mesa Park
Sept 21-22	Western Colorado University	Mountaineer Madness MTB Classic	Crested Butte
Sept 28-29	Colorado School of Mines	Oredigger MTB Challenge	Black Hawk, CO
Oct 24-27	USA Cycling	<b>MTB Nationals</b>	Ashville, NC

- **RMCCC Stipend for member schools??** We are proposing to provide any RMCCC school that promotes an event, a one-time, \$500 stipend per year. Brian asked whether the current budget can support such an effort. He suggested the RMCCC start recording/reporting incomes and expenses. Jeffry asked if promoters could be eligible for the stipend, Jim suggested they could if the event was primarily a collegiate race. The point was emphasized that riders and schools are charged for multiple purposes during registration. Perhaps a streamlined and smaller fee structure could offset the need for a stipend. Most agreed the fees were too numerous and should be consolidated to simplify registration and event promotion.
- **Collegiate Upgrade Requests**

Jim introduced the subject with a statement about upgrade requests including placings and race events that qualify the rider for an upgrade. Chad felt we should explore a major change to the process of upgrades and that points don't make the system relevant nor do the riders tend to care. Jim mentioned the idea from several years ago that relied on team coaches to recommend riders for upgrades. Brian added there might need to be differences in the process based on the discipline in question. Chad pointed out that riders coming from NICA have the hardest time being placed as their past experiences aren't considered in the current placement process. Most coaches/team leaders agreed the issue of upgrades is more about compatible riders and rider safety than strict race qualifications. Brian pointed out that MTB X-C events are relatively easy for the existing points system but that gravity events are poorly represented by USAC permitted races. Most felt the RMCCC should consider alternative upgrade process for those disciplines that aren't well represented by USAC races. Maddie made the point that with so few events on the calendar, it's difficult to make the points system work. Riders of similar abilities and skills should be racing together. Jim will place this issue on the agenda for August 2024 for further discussion.

**Next Meeting: August 22, 2024** 6pm via Google Meet:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/fps-acym-dvu>

Tentative Agenda:

- RMCCC Board Elections (all in attendance may vote)
- Upgrade discussion
- Stipend discussion