



Oregon Bicycle Racing Association

2015 Racing Rule Proposals

Rules passed will be effective for the 2015 racing
season.

Proposal 1

Proposed by Kenji Sugahara

Public urination and/or defecation:

Riders who are caught urinating and/or defecating in public may be subject to penalties including suspension. In general, the chief referee shall take into account the following when imposing a penalty or making a recommendation for a suspension.

1. availability of toilet facilities
2. type of event
3. type of venue
4. presence of the public and/or minors
5. sophistication of the rider
6. location of behavior
7. any extenuating circumstances (medical condition etc)
8. previous violations

In any recommendation for suspension, the Chief Referee shall document the above criteria and submit to the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall consider the above criteria in determining the appropriateness and duration of a suspension.

Any rider punished for public urination and/or defecation must send a note of apology to the venue owner if appropriate and to the promoter of the event.

If the behavior results in a direct loss of a venue e.g. the urination/defecation is cited in a letter denying use of a venue, the Board of Directors may impose any punishment up to a permanent suspension from the organization.

Explanation/Key points- Any analysis should be fact specific- especially when you move into the domain of suspension.

Peeing on the side of a fire station in full view of the general public is a lot different than peeing in a bush in the middle of nowhere. I also think that losing a venue should be tied to permanent suspension but allow the BoD to make that determination. A note to the venue owner should be considered appropriate only if members of the public or venue owners were made aware of the incident.

Proposal 2

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modify rule 1.1 Rule application

These rules are the rules for OBRA races. **They apply to all competitors from the time they register until all prizes have been awarded.**

To:

These rules are the rules for OBRA races. **They apply to all competitors from the time they arrive at the race venue until they leave the race venue.**

Explanation/Key points- This change requires participants to adhere to OBRA rules at all times while they are at a race venue, not just after they register.

Proposal 3

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 1.5 Event specific rules

An organizer may use “special rules” for their event as long as they are approved, in advance by the Chief Referee and the OBRA Executive Director. **Special rules will be clearly communicated to the riders prior to the start of the event, preferably in written form.**

To:

Special rules will be posted in writing on the race flyer and on-site at the event, and clearly communicated to the riders prior to the start of the event.

Proposal 5

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 2.14 Omnium

An omnium is a set of races in which riders compete for points in each event and final placings are determined by total points in all events. Different numbers of points may be given in different events. **The scoring scheme shall be specified in writing prior to the start of the first race. Generally the points awarded in each event shall be 7-5-3-2-1 for first through fifth places.**

To:

An omnium is a set of races in which riders compete for points in each event and final placings are determined by total points in all events. Different numbers of points may be given in different events. **Unless other posted prior to the start of the event, the points awarded in each event shall be 7-5-3-2-1 for first through fifth places.**

Proposal 6

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 3.3 Officials Assignment

The OBRA Executive Director will assign the Chief Referee.

Subordinate officials will be assigned by the Chief Referee.

To:

The OBRA Executive Director will assign the Chief Referee.

Subordinate officials will be assigned by the Chief Referee or OBRA Executive Director.

Explanation/Key points- brings rule in line with actual practice.

Proposal 7

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 7.3.1 Bicycle Propulsion

Bicycles must be propelled by the rider's legs only. No stored propulsion mechanism is allowed.

To:

Bicycles must be propelled by the rider's own body. No stored propulsion mechanism is allowed.

Notes: This language makes the sport more inclusive and allows the use of hand cycles for para-athletes.

Proposal 8

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 7.3.4 Wheel restrictions

Fully enclosed or disc front wheels or spoke covers on front wheels are not allowed in mass start events.

To:

Fully enclosed disc wheels and spoke covers are only allowed in time trial events, with the exception of track events, where a rear disc wheel may be used in all events.

Proposal 9

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 7.5 Radios

Non-handheld radios with only one earpiece providing communications with coaches, managers or other riders may be used only in road races that include Category 1 or 2 riders and do not include Cat 4 or 5 riders. Audio playback devices are specifically prohibited.

To:

All race radios and audio playback devices are prohibited.

Proposal 10

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 7.9.2 Track- Time trialed events

A bicycle with a shifting mechanism, brakes and freewheel may be used but gear shifting is not allowed during the race.

To:

A bicycle with a shifting mechanism, brakes and freewheel may be used **for individual timed events** but gear shifting is not allowed during the race.

Proposal 11

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 8.1 Race numbers, General

Race numbers shall either be the numbers provided with OBRA membership for the current year or numbers provided by the race organizer. **Numbers from other races or OBRA numbers not from the current year may not be used.** Penalty or disqualification is at the discretion of the Race Official.

To:

Race numbers shall either be the numbers provided with OBRA membership for the current year or numbers provided by the race organizer. **Numbers from other races or OBRA numbers not from the current year may not be used, unless approved by the Chief Referee.** Penalty or disqualification is at the discretion of the Race Official.

Proposal 12

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 13.1.5 Suspendable offenses

Associated entities wishing to have a rider or club suspended under 13.1.4 must provide **documentation in the form of a signed contract.**

To:

Associated entities wishing to have a rider or club suspended under 13.1.4 must provide **supporting documentation.**

Explanation/Key points- makes it easier for promoters to pursue riders who do not pay for their event.

Proposal 13

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 15.1.2 General rules- centerline

Unless instructed by the Chief Referee, **all riders must stay to the right of the centerline**, or another point on the road designated by the Chief Referee.

To:

Unless instructed by the Chief Referee, **all riders must stay to the right of the right-most centerline marking**, or another point on the road designated by the Chief Referee.

Proposal 14

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 15.4.3

The Chief Referee may remove lapped riders from the race. If lapped riders are allowed to finish, they will finish on the same lap as the leader. **Lapped riders may not interfere with the final sprint.** Lapped riders will be placed after those who completed the entire distance according to the number of laps down.

To:

The Chief Referee may remove lapped riders from the race. If lapped riders are allowed to finish, they will finish on the same lap as the leader. Lapped riders will be placed after those who completed the entire distance according to the number of laps down.

Explanation/Key points- This rule is in contradiction with 15.4.5 where it states that riders on different laps may work together.

Proposal 15

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 15.4.6(C) Free Laps

In case of a mishap, the rider(s) will report to a pit with his bicycle. Riders may not ride backward on the course to get to a pit, but may cut through the course to reach a pit. A rider may proceed backwards to the pit carrying his bicycle.

To:

In case of a mishap, the rider(s) will report to a pit with their bicycle as quickly as possible.

Proposal 16

Proposed by Candi Murray

Modifies rule 15.4.6(C) Free Laps

In case of a mishap, the rider(s) will report to a pit with his bicycle. Riders may not ride backward on the course to get to a pit, but may cut through the course to reach a pit. A rider may proceed backwards to the pit carrying his bicycle.

To:

In case of a mishap, the rider(s) will report to a pit with their bicycle within a time period determined by the Chief Referee based on the characteristics of the venue.

Proposal 17

Proposed by Steven Beardsley

Modifies rule 15.4.6(F) Free Laps

If the mishap was legitimate the rider **will be returned** to the place he was in the race at the time of the mishap. If he was in a group he will be returned to the rear of that group. The rider will be ineligible for any sprint prize for one lap after his return.

To:

If the mishap was legitimate the rider **must return** to the place they were in the race at the time of the mishap. If the rider was in a group, the rider must return to the race at the rear of that group. The rider will be ineligible for any sprint prize for one lap after their return.

Proposal 18

Proposed by Adam Kennedy

Adds to rule 15.4.3 Lapped riders

The Chief Referee may remove lapped riders from the race. If lapped riders are allowed to finish, they will finish on the same lap as the leader. Lapped riders may not interfere with the final sprint. Lapped riders will be placed after those who completed the entire distance according to the number of laps down.

When a field size exceeds 25 riders and the main peloton is lapped by a group of four or more riders with five or more laps remaining, the lapped peloton will conclude with three laps to go. Lapped riders will then leave the course. The riders who lapped the field will continue to race and complete their race according to the official lap counter.

Explanation/Key points- Provide a finish environment free of lapped riders in competitive P/1/2 criterium cycling events.

Proposal 20

Proposed by Kenji Sugahara

Modifies 7.8.2 Freewheel requirement

Bicycles shall have a freewheel mechanism EXCEPTION: A fixed gear and single front brake may be used in time trial events or in races where all the competitors are similarly equipped. Freewheeled and fixed gear bikes shall not be mixed in the same mass start event.

To:

Bicycles shall have a freewheel mechanism EXCEPTION: A fixed gear and single front brake may be used in time trial events or in races where all the competitors are similarly equipped. **All competitors must stay clipped into their bike while racing except in cases of emergency.** Freewheeled and fixed gear bikes shall not be mixed in the same mass start event.

Explanation/Key points- a rider was unclipping from their bicycle during the Mt. Tabor fixed gear race and descending unclipped thereby giving them an unfair advantage.

Proposal 21

Ratification of emergency rule passed by Board

6.6.4 Juniors

Juniors with an actual age of 11 and under are not permitted to be racing on a cyclocross course at the same time and on the same course as adults.

Explanation/Key points- ratifies policy already in place.

Proposal 22

Proposed by: Mike Murray

Add:

7.3.6 The only portions of the body which may contact the bike during mass start races are the hands, feet and perineum.

Explanation: This is to keep people from resting their forearms on the bars and not holding the bars with their hands.

Proposal 23

Proposed by: Mike Murray

Move:

18.4.2(e) Laws and ordinances of appropriate jurisdictions shall be observed during participation in any event.

To:

11.1 General

Riders are responsible for their own conduct, including arriving on time with the correct equipment. No rider shall benefit from his or her misconduct. No team shall benefit from its misconduct, or the misconduct of one of its members. **Laws and ordinances of appropriate jurisdictions shall be observed during participation in any event.**

Explanation: Assessing a penalty for violating a law should not be restricted to just mountain bike races.

Proposal 24

Proposed by: Mike Murray

Change:

11.2.2 Examples of misconduct

...

- Pushing or holding another rider (whether on a different team or not) except in Madison where riders may only push their teammate

To:

- Pushing, holding or **otherwise touching** another rider (whether on a different team or not) except in Madison where riders may only push their teammate

Explanation: Under current rules one could punch another rider without explicitly violating the rules.