

**League of American Bicyclists
Club and Advocacy Organization Conference Call
Wednesday, September 17, 2008
5:30 PM (EST)**

- I. Roll Call
 - a. 15 Club and Advocacy Representatives
 - i. List to be finalized and distributed separate of these minutes.
- II. League Staff
 - i. Andy Clarke, President, League of American Bicyclists
 - ii. Matt Banks, Director of Membership, League of American Bicyclists
 - iii. Introduction of Matt Banks, new Director of Membership
- III. Bicycle Friendly State Update and Rankings:
<http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bicycelfriendlyamerica/>
 - a. Purpose of Rankings to provide feedback and comments
 - i. Want to establish a good groundwork of data—to be able to use data to track progress over time.
 - ii. Second Phase of Rankings to come
 - 1. Voluntary
 - 2. Encourage States to highlight areas where they excel.
 - a. Give states opportunity to be more qualitative
 - b. Q: Were safe passing laws taken into account? And, if so, how many states have safe passing laws?
 - i. Twelve states currently have laws or guidelines establishing safe passing of a cyclist.
 - ii. Potential issue with the law is that some states, such as Utah, for example, are reluctant with enforcement.
 - 1. Only enforcing after cyclist has been hit.
 - 2. League resolves to continue to advocate for safe passing laws.
- IV. Award Nominations
 - a. Club of the Year Award nominations have begun
 - i. Can nominate own club, or another club
 - ii. Award is given by region
 - iii. Clubs can submit nomination with board member from their region, or by contacting Matt Banks or Andy Clarke at the League office.
 - iv. For more information: go to:
<http://www.bikeleague.org/members/club/>
 - b. Advocacy Organization of the Year
 - i. Same format as Club of the Year awards
 - ii. Contact Board Member from their Region, or Matt/Andy at League office
 - c. Volunteer of the Year

- ii. League is not aware of any reason that would have caused this. Suspects that it may be something that American Specialty is doing to make sure all claims are handled properly.
 - iii. League resolve to look into this issue, and ensure that these issues are addressed.
- b. Q: In Arizona and other states, Rumble strip implementation causing problems.
 - i. Cyclists are being forced to ride through rumble strips on shoulder—contrary to Arizona policy
 - ii. Rumble strips have no regard for bicyclists
 - iii. Similar situation had taken place in Florida, which the League was involved in resolving
 - 1. League can get information on Florida case to clubs, and recommend attorneys, but cannot guarantee that attorneys will work pro bono as they did in Florida
 - iv. California has legislation regarding centerline rumble strips
 - v. League resolves to put in word with local advocacy organization in Arizona and get them involved, and to bring visibility to the issue nationally.
- c. Q: There is a need for guidelines for ride leaders, assistance for help
 - i. Cascade Bike Club does have manual, which could be used as a blueprint for other clubs to follow:
 - 1. http://www.cascade.org/EandR/pdf/Ride_Leader_Guidelines.pdf
 - 2. Information should be stored on the “club corner” section of the league website, for clubs to access.
 - 3. Even with manual, there is a need for greater education for ride leaders and for club leadership
 - ii. Part of the solution could be found in a new pilot program the league is starting: Club Leadership Training
 - 1. Training would take place between January-March over the course of a weekend
 - a. Clubs would be invited down to southern tier for a weekend of education
 - i. Would discuss ride leaders
 - ii. Club best practices, including scheduling, effective management, member recruitment, etc.
 - 2. Contingent on budget approval at board
 - iii. Group agrees that a certification program for ride leaders not needed at this time, but guidelines are very much in demand.
 - 1. Best practices and common operating policies
 - 2. Thunderhead alliance has some materials to use for a pilot program for ride leader
- d. Q: What is the purpose of the Leagues “Trash Talking” feature on the website? <http://www.bikeleague.org/action/trashtalk/>

- i. The idea is to draw attention to those in the public sphere that disparage bicyclists, and to give our members the tools to respond
 - 1. The goal is not to fuel the fire, but to offer a response model for others to use
 - 2. League Resolves to add content specific to club issues in the future
 - e. Q: Is the idea of League State Ambassadors to be a voice to speak to local issues to be forwarded to league ambassadors? Is that the intent?
 - 1. State Ambassadors could speak to issues, provided that the person isn't contradicting the League or other advocacy organizations.
 - f. The Grizzly Peak Century was recently highlighted in the NY Times Travel section:
 - i. <http://travel.nytimes.com/2008/05/30/travel/escapes/30ride.html>
- X. Next meeting—Club Insurance Call in December
 - a. Calls will be scheduled on a quarterly basis
 - i. More advance notice
 - ii. Will utilize Google work group that has been set up for clubs and advocacy organizations
 - iii. Explore different ways of notifying clubs of calls.
 - b. Future calls will shift in focus from time to time. Sometimes they will have an Advocacy theme, and it may be beneficial to invite non-member advocacy groups to participate.
- XI. Adjourn
 - a. League resolves to send out minutes from call and follow up with action items as necessary.