



November 16, 2012

Dear BMX Canada Track Operator,

It is nearly time for the 2012 USA BMX Grand Nationals and the President's Cup/Race Of Champions. Most importantly, it is the end of another great year in BMX racing. The Olympic Games came and went in London and we capitalized on the exposure by launching a tremendous marketing effort with the Olympic Day races. By now, you should have received a package that showed you the impact of Olympic Day for BMX and other sports, and we were proud to help our tracks be a part of it. This letter will cover lots of information, so be sure to read through it carefully. If you have any questions, always feel free to contact one of us in the Track Director's Department.

## 2012 USA BMX Grands

For any Track Operator heading to the 2012 USA BMX Grands, we will be hosting our Track Operators VIP Room on Saturday between 11 AM and 3 PM ONLY. We will be providing food and beverages for your enjoyment. Your Track Operator VIP passes (and the location of the room) will be provided to you during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> round of motos on Friday at sign-ups. Only one VIP pass per track will be given out. If the Track Operator will not be attending, please email us the name of the person picking up the pass **before the event**.

## Misc Info

We are just over one month away from the end of the 2012 season, so if you want to know how many track points you have (which determine the location of the 2013 State/Provincial Finals & triple point State/Provincial Races, as well as Earned Doubles), please feel free to contact a Track Director. You can also request a list of riders that still need to race in order to get the track points for that rider, and remember that the rider can race at ANY track and the credit goes to YOUR track.

As a Track Operator, you should have the following contact numbers for your track-related business. The Track Operator Hotline is 800-529-9033 and that number is for BMX Canada Track Operators **ONLY** that are calling for track-related business. Of course, you can also reach any of the USA BMX Track Directors (Brad Hallin, Bill Curtin, Chris Luna, Connie Shepler or Billy Allen) for **emergency** assistance after normal business hours at the following numbers:

## 24-Hour Support Numbers

Brad Hallin	602-421-7609
Bill Curtin	602-617-1088
Billy Allen	480-544-6033
Chris Luna	602-625-3051
Connie Shepler	614-496-4004

If the call simply cannot wait until the next business day, please use the **emergency** cell phone numbers listed above for an immediate answer. Please **DO NOT** give any of these numbers out to anyone other than USA BMX Track Operators (ie: no parents, riders, etc). Simply refer them to the number on the back of their USA BMX card or to our website ([www.bmxcanada.org](http://www.bmxcanada.org)).

# Webinars & Track Operator Summit

The good news is that we have only one more race to go in 2012 and that means more time for us to do webinars to educate and answer any questions. We will try to do the best job we can in alerting everyone about these webinars, but please check your email (including a SPAM folder) on frequent occasion.

We are excited to announce that the USA BMX 2013 Bicycle Motocross Summit will be held in VIVA Las Vegas, Nevada, on February 21-23, 2013. The host hotel for Summit 2013 will be the beautiful South Point Hotel and Casino located on Las Vegas Boulevard South.

USA BMX Summit 2013 will start off with a welcome reception on Thursday evening followed by two days of insightful educational seminars covering all aspects of running a BMX track. Seminar topics include, track operations, registration, computer software, officiating, and track preparation and track maintenance/building. Two general sessions will be held with everyone coming together at the first general session to learn about the management and marketing of your BMX facility. The second general session will dive deeply into the ranking and points programs. Saturday night we will celebrate another great year of USA BMX/BMX Canada racing at the closing party.

The dates, location and hotel information are available through the USABMX.com website. The registration form for Summit will follow in a future newsletter. We wanted to get the dates and location in your hands as soon as possible so you can make plans to attend USA BMX Summit 2013.

## Rule Changes



We've got a bunch of changes for 2013 and the name of the game is boosting the rider retention rate. Let's face it, in this instant-gratification society we live in, kids need to feel like they have more achievable goals. The changes outlined here are all aimed at looking at boosting rider retention over the long haul.

- Perhaps one of the biggest rule changes is that Novice riders (of any age) will no longer be allowed to race with clipless pedals. The simple fact of the matter is that parents are going to spend the money to buy anything that they perceive helps their child to be more competitive - whether or not the rider is ready for it. Riders "clipping in" too early (because they see the faster riders clipped in) are not able to acquire the bike-handling skills that they will need later in their BMX career. We've talked to trainers about how riders that clip in too early don't like to learn to manual (an essential component in BMX racing these days) due to fear of looping out while clipped in. When you also factor in the cost of clipless pedals and shoes, the perceived cost of being "competitive" could be turning off newbies to BMX.



**NEW FOR 2013:  
NO NOVICES ON CLIPS!**

- Beginning in 2013, Novice riders will need 10 wins to advance to Intermediate (or Girl for females). Also, Intermediate riders will advance to Expert with 20 wins as an Intermediate. Any rider with 20-24 wins at the end of the 2012 season will be credited with 19 wins and will advance to Expert upon his next win. We spoke with many long-time Track Operators about the problem of rider retention and many felt that kids were getting discouraged by NOT advancing to Expert quick enough and yet Novices were advancing too quickly. Not only will these changes, over time, adjust the curve of what

**# of wins**

*defines* an Expert rider, the Track Coaching Program that we will introduce at the Summit will ensure that all of these riders are getting the proper coaching to keep them excited about their progression as an athlete.

- The kids racing cruisers just keep getting younger & younger. In 2013, we've responded by introducing the 7 & Under Cruiser class for those riders. Make no mistake, the numbers are there for these young kids racing cruisers and we expect this class to grow exponentially as well.
- Sticking to the subject of Cruisers, we will allow Cruisers to compete in the Mixed Open and Open classes at nationals in 2013. If a rider is racing in the Cruiser class and is also competing in the Novice or Intermediate class *that day*, he may choose to race his 24" bike in the Mixed Open class. If he is racing in the Expert class or only planning to race Cruiser & Open *that day*, he will be placed in the Open class.
- The Girls Cruiser class will now have riders checking up two age groups to find a legal, 3 rider class before moving those riders to the Cruiser class of their respective age. This was in response to many concerned riders contacting us about young girls on cruisers ending up racing older ladies.
- The Girls class undergoes a slight change **at single point races only** by giving Girl riders (the female equivalent of an Expert) the choice to race against the Expert class of their age. This request **MUST** be done prior to sign-ups closing, as we don't want these riders affecting the efficiency at which our tracks run their events. Ideally, some of the premier Girl riders at your track that were hoping for this change will take stock of who is there to race during sign-ups and indicate if they'd like to move to the Expert class for some better competition prior to sign-ups closing. Many of these riders expressed to us that they simply don't race locals because of this fact, so we are certainly hoping this gets those top-tier female riders back competing at your single point events, because they will be getting the challenge that they're wanting.
- We also looked to adjust the older Girls classes to make them more competitive and break out the age groups per the request of the riders. Expect to see 15-16, 17-20, 21-25, 26-30 and 31 & Over Girls classes in 2013.
- The State/Provincial Championship Series undergoes a major overhaul heading into 2013. First, any state or province with 7 or more tracks will now count a rider's best four (4) SCR/PCR scores, plus the Final towards their overall ranking. Second, a rider must race in 6 single point races prior to August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 in order to be eligible for a state or provincial ranking. Third, riders can earn an additional bonus point for each single point race ran prior to August 1<sup>st</sup> above the required six (6), with a maximum of four (4) bonus points being awarded. Fourth, the State/Provincial Finals will offer double state/provincial points for the Final. This will mean an Expert win is 40 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> is 38, and so on.

Perhaps the biggest change for the Series is that riders will be earning numbers that **they can run**. Certainly, that alone would have been a big change, but we will be giving Experts (along with Girls, Cruisers & Girl Cruisers) a number plate with a blue background and white number. The Novice and Intermediate riders, combined, will be doing battle to win a number plate that sports a green background with a white number. The Champions will still be awarded a backpack for their efforts.



- The BMX Canada National Series will count the best 5 scores from BMX Canada nationals, plus the BMX Canada Grands to determine CNAG & CNAT rankings. This will allow the riders in Eastern Canada to be able to compete for a BMX Canada CNAG plate with only one trip out West for the Grands.



There will also be a one for one requirement for **both** US riders & Canadian riders on counting BMX Canada scores towards a USA BMX NAG or National ranking. This means a rider must have raced one (1) USA BMX national for each score from a BMX Canada national that he/she would like to count towards their USA BMX NAG ranking.

- Speaking of NAG rankings, many people were asking for us to consider expanding the NAG rankings in the über-competitive amateur boys classes. In 2013, we will be awarding NAG plates to the top twenty (20) riders in the amateur boys classes. In looking at the numbers, those classes had the numbers to justify the increase. The Top 10 NAG riders will continue to also receive NAG jackets, while 11-20 will be awarded plates. This keeps the prestige of being a Top 10 NAG rider intact, while still recognizing that a Top 20 ranking within USA BMX is also a huge accomplishment!



And finally, riders must have six (6) scores plus race the Grands to be eligible for a NAG plate in 2013. This concept of meeting minimum requirements for eligibility exists in the Redline Cup and State/Provincial Championship Series, so this just makes the idea of requirements universal throughout the program.

## Redline Cup Series

The Redline Cup Series did well in 2012, as having the Redline Cup #2 and #3 plates around for a couple years has really promoted this regional series. The Redline Cup Finals in each region were exciting. And, for the Novice & Intermediate riders looking to grab a #1, #2 or #3 plate to hang on their handlebars, it doesn't get any better than participating in this Series.

The Redline Cup Series will now count a rider's best two (2) scores from a Redline Cup Race, as well as the score from Saturday & Sunday of the Redline Cup Finals. This creates incentives for riders to participate in more than one Redline Cup event, as they can better their score heading into the Finals. We did, however, want to remind the tracks that ANY rider can participate at the Redline Cup Finals - even if they missed the Redline Cup Races. Another big change is that a rider may race the Redline Cup Final in ANY region. And, even if they didn't race a Redline Cup Qualifier, they could still earn a plate by participating in the Mixed Open or Open class at the Finals (as we only count the scores from Saturday & Sunday for opens).

If this is your first year hosting a regional Redline Cup event, please remember that trophy requirements are **1<sup>st</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> place**. If you have any questions about this event, please let us know...

## Bob Warnicke Scholarship Races

Every track will host a Bob Warnicke Scholarship Race. Riders will pay a \$10 entry fee, with \$5 going to the local track and \$5 going into the Bob Warnicke Scholarship Fund. USA BMX will provide the certificates as the awards for this event, so the track will have NO award expense coming out of their pockets.

For states and provinces with 3 or more tracks, the #3 track as well as the #2 tracks (according to track points) will earn the right to host a double point Bob Warnicke Scholarship Race. *If there is only one track in the state, it will host a Bob Warnicke Double Point Race.* Essentially, this race will be similar to receiving a double-point Race For Life event in that riders will pay a \$20 entry fee, with

\$10 going to the local track and \$10 going into the Bob Warnicke Scholarship Fund. Like the RFL, USA BMX will provide the certificates as the awards for this event, so the track will have NO award expense coming out of their pockets. USA BMX will waive the sanction fee and the track will only pay an insurance fee.

And finally, if a track earns an Earned Double point race or State/Provincial Final PreRace (double points) and wants to swap that out for a Bob Warnicke Scholarship Race, they are welcome to do that. Simply let our offices know well in advance of the event, so we can get you those awards.

## **Triple Point State Championship Races**

Tracks that finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in the race for the State/Provincial Championship Final events will be rewarded for their efforts with a TRIPLE POINT State/Provincial Championship Race (while the fees paid to USA BMX remained the same, putting the benefit of your hard work 100% back into your program). This is in addition to the Bob Warnicke Scholarship Double Pointer.

## **State/Provincial & Track Standings**

For 2012, the cutoff date will be the Wednesday before Christmas (December 19th, 2012) to get in the applications and moto sheets. Whatever paperwork is in our mailbox (either the PO Box or street mailbox), on the fax machine or in an email inbox (with a credit card number for payment) by 5PM Arizona time will be counted. By determining the winner of the State/Provincial Championship Finals in January, the winning track has months and months to promote the event and, more importantly, solicit outside sponsors for the event.

If your track has won the Finals or the triple point SCR/PCR event, take advantage of having months & months to plan for the event and secure sponsors. You've worked hard all year to reap the rewards, so make the most of it!

## **Saver Stamps**

With trophy expenses growing year after year, we cannot emphasize the value of Saver Stamps enough. At \$.86 per stamp when you order between 100-499 stamps, that works out to \$8.60 per set of awards (at our recommended 10 stamps per class). Contact USA BMX to place your order and save on your awards!!!

## **Custom Banners**

Have you seen the full-color, photo-quality banners at USA BMX nationals? Have you thought about approaching local businesses to be sponsors and getting a custom banner for them? Contact Fast Signs to get pricing on a custom banner for YOUR track. From small sponsor banners to custom starting hill or finish line banners, Fast Signs can take care of your track and your sponsors with top quality signage!

Fast Signs - Jerry Hoyler - 623-536-0575 - [jerry.hoyler@fastsigns.com](mailto:jerry.hoyler@fastsigns.com)

## **Custom Number Plates**

Looking for a great fundraiser for your track? How about some custom T.H.E. number plates with your track logo on them? Contact a Track Director to order them at only \$8 per plate (plus shipping) - minimum 10 plate order required.

# Scheduling & Multi Points

Enclosed in this package is a blank 2013 Race Schedule form to fill out.

## 2013 Race Schedule

Every track **MUST** submit their 2013 Race Schedule to USA BMX in writing prior to running any events **OR** before any multi-point event dates will be approved. Please list every single point race, practice, clinic or other event dates (birthday parties, etc) along with all applicable info. This schedule will be your hard outline for the season and any modifications **MUST** be done in writing for review and approval through the USA BMX Track Director Department. We must be informed of when you will be opening your track for operation **PRIOR** to that event for insurance purposes. Do not include ANY multi-point event dates on this form as those **MUST BE APPROVED** through the USA BMX Track Director Department. Keep in mind that practices, clinics or any other events at the track (birthday parties, etc) have a mere \$20 fee for insurance to be sent in with a Track Operator Reporting Form (TORF).

Speaking of multi-point events, there are a couple of things to keep in mind for scheduling your multi-point events in 2013.

- All multi-point race dates are on a first-come, first-served basis **starting December 5<sup>th</sup>** for outdoor tracks. This year, we will place tracks into a queue to get called back on a first come-first served basis using a Google Voice phone number. Beginning at EXACTLY 8AM Arizona time on December 5<sup>th</sup>, tracks can either text message or leave a voice message at 480-442-4269 (480-442-4BMX). Please **do not call the office** as we will be scheduling multis via **OUTGOING** calls only based on who is in the queue. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL OUR CELL PHONES TO SCHEDULE RACES.** Remember, cell phones should be used for emergencies and scheduling your race is not an emergency. If you do call the front desk at the office, they've been instructed to simply forward your call to the aforementioned number. The dates must be approved (**via phone - no email or fax**) by the Track Director Department to prevent any scheduling conflicts with other tracks in the area. Your 2013 Race Schedule **MUST** be submitted prior to calling to schedule your multis.

**PHONE NUMBER TO CALL OR TEXT ON DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> TO SCHEDULE MULTIS = 480-442-4269**

## **WE WILL NOT BE SCHEDULING ANY STATE FINALS AT THAT TIME!**

The points will not be finalized until after January 1st, so we will let you know when you can call to schedule State Finals after that time. In addition, we cannot schedule any other race that a track has not already earned via track points.

- The scheduling of multi-point events will be subject to the status of your USA BMX account.
- Any multi-point date you choose should fall on a regular race day for your track, unless otherwise approved by a Track Director.
- All multi-point races should be scheduled at least 6 weeks prior to the event to get full promotional value.
- Any cancelled multi-point event must be rescheduled through the Track Director Department.

Please use the following timeframes for the various types of multi-point events:

- SCR / PCR - January 1<sup>st</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup> (unless approved by BMX Canada). All SCR / PCR dates must be approved through USA BMX by June 30<sup>th</sup> for promotion in Pull Magazine.
- RFL - All outdoor tracks were required to attain a donation amount of \$1,500 (for double point RFL events) or \$1,000 (for single point RFL events) from 2012 to earn double point status for 2013. The indoor track timeframe is January 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, while the outdoor track timeframe is from January 1<sup>st</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>. If this is your first year hosting a RFL, it will be a double point race.

- Earned Double - All tracks were required to attain 800 track points or finish in the Top 50% of tracks in your state or province (according to year-end track points and rounding up) to receive an Earned Double for 2013. The timeframe for running Earned Doubles is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 15<sup>th</sup>. If you think that you will finish in the Top 50% of tracks in your state or if you've reached over 800 track points, you can contact a Track Director to schedule that event beginning December 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Track Accounting Statements

Please keep in mind that your BMX Canada track account status has a dramatic effect on the benefits available to your track. Unfortunately, if you have an overdue account balance your track privileges may be placed on hold. This can include multi-point events, promotional materials and other benefits. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about your track status. We are here to work with you to be successful and communication is key.

## That's all folks...

That concludes the year-end letter for the 2012 season. We cannot emphasize enough the value of promoting your track and using the tools that BMX Canada provides to Track Operators at absolutely **NO COST**. Take advantage of the **FREE PRINTING** and contact the Track Director Department to discuss promotional ideas. Bill Curtin, Connie Shepler, Chris Luna, Mandi Abaroa, Billy Allen and I speak to tracks constantly, so we have heard about every promotional idea there is. Chances are, we can offer some type of idea for your unique situation. In the meantime, please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Hope to see you at the 2012 USA BMX Grands...

Sincerely,



Brad Hallin  
Senior Track Director



