

Minutes of the June 2, 2020 Meeting
of the
Board of Directors
of the New York Cycle Club

Via Zoom due to COVID19 pandemic

Present were: Peter Storey (Club President), Neile Weissman (Public Relations Director), Steve Vaccaro (VP of programs), Malka Baker (Secretary), Jerry Ross (VP of Rides), Colin Taber (B Rides Coordinator), Julie Blackburn (C Rides Coordinator), Michael Bernstein (A Rides Coordinator), Allan Friedman (ENY Director), Robert Gilbert (Treasurer), Leora Rosenberg (Volunteer Coordinator), Marc Simkin (Content Editor) and Ellen Jaffe (Membership Coordinator).

Peter, as president, called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

1. Rides restarting post COVID 19 pandemic

After lengthy discussion, the board voted to reopen rides based on New York City's Phase 1 reopening. The following statement was adopted:

"At its June 2nd meeting, your Board of Directors voted to re-start our riding program, albeit at a reduced level, effective June 8th, when New York City is anticipated to join Phase One of Governor Cuomo's re-opening plan. Thus, effective next week, we will accept listings on our ride board for rides of up to SIX riders, subject to the following restrictions:

- NYCC rides will be limited to club members only.
- You must sign up for the ride on the website before the ride.
- **Do not participate in any NYCC ride if you are feeling ill.**
- Proper social distancing of at least 6 feet must be maintained at the start and at all times during the ride, including rest stops, red lights, stop signs, "mechanical" stops, etc.; where this is not possible, face coverings (masks, Buffs, neck gaiters, etc.) must be worn and "up".
- No more than SIX people in a group ride, two of which will be leaders; we expect to grow this number over time, but for now, it's SIX.

- If more than one group is riding the same route from the same start, they must start at least a half-hour apart. Groups should not rejoin one another during the ride.
- Cyclists should ride in a single file and at least 2 bike lengths apart, whenever possible. Close-up pacelining is not permitted.
- No spitting, “snot-rockets” or expelling fluids from your nose or mouth. Keep any tissues, handkerchiefs, etc. securely tucked inside your pockets.
- All riders must wear a face covering. Face coverings may be “down” on suburban and country roads, but *must* be “up” in congested areas, on the GWB path (always), when passing oncoming pedestrians and in other situations where there is a real or perceived risk of infection. Buffs, neck gaiters and similar items have worked out well for many cyclists since they can easily be pulled up or down.
- Face coverings *must* be worn whenever social distancing cannot be maintained and any place where the group stops for more than **2 minutes**.
- It is recommended that all riders carry their own personal hand sanitizer.
- Ride distances should take into account the limited availability of rest rooms and food stops.
- For the time being, it should be assumed that reservations are not available on Metro North, LIRR or NJ Transit.
- The foregoing may not be waived by individual leaders. Additional restrictions may be added by individual leaders with the same force and effect as the foregoing.
- As always, ride leaders have the right to ask any rider to leave the ride when rules are not followed.

In Addition: Besides our standard Waiver, we will require all participants to acknowledge and agree that:

- Bicycle riding is inherently dangerous and that riding in a group can increase the participant’s chances of contracting COVID-19.
- The Participant will take reasonable precautions to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and will conduct himself or herself in accordance with NYCC requirements as well as the recommendations of public health officials.

- Appearances count. In addition to actually riding safely, we want at all times to appear to the public that we are riding safely. That means strict adherence to social distancing, face-covering-wearing and other requirements, including numerical limitations.
- **The Participant has read and understands all of the above and will abide by all of the terms and conditions of the ride waiver and the supplemental guidelines for group riding.**

Acknowledgments: The Board would like to thank USA Cycling, Bicycle Touring Club of North Jersey (BTCNJ), Westchester Cycling Club, The Potomac Pedalers and Bicycle Club of Philadelphia for their excellent work on this subject, especially BTCNJ from whom most of these ideas have been unashamedly stolen, with minor adjustments to reflect our circumstances."

2. Trademarks

Julie summarized the status of the ENY trademark for both apparel and goods categories (approved), and noted that there will be certain minor fees and filings required over the life of the mark. Julie also donated the "Explore Your City Trademark to the Club, for which the Board expressed its appreciation.

3. 501(c)(3) Application

Jerry noted that the Club's application to become a 501(c)(3) Exempt Organization had been informally approved by the IRS, and that a formal letter to that effect would be forthcoming shortly. After receipt of that letter, the next step will be to apply to New York State for a Sales Tax Exemption.

4. Port-o-Sans

In view of how many bathrooms have ceased to be available to the Club as a result of the pandemic, there followed a lengthy and ultimately inconclusive discussion of whether the Club and Vaccaro & White should sponsor several strategically located port-o-san's in the Club's primary riding areas.

5. Incentives Program

The volunteer coordinator will start to offer incentives to leaders and other volunteers for their efforts for the club in 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.