

Event Services Report – Board Meeting 12 July 2017

1. Validation & Recording

Process

The process changes mentioned in report to previous meeting continue to operate effectively and without causing any problems. Validation Secretaries reported on a new record being set for processing of BRM event: From the envelope with the cards dropping through their door, to the validated cards with ACP homologation stickers attached being delivered back to the post office for sending to the organiser in just one hour! The homologation numbers were also posted on the AUK results website within this same hour.

Issues

An organiser requested validation for two riders who finished many hours out of time, on the basis that the mechanical problem experienced was unforeseeable and due to a new design ‘feature’. After discussion validation was not allowed but this is subject to possibility of future appeal.

Self Validation

There have been a couple of recent instances where new organisers have assumed self-validation status (possibly mis-informed by their mentor). With the cards having been already returned to riders at the conclusion of the events, these will take some unravelling. Ultimately the guiding principle will have to be that the riders should not be penalized for the organiser’s or the mentor’s failings, but this will mean validating and recording rides that have not received our usual level of scrutiny.

We need to ensure better feedback and the closer integration between validators and calendar events team in the system refresh and ensure we codify appropriate ‘business rules’ for this.

Statistics

Validations to end June (3 events yet to validate) are 6% up on last year.

To put this into a longer perspective, with three months left of the season we have already passed the total for the whole of 2011 – which was a PBP year.

2. Brevet Card Production

No issues with new printers reported.

We may want to consider refresh of brevet card design in future?

3. Perms by GPS

No further requests from Perm organisers to provide option for validation of Perms by GPS have been received (other than one additional Perm from Nick Wilkinson). However some organisers may be offering GPS validation without using the tools that we have developed. Does this option need more publicity?

4. AAA

AAA delegate is now using the prototype tool developed by Ivan Cornell.

A ‘cleaned-up’ version is now at <http://auk.frft.org/aaanalyser/>

Depending on timescales for system refresh it may be appropriate to move this to AUK controlled servers as it could now be used by (for example) DIY organisers to assess aaaworthiness directly.

5. Awards question

A query has been raised regarding which events are eligible for the R1000 & R500 awards.

There are discrepancies between the web pages which describe the awards (and list the recipients), the logic used to build the lists, the text in the regulations; not to mention the differences from the original intent.

Looking back to the AGM minutes where these awards were instituted, the agreed wording was:

(i) Randonneur 500: Riders completing Brevet Populaire events validated as 50, 100 and 150km and an event validated as 200km at Randonneur standard in the same season, shall be eligible for the award of Randonneur 500. For any distance a longer distance in the series may be substituted. The same rides will not count towards a claim for any other Randonneur series award.

(ii) Randonneur 1000: Riders completing events validated as 100, 200 and 300km at Randonneur standard; plus other events at Randonneur standard to a total of 1000km in the same season, shall be eligible for the award of Randonneur 1000. For any distance a longer distance may be substituted up to and including events validated as 400km. The same rides will not count towards a claim for any other Randonneur series award.

This wording is reflected in the Regulations up to the 1999 Handbook, but in 2000 the wording was rationalised to be substantially the same as it is now, part of a significant re-write of the regs that was ratified by the 1999 AGM. Various inconvenient regulatory details were (intentionally) 'lost' during this re-write.

13.2.4 The Randonneur Award Series is for achievement in one season, except where indicated. Whilst a rider may complete the award in subsequent seasons, a rider completing a SR award is thereafter designated a Super Randonneur. All events of 200km or more must be BR, BRM or RM. For any distance a longer distance may be substituted. The Super Randonneur award is available to all riders; only subscribed AUK members are eligible for other Randonneur awards.

(i) Randonneur 500: 50, 100, 150 and 200 km events.

(ii) Randonneur 1000: 100, 200, 300, plus other events to a total of 1,000 km.

(iii) Super Randonneur: 200, 300, 400 and 600 km events.

(iv) Randonneur 2500: 200, 300, 400, 600 & 1000 km events.

(v) Randonneur 5000: BR, BRM or RM events totalling 5,000 km.

(vi) Randonneur 10000: BR, BRM or RM events totalling 10,000 km.

(vii) Ultra Randonneur : riders completing ten Super Randonneur series shall be eligible for the award of Ultra Randonneur. Only one series per year counts. The series do not have to be consecutive.

(viii) Randonneur Round The Year: riders completing one 200km or longer event per month, as listed in the AUK event results.

(ix) Randonneur 100,000: within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 100,000 km at randonneur standard.

The (relevant parts of the) summary web page for the Randonneur series awards states:

Events registered with AUK are designated:

Brevet Populaire (BP usually under 200 km)

Brevet de Randonneur (BR 200(+) km)

Brevet de Randonneurs Mondiaux (BRM 200-1000 km)

Brevet de Randonneurs Mondiaux (RM 1200(+) km)

All these events can qualify riders for the AUK Randonneur Series awards outlined below.

Unless specified otherwise, a longer distance can be substituted for a shorter for AUK awards.

Randonneur 500

The Randonneur 500 award was introduced by AUK in 1996 and consists of the series 50km, 100km, 150km, 200km BR(M), all completed in the same Randonneur year. You can substitute longer distances for shorter, but only rides up to and including 200km may be used and you must ride at least 4 events.

Randonneur 1000

The Randonneur 1,000 award was introduced by AUK in 1996 and consists of the series 100km BP, 200km BR(M), 300km BR(M) plus another 400km worth of events (eg a 400 or a 100 + 300km or 2x200km etc), all completed in the same Randonneur year. You can substitute longer distances for shorter, but only rides up to and including 400km may be used.

For R500 the "only rides up to and including 200km" clause appears only on that page and in the code logic.

For R1000 the "only rides up to and including 400km" was built in from the start (the award having been conceived as a kind of *SR-lite*) but subsequently 'lost' in the Regs, yet still appears on the web page and in the logic.

At present, any of the following combinations would find themselves listed as R1000 under the code logic:

2x200 and 2x300

3x200 and 1x400

1x100 and 3x300

3x400

The opinion has been expressed that none of these combinations should qualify.

The options are:

- a) correct the logic in the calculation (from next season, leaving previous seasons untouched)
- b) adjust the wording of the Regulation**
- c) do nothing, since it's been this way since 2000.

** to be really pedantic about this:

The inclusion of the 's' in "plus other events to a total of" suggests that a minimum of 5 rides is required! - a 100, 200, 300 "plus others".

Another aspect of these awards that is not really documented anywhere, is that within R500, R1000 and SR lists, a 'greater' award always trumps a 'lesser'. In other words, someone who is listed as a R1000, goes on to become a SR, gets removed from the R1000 list - even though technically it is possible to qualify for both awards using non-overlapping series of rides.

This is really a hangover from when we printed the annual lists, this was done to avoid the R500 and R1000 lists taking up ridiculous amounts of space. But if you think in terms of the R5000 and R10,000 lists (ie 50 and 100 points) working the same way, you can see it sort of makes sense.

Since we no longer rely on printed lists and will at some time in the future have a new system should this 'superceding' awards principle be continued?