September 2019

President's letter:

Greetings to all from rainy Seattle, USA. It was very nice to see so many of you at Paris-Brest-Paris and the LRM General Assembly last month. It's always exciting for me to re-connect with old and new friends and colleagues. I thank all of you for your support and look forward to serving you as President these next four years. I would also like to thank Keith Benton and Rainer Paffrath for their excellent service to LRM in the last term. Tal Katzir (Vice-President), Jean-Gualbert Faburel (Treasurer), and I will be your executive team until 2023. Contact information for the Executive can be found at https://www.randonneursmondiaux.org/7-Administrators.html

2019 General Assembly

The minutes of the meeting are attached to this email, but here are a few highlights:

The new constitution and regulations were adopted by special motion. The constitution can be found online at https://www.randonneursmondiaux.org/47-2019_Constitution.html and the new regulations can be found at https://www.randonneursmondiaux.org/49-Regulations.html. Thanks to all who commented on the draft documents earlier this year.

One item of special note in the regulations is the detail around the minimum speeds used to calculate the time limits of brevets. These can be found in Article 1.3 of the Regulations. Be advised that there is a provision to request additional time for events with significant vertical ascent.

The General Assembly also approved the addition of a new award - the Challenge Lepertel - to recognize riders who complete LRM events (or Paris-Brest-Paris) in each of four consecutive years, with those events completed in at least two different countries. After consultation with a few member countries, we offer the following two clarifications: (1) The rides must take place in four consecutive calendar years (January 1 to December 31). (2) Any LRM (or PBP) in 2019 (starting with January 1) can be used for the calendar year 2019. More detailed rules and application procedures will be provided later; certainly before the first riders become eligible for the award in 2022. Thanks to Carmela Pearson of the Philippines for offering to administer the Challenge Lepertel. Thanks also to David Thompson who has taken over the administration of the International Super Randonneur Award for LRM.

2020 Calendar Submissions Requested

An immediate order of business for all of us is to assemble the calendar of LRM events for 2020 (and, in some cases, for November and December 2019). Please send the following information about LRM events in your country to me prior to October 15:

1. Name of the event
2. Distance of the event
3. Date of the event
4. The start city or town
5. The time limit for the event (including any request for additional time for events with significant vertical ascent)
6. If available, the website address for information about the event (or the sponsoring club's website)
7. The name and email address for the ride organizer or other responsible person

Homologation Procedures

For all LRM events taking place after Paris-Brest-Paris 2019, please send the results to me (at mark@muthomas.net). As in the past, these results should be submitted in spreadsheet form with the event information as well as the following information for each successful finisher (Surname, First Name, Finishing Time, Nationality, and Gender (Male/Female). If anyone needs the spreadsheet template for results submission, please let me know.

Please let me know also about medals requested for the event. Tal Katzir will assume responsibility for shipping those medals to the organizer. As noted at the General Assembly, we are working to finalize a new design for the medals, to be used for events until the next Paris-Brest-Paris in 2023.

I would like to simplify the process for adding homologation numbers to the rider's brevet cards after the ride. We believe that it is not necessary to send stickers with the homologation number in most cases. For the next year, I would like offer organizers two choices:

1. The preferred approach will be to print a template for the sticker directly on the brevet card. An image that can be used for this purpose is attached to this email. After you receive the table of homologation numbers, you can endorse the cards with those numbers.
2. Request a PDF file with stickers that you can print and apply to the cards.

Fees

We have reviewed the LRM financial situation and will be changing the fees. We will be reducing the homologation fee from 3€ to 2€. We will be increasing the cost of medals from 5€ to 6€. The effect of this will be no change to the cost of medal + homologation (8€ before and 8€ after), but the cost of homologation only will be reduced by 1€ per homologation. For most countries, this should result in an overall reduction in costs for LRM events. This change will take effect for the events in the 2020 calendar submission and for events in future years. We will continue to monitor the finances of LRM to understand if further changes might be made in the future.

Website and Publicity

One LRM objective in the coming years is to increase the visibility of the LRM organization and the awareness of 1200km and longer brevets. We would like to make it easier for riders to learn about our events and to view past results. Right now the plan has two components:

1. Update the website with more information about LRM and also with a better database for collecting results and making them available for riders to view. Note that the website now includes information about the new executive team as well as the revised Regulations and the new constitution.
2. Make use of social media to help riders learn more. We now have a page on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/lesrandonneursmondiaux) for announcements and a discussion group (https://www.facebook.com/groups/randonneursmondiaux/) where our riders can discuss LRM events and issues. If you are on Facebook, I invite you to join theses. Also, please feel free to publicize these Facebook resources in your country. It would be nice to feature information about upcoming rides, so please send any pictures or details that you would like to have publicized. We do not currently have a presence on Instagram or Twitter or other social media platforms, but those might be useful as well.

If any of you would like to help with these efforts, please let me know. Or please send any suggestions to me.

Again, thank you very much for placing trust in me to be your President. I look forward to working with each of you and riding 1200km events in as many of your countries as I can. Here's to a successful 2020.

Mark

Mark U. Thomas
Les Randonneurs Mondiaux
750 8th Street S
Kirkland, WA 98033 USA
+1.206.612.4700
mark@muthomas.net
www.randonneursmondiaux.org