

Davis Bike Club Junior Race Team

Athlete and Parent Information

2015

The Davis Bike Club Junior Race Team is supported financially by the Davis Bike Club and sponsors. This is an amateur development squad that prepares new or inexperienced riders for racing. The mission of the Junior Race Team is threefold: (1) to give aspiring junior cyclists access to racing both at the local and national level; (2) to develop an active, lifelong healthy lifestyle in our athletes; and (3) to create well-rounded, community-minded individuals.

Newcomers are often surprised to discover that bike racing is a team sport. While individuals can achieve success alone, team work can achieve more. Racing is an important part of developing junior cyclists, and it is through racing that friendships are solidified and true team-spirit is built. Our team will be more successful if all our juniors participate and work as a team. Every rider bears an obligation to regularly commit to participation; however we understand that life events, school functions, vacations, and illnesses happen. As a cycling team the other riders count on you as a teammate and friend on race day. Though we realize the value and importance of simply getting out and riding with friends and family, we need parents and riders to understand that there is a high level of time and monetary support that goes into this program and in return we are expecting a certain level of active racing participation. The team receives significant financial contributions from our sponsors, and we have an obligation to represent and support those sponsors whenever possible.

Membership

Every junior on the team must be a current member of the Davis Bike Club (DBC). Parents that participate in team rides must also be members of the DBC. Refer to the Davis Bike Club web page for a membership application. In addition to DBC membership, each rider must purchase a USA Cycling racing license each year to participate in races.

Race Schedule

The Northern California Nevada Cycling Association (NCNCA) is the local association that organizes bike races. They organize the schedule for bike races each year. We will meet in January to discuss the racing schedule for the year and develop a racing plan for each rider.

- It is not required, but it is highly encouraged that all team members will race a minimum of three times this year.
- When you review the series calendar it becomes apparent that there is travel involved. This is not unlike any other youth sport such as soccer, swimming, baseball, or gymnastics. This means a commitment from both riders and parents to be willing to commit to participating in events and providing transportation to and from team rides and races.

NCNCA Juniors Point Series Events

The NCNCA Juniors Points Series (JPS) is a race series for boys ages 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-18 Cat 1/2/3, and 15-18 Cat 4/5; and girls ages 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, and 17-18. Riders are awarded points in an event based on their finishing place within their age group.

These are events that we want our DBC junior riders to target during the season. Again it is much more fun to ride these events as a team, not as an individual. As such we are asking that all riders make the effort to participate as often as possible.

Early Bird Junior Clinics

NCNCA holds a juniors clinics in January at the Early Bird Races in Fremont. The clinics and mock races are every Sunday in January. The techniques, skills and leadership that our juniors will take away from these clinics will last a lifetime. This is a perfect opportunity for the kids to ease into racing, either for the first time or returning for a new season.

Reimbursement and Volunteer

The DBC Race Team will reimburse some of your race entry fees. All juniors need to contribute at least 8 hours during the calendar year to any of the many volunteer opportunities that the DBC offers. Juniors who volunteer 8 hours are eligible for a percentage of race entry fee reimbursement. Note that the volunteer requirement is strictly enforced for reimbursement. Even if juniors are not requesting reimbursement, we hope they will volunteer as a commitment to the team.

Uniforms

Juniors are required to race in current year kits. Sponsors on junior kits change each year and it is important for them to have their name out and be seen as a proud supporter of the junior team. Every rider should have a Road ID, or some other identification with emergency contact information, and wear it during every ride.

Training and Team Rides

Successful bike racing requires many hours of training and self discipline. Training is sometimes an individual pursuit, however we believe that riding in groups is safer. We encourage our older riders to organize their own group rides or participate in local group rides. Group rides improve team work and critical for developing the skills needed to be safe and to win races. The team will also conduct rides. Because of the large speed and ability differences between junior cyclists, any juniors age 13 and under, or unable to keep up with the group, must have a parent or other designated adult ride with them. Parents are always welcome on team rides. From time to time we will have adults from the DBC Race Team ride and mentor the juniors.

Communication

Most club communication is done via email. To stay current with upcoming events and requirements, it is important to have your email address subscribed to the appropriate email lists. For the Juniors, there are three email lists: team, community, and juniors. Each list has a specific function. More information about the lists can be found here:

<http://dbcraceteam.org/about-the-team/dbc-race-team-email-lists/how-join-the-email-lists>

To send a message to all the juniors and parents on the DBC Juniors Team, address your message to: juniors@dbcraceteam.org.

Questions

Any questions about the team should be directed to the Director, Russ Kanz, at rjkanz@gmail.com, or 530-341-4275.