



LES RANDONNEURS MONDIAUX

Minutes of the Quadrennial Congress
held Friday 25 August 2023
at Les Hirondelles, La Bergerie Nationale, Rambouillet

PRESENT:

LRM Committee: Mark THOMAS (President) Tal KATZIR (Israel, Vice President)
Jean-Gualbert FABUREL (France, Treasurer)

and Representatives from:

Australia	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Brazil	Canada	China
Denmark	Finland	Greece	India	Ireland	Italy	Japan
Korea	Lithuania	Malaysia	Netherlands	Philippines	Portugal	Romania
Russia	Spain	Ukraine (Kyiv)		United Kingdom		USA
Vietnam						

with guests also in attendance as observers.

President Mark THOMAS welcomed international representatives and guests to the meeting

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President reported that this past week marked not only his seventh Paris-Brest-Paris, but also the end of his four year term as President of Les Randonneurs Mondiaux, the international body responsible for sanctioning 1200 kilometre or longer brevets (other than PBP).

The global coronavirus pandemic had left its mark on his time in office, with many rides cancelled or limited in 2020 and 2021. Nonetheless, LRM remained vibrant and strong. Over the past four years, we had added seven new countries or about 10% of our international representatives.

Despite the pandemic, since the last PBP, there had been 220 LRM events with homologated finishers in 36 countries. By comparison, in the prior four-year period, there had been 154 events with finishers. On these events, nearly 4000 unique riders earned around 5300 homologations.

He was very excited to hand over the reins to Tal KATZIR of Israel (who had served as Vice President) and to Carmela SERINA PEARSON of the Philippines who will be the Vice President. With their stewardship and that of continuing Treasurer Jean-Gualbert FABUREL, LRM should be in great hands.

He looked forward to continuing to ride more 1200s in the coming years and visiting new places.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported that four years ago the LRM reserves had amounted to 61,000 €, and now stood at 75,000 €, even though event homologation fees had been reduced in the same period. The cost of procuring medals has been increasing steadily, as have the costs of dispatching them around the world. These costs and the logistics of dispatch will need to be studied, but LRM was clearly in good financial shape, and he was confident that a further decrease in homologation fees may be possible. It was agreed that the LRM Committee be delegated to consider these matters.

PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Proposed by Chris CROSSLAND (United Kingdom):

Proposal: To add at the end of Regulation 3.15 the words "for reasons such as safety, and/or sudden or unexpected road closure"

If agreed, Regulation 3.15 will then read:

"At the start, each rider will receive a brevet card specifying the location of and time limits for the checkpoints, and route information by GPS tracks or similar and/or traditional cue sheet indicating the route. Riders must stay on the route. If a rider leaves the route, they must return to the route at the same point prior to continuing, i.e. no shortcuts or detours from the route, unless specified by the organiser for reasons such as safety, and/or sudden or unexpected road closure.

The proposer noted that this was a small tweak to the LRM Event Regulations approved at the last Congress four years ago and was intended to clarify the circumstances in which riders may deviate from the prescribed route. Currently, riders may do this if specified by the organiser, and the proposal notes some circumstances when this might be appropriate.

The proposal was approved nem. con.

2. Proposed by Chris CROSSLAND (United Kingdom):

Proposal: To add at the end of Regulation 3.40

"LRM and the RMR also reserve the right to apply after the event any appropriate penalties commensurate with that scale of penalties for offences that have not been dealt with by the organiser and controllers, and/or which come to light after the event."

If agreed, Regulation 3.40 will then read:

"LRM and the RMR reserve the right to refuse entry to LRM events and to disqualify riders in case of major transgressions. Official controllers will be clearly identified. Any violation of the regulations recorded by official controllers will be penalised according to the scale of penalties as set out by ACP for PBP. The current scale (January 2019) of these penalties is set out at Appendix 4. LRM and the RMR also reserve the right to apply after the event any appropriate penalties commensurate with that scale of penalties for offences that have not been dealt with by the organiser and controllers, and/or which come to light after the event."

The proposer noted that this was a small tweak to the LRM Event Regulations approved at the last Congress four years ago. It would allow LRM and the RMR to apply penalties for breach of the Regulations after an event has taken place. Currently, there is only an explicit right to disqualify, and it is conceivable that penalties lesser than this may be appropriate.

The proposal was approved *nem. con.*

3. Proposed by Mark THOMAS (LRM President)

Proposal: To change Regulation 3.24 about intermediate controls, which currently reads "Additionally, riders must arrive at each checkpoint between the opening and closing times for the checkpoint. These times, calculated on the maximum and minimum average speeds for the event, are noted on the brevet card with the information for the checkpoints."

If agreed, Regulation 3.24 will read -

Organisers may optionally establish opening and closing times for checkpoints between the start and finish. These times may be calculated on any reasonable basis designed to keep riders moving along towards a timely finish. These times will be noted on the brevet card with the information for the checkpoints.

The proposer noted that the current practice of the majority of LRM event organisers is to certify results for riders who miss intermediate checkpoint closing times so long as they finish the entire event in the specified time limit. The proposed change would codify this practice but permit organisers to enforce intermediate checkpoint control times if it makes sense for their event.

The proposal was approved *nem. con.*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2023-2027

President - Tal KATZIR (Israel)

Elected nem. con.

Vice President - Carmela SERINA-PEARSON (Philippines)

Elected nem. con.

Treasurer - Jean-Gualbert FABUREL (France)

Jean-Gualbert noted that he had now completed more years as LRM Treasurer than had Robert "Bob" LEPERTEL after he had guided the founding of LRM. As somebody who had known "Bob" and greatly admired his achievements, he was sure that "Bob" would have been proud of the progress made by LRM in the ensuing years

Elected nem. con.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Korea proposed the organisation of an award for completing three LRM events in Asian countries in a three year period. The area to be covered would include, but not be limited to India, Japan, Thailand, Philippines, Taiwan, Indonesia, Korea, and others such as Vietnam. Countries not listed would be welcome to express their interest for inclusion. The award would be administered and financed by Korea Randonneurs.

2. India asked whether the year of achievement of ISR awards could be included in the online records. ISR Delegate Dave Thompson indicated that he would like to do this but was still working his way through a backlog of awards paperwork.

3. Netherlands would like organisers to consider the timing of their event dates in order to facilitate events being spread out evenly across the year rather than just in peak holiday periods. In a related point, Denmark would like to see organisers and LRM scheduling ride dates greater than 12 months in advance as at present. This would be particularly useful for event scheduling for all organisers. There was general agreement that this would be an improvement on current practice.