



# Chinook Cycling Club

## Closed Board Meeting Minutes



September 29, 2021      Round Table Pizza, Richland, 5:30pm

2021 Board Members (with term ending year): **John Burke** (President, 21), **John Limbaugh** (VP, 22), **Chad Eder** (Treasurer, 21), **Melanie Hanson** (Secretary, 22), **Rod Scrimsher** (22), Eric Jensen (21), **Jeff Sedgwick** (21), Mike Fisher (22).

### **Old Business:**

Century Rides - Anthony Lakes, Angel's Staircase mtb ride, road ride out of Pendleton.

For Angel's Staircase, ride it on Saturday and Sun Mountain (near Mazama) on Sunday in July or August. **Eric** will help organize it.

Mega Group Ride - TBD.

Rattlesnake TT - on hold. Maybe in 2022. Adam Fyall will provide an update sometime.

### **New Business:**

1. Approve previous minutes: approved.

2. Development Team Proposal: (there is a copy of the emailed proposal at the end of the minutes with more details and for future reference if needed)

Inclusivity is key.

The goal is to develop more racers, especially in the younger age categories (20s-30s for now) and females. Looking to have 20-30 participants in the first year.

It would lead to more participation in the Chinook training series and group rides.

Aaron Stites would help coach but he would like to have other coaches also.

They would work on skills practice (eg, pacelines), training, teaching/mentoring about racing.

The goal is to grow the number of racers, and some racers may race for other teams.

\$2000 from Chinook to be used for: coaching, clinics, travel, race reimbursement, discounted skin suits, equipment subsidies (bulk orders).

Joining fee: \$55 in addition to the \$45 Chinook membership fee for a total of \$100. People could sign up on the Chinook website with their regular

membership. See if **Chad** can set it up.

Additional funding from community sponsors that they will acquire, separate from the five Chinook sponsors.

Start advertising for participants ASAP and start training in November. Ryan will be at the mountain bike event on Saturday to talk about it at the pre-ride meeting.

Social media: they will advertise on the Chinook FB page but also have their own private FB page for communication. Also will have a public Instagram that Ryan will run.

Chinook sponsor banner will be included on the jersey.

3. Chinook van: Decide if we are going to keep it or get rid of it. The van is 1996 (or so) and lacks many modern safety features.

It has a driver's side airbag but the airbag light keeps flashing.

It only gets used a few times a year.

Yearly costs for the van and trailer maintenance and storage is approximately \$1000, or 12% of the budget.

**Rod** will look into the cost of renting a van or truck when needed instead, and if a trailer can be towed.

Otherwise people could use their own trucks/vehicles.

Used car market is very expensive right now to replace it.

Gather the information and decide at the next meeting if we keep the van or not.

If we keep it, get the airbag light checked out.

4. Election: terms ending for John Burke, Chad, Eric, and Jeff.

Burke is interested in staying on but not as president.

Chad is interested in staying.

Jeff is willing to stay if needed but will give up his seat if someone else wants it.

Eric - find out what his plan is.

New potential candidates:

Ryan Malm

Jennifer Trent - she is interested but she is a member of Markee's racing team and doesn't want a conflict of interest. **Limbaugh** will call her and talk about it.

Per our nomination and election guidelines, we will start advertising in the next couple of weeks for any other nominations, and set a nomination deadline for approximately one week before the meeting (November 17). If there are more nominations than positions, we will hold a ballot vote at the next meeting. Once the board has been elected, then the positions are filled.

5. Thursday Throwdown re-cap from Rod:

Participation grew throughout the season. Many riders were not the usual Chinook riders. Many new people showed up.

It worked well to have multiple (4) ride leaders taking turns.

It also was good to post the ride ahead of time and list the leader, route, time, and meeting location.

May want to do something similar for Saturday group rides - multiple leaders and posting the ride ahead of time.

Greenies also has a ride on Saturdays. Try meeting up with that group once a month or so.

6. Lewiston cycling camp 2022 discussion: Rod is interested in organizing it again next year.

End of March-early April 2022.

Check on date for Ephrata GF. **Limbaugh** will send Rod contact info for Jake to find out when GFE is going to be.

7. Other:

MTB series: Kennewick and Richland are requiring a lot of paperwork this year!

City of Richland wants our liability insurance limit increased to \$2 million per incident instead of \$1 million.

USAC insurance currently does not have a \$2 million option.

May be able to have a meeting with the city and negotiate a different deal.

Another option is to get an umbrella insurance policy and stop paying for the porta potty at Chamna.

Could find out what 3RRR uses.

**Chad** will contact USAC about any upcoming limit increases.

**Chinook Development Team Proposal Email:**

After several meetings between Aaron Stites, Brian Anderson, and myself, we would love to officially present our development team idea to the Chinook Cycling Club Board for their consideration.

We have been referring to this program as "Chinook Racing Development" and our mission is as follows: ***"We exist to discover, educate, and develop athletes that want to be their best. We do this by providing an inclusive and team-oriented environment where experienced coaches and mentors share proven methods that focus on all areas of an athlete's health and performance. This program will grow the bike racing community of the Tri-Cities region and will produce athletes to compete in local, regional, and national events in all disciplines of competitive cycling."***

This mission should give a good indication of what we're all about, but to make sure it is clear, this is a very different model to anything that has existed in the Tri-Cities recently. This is not an exclusive team where already-racers put on the same kit and go out and race together. This is a program that invites riders of all levels to come into a comfortable and helpful environment that exposes them to the awesome world of bike racing.

Our main selling points to interested members is the group of services that we offer and the value we bring through those services. Some of those services include:

- Team-based coaching
- Individual-based coaching at reduced rates
- Team training sessions
- Racing-skills clinics
- Experienced racers as mentors
- Reduced costs to race through team reimbursements

There is a huge appetite out there for a program like this right now and we feel that it would be a perfect fit under the Chinook umbrella. We would like to ask the board to consider this program and to make us a subset of the overall Chinook Cycling Club, and yes, membership to the Club would be a requirement for joining this program. As a part of the club we would ask permission to use the Chinook branding, the bookkeeping services, and the club's insurance.

Running a development program like this does take significant funds in order to do things right. It is for this reason that we would also like to request a budget from the club in the amount of \$2,000 per year to help with the operation. Additionally, we would like to be allowed to raise our own funds from additional sponsors and spend that money as needed to make racing more accessible. This would include a membership fee that we would like to collect from new members. We have tentatively created a small committee that would run this operation and make financial decisions and it would consist of Anne Farawila, Brian Anderson, and myself.

Lastly, we would like to recognize the benefits that we believe this program would bring to the Chinook Cycling Club. First, we feel that it would increase the membership numbers of the club, and especially when it comes to younger riders and female riders that we will be recruiting. We also feel strongly that this program will help bring higher participation and more value to the various Chinook Racing Series as well as the Chinook Team Camp. Not only would we volunteer to help run some of these events, they would become part of the training program for our participants and be recognized as high priority events for the team.

I would love to field any questions from you or anyone else on the board when it comes to this proposal. I am extremely excited about this idea and about the idea of expanding the competitive cycling community in our area.

Thank you,  
-Ryan Malm