



## SoCalCross Prestige Series 2014–2015 Riders Guide

### PART 1: Rules and Regulations

#### A. Regulations

The SoCalCross Prestige Series shall follow only the highest standards in regards to course safety, standard series points start order and grid, maintain the highest standard in course design guidelines, and a consistent duration of events. Races may be permitted under USA Cycling, UCI, North American Bicycle Racing Association or American Bicycle Racing rules, and shall follow any sanctioning body specific rules as is required.

#### B. Participation

##### 1. Categories

The Series will offer the following categories:

- Elite Men A CX 1–4
- U23 Men CX1-4
- Men B CX 3/4
- Men C CX 4/5
- Elite Women A CX 1–4
- U23 Women (series scoring only, race day prize list combined with Elite Women A)
- Women B CX 3/4
- Women C CX 4
- Masters Women 35+ CX1–4
- Masters Men 35+ A CX1–4
- Masters Men 35+ B CX3-5
- Masters Men 45+ A CX 1–4
- Masters Men 45+ B CX3-5
- Masters Men 55+ CX1–5
- Masters Men 65+ CX1–5
- Junior Boys 9–14 CX1-5
- Junior Boys 15–18 CX1-5
- Junior Girls 9–14 CX1-4
- Junior Girls 15–18 CX1-4
- Youth 6–8 Boys and Girls
- Single Speed A CX1–4\*
- Single Speed B CX 3/4
- Single Speed Women CX1-4\*

\* A Single Speed is any type of bicycle possessing only one rear cog and only one front chainring and with no means of altering the gear ratio in any way for the duration of the race. No zip-tied or otherwise manipulated shifting mechanisms.

## 2. Cyclocross Racing Age

The cyclocross season begins September 1st of one year and ends on the last day of February of the following year. Your CX racing age for the 2014 season is your age on December 31, 2015. CX racing age is generally one year greater than road, track or MTB racing age. An easy way to calculate your CX racing age is 2015 - year of birth. For example, a rider born on March 2, 1978 would have a racing age of (2015 - 1978 =) 37.

### Rule change of 2014

*A rider who has a racing age of 9 is now a junior instead of a youth. Youth is chronological age of 6 through racing age of 8.*

Category	Age	Birth Year
Youth	6-8	2007-2009
Junior 9-14	9-14	2001-2006
Junior 15-18	15-18	1997-2000
U23	19-22	1993-1996
Master 35+	35 or Older	1980 or earlier
Master 45+	45 or Older	1970 or earlier
Master 55+	55 or Older	1960 or earlier

\*Riders under the Age of 6 are not permitted to race

## 3. A/B/C group Selection

Senior and Masters Categories have three levels of competition.

**A (CX Cat 1-4)** is the fastest group out there – also might be called expert, elite. Highly competitive – if you aren't an experienced racer (in cyclocross or another discipline) this is likely not the group for you. Open to all USAC CX Categories including one day licenses. USAC CX Category 1-2 for sure, Category 3s with aspirations of upgrades or speed, Cat 4s with significant experience in other disciplines, Category 5 is for newly licensed riders also new to racing.

**B (CX Cat 3-5)** is the intermediate group – faster and more experienced than “C” riders but not at “A” pace yet. Open to USAC CX Category 3 and 4 riders, including one day licenses.

**C (CX Cat 4-5)** is the beginner group – new racers or first time racers should usually start here and move to “B” when comfortable. Open to USAC CX Category 4 and one day licenses only.

**Masters A (CX-1-4)** is often the second fastest group on the course, just behind the A race. Basically “A” racers that are older and have family/career commitments.

**Masters B (CX3-5)** is generally a bit slower than B, as the average age is higher in the Masters group. For new racers eligible to race masters, you might want to try both “C” and Masters B to see which you prefer.

#### **4. One-Day Licenses**

Only CAT5 men and CAT4 women may purchase a one-day license. All other categories MUST purchase an annual license

#### **5. Category Change and Points**

The case of a rider changing categories during the season, series championship points earned will remain in the category they were earned in. (Category Upgrades explain further in Part 2)

#### **6. Mandatory Category Changes or Upgrades**

Riders racing Men C or Women C are no longer eligible to earn series championship points in the Men/Women C category after reaching 20 upgrade points according to the NABRA chart. Series championship points for Men/Women C will skip any riders who have reached their mandatory upgrade and choose to continue racing C. Racers will be marked as DNS with no refund, entry fee is the fine. Also do not get any day of prizes. Same policy for B level ( men, women, masters, and single-speed ) racers upgraded with 20 points up to A level. Points will be combined with other fields if racers do more than field. Upgrade points are tabulated each week and are effective for the following race dates. Upgrades from the past seasons and the new season will be enforced. Upgrade points be calculated off of final results.

#### **7. Results**

Results be posted at specific place in race venue. Results location should be announced at staging. Results will be processed as correct and fast as possible. Once results are posted they should be announced on the speaker system. Up to racer to check results before they become final. Protest period is 15min once posted so podiums and awards can be done. Protests will be handled at timer/scorer's tent at Start/finish line.

#### **8. Series Points**

Points based how each racer finishes in that fields final results for the day. A racer with the most number points at the end of the season is the series champion of that field. Same points for team rankings. Team with most points combined of all fields is the best team. Series points will be updated weekly.

#### **9. Overall Series Points of Championships**

**Overall series points will score your BEST 8 FINISHES** - must be present at the Series Final to receive prizes. This way riders whom upgrade categories will not be punished for their success.

If a racer choses to stay in their original field they will be eligible for race day prizes but will not continue to accumulate series points. (Goes into effect after SCPS8 and Anza Crossing.)

Places 1-10	Points	Place 11-20	Points
1st	21	11th	10
2nd	19	12th	9
3rd	18	13th	8
4th	17	14th	7
5th	16	15th	6
6th	15	16th	5
7th	14	17th	4
8th	13	18th	3
9th	12	19th	2
10th	11	20th	1

### 8. Individual Ranking

All Categories will rank riders in the series according to the points based on finish order. For the last race of the series on 1.5x points will be available (December 14th, 2014). Riders must be present at the series final to receive overall series prizes.

The best 8 results for each rider will be counted to calculate their series standing. In the case of a tie in series points, the finish order from the most recent race will be used to rank the tied riders. Points are non-transferable between categories in case of upgrades. Standing will be calculated weekly.

For Series Elite Men "A" and Elite Women "A" categories, no points will be awarded on UCI race dates to comply with UCI regulations (UC1 1.2.026) and allow riders to race in the UCI fields without risking Prestige Series Standings. All other categories will receive Prestige Series points on those dates.

### 9. Team Ranking Points

Racers must put team name down entry form for points from the day count towards their team. Team name must show on final results of the day. Team rankings will be updated weekly off of final results. Try to stick to one way to present team name. Race staff will try their best figure out differences in similar team names.

## C. Racing Procedures

### 1. Pre-Registration

All riders are encouraged to pre-register to save time and race day registration fees. Discounted multi-race season passes are available online at [www.bikereg.com](http://www.bikereg.com).

### 2. Race Day Registration

Registration for all events will be available on race day. An additional fee may apply to race day registration. Race day Registration, except for UCI fields closes 20 minutes before published start times for each race. UCI closes 1 hour before published start time.

### 3. Number Placement

Numbers should be easily visible by scorers along the course. Attach your number so that it is parallel to the ground when you are in the riding position. It is important that you attach your number so that it will stay flat and legible while you are racing. Ideal formatting would be pins in all 4 corners and two in the middle on the top and bottom (see picture).



Left/Right side placement is dependent on the race-day set-up. Refer to the registration table at each race for correct side placement.

### 4. Timing Chip

The Timing Chip must be secured by the velcro strap to either ankle. The timing chip will not read properly when affixed to the bike too high off of the timing mat. Ankle placement is the most consistent placing for accurate lap times and seamless bike swaps in the pit.

Please return timing chip your race is over, unless you have a season VIP chip. There will be a \$50 replacement fee assessed for lost and unreturned chips.

### 5. Course preview

There will be break between sets for course preview. Course preview will be open once set leader crosses the finish for the win. Get on the course the past the Start/Finish area and go with direction of course travel. Do not pass anyone that is currently racing. Do not ride in between staging and start/finish unless timer/scorer's says it clear if not racing in the current set finishing up.

### 6. Staging

Staging for start will be at designed start grid based on series racer rankings for that field. Do not overlap wheels with riders ahead of you in the grid. Wait outside the grid, not in course, until your field is called in to stage by starter. Announcer should be calling racers to staging before start time. In case of set with multiple fields there will break between each field for their start if needed based on turnout. **It is the responsibility of the rider to be on time to call-ups. Any rider whom misses their name being called forfeits their position in staging and can be slotted in at the end of call-ups.**

### 7. Start Order

Riders may be called up in the order of current series ranking. Generally, the top 8 riders in a category will be called up. In races with combined categories, the number of riders called up may be adjusted to fit with staging requirements.

### 8. General

Stay on course while racing do not cut course when tape is down from damage or other reasons under normal conditions. Do not go backwards of travel direction for safety, unless at the pit. Let the faster racers pass when clear to do so. If something happens to course (ie medical emergency, etc) while race in progress listen to/watch race staff for directions of where to go to keep racing around incident .

### 9. Pit

A double entry pit or two separate pits will be the course. Enter the direction of travel and go out in the exit same direction of travel. If past entry, racers can come back to entry if you have not passed exit for that direction. Your equipment in, your equipment out. No using other peoples or teams equipment without permission from them. Sometimes there may be a neutral service, wheels, bikes, etc. provided.

## **10. Finish**

All racers finish on set leader finish. There will be lap cards based on the set leader laps to go at finish line displayed for racers to see as they pass. Announcer will try announce it as well. There will bell for start of last lap. **Up to racers to pay attention to how many laps to go.** Please try to clear course after finish as soon as possible in a safe manner so staff can get ready for next set. At some races there may pulling of lapped racers if officials decide to. If you do not finish (DNF) due to mechanical or other reason please come to timer/scorer's tent to let them so they're not wondering what happened to you.

## **D. Other**

### **1. Course Crossing**

Please try to use marked course crossings if easy to get to avoid damage to course and surprising racers currently on course if they do not see you. Exception is staff working course for repair or building.

### **2. Trash**

No throwing trash on the ground on the course and around the park. Respect the park so we can get back in the future. No trash on course, please respect your fellow racers on course.

### **3. Feeding**

*Rule 4A15 (2014 USAC Handbook) , Feeding is generally not permitted unless specifically authorized by the Chief Referee. If authorized, there is a normally no feeding in the first two and final two laps of the race, and a temperature of at least 68 degrees is recommended. All feeding takes place in the pit lane, unless the Chief Referee specifies otherwise.*

## **PART 2 -Upgrades**

### **A. SoCalCross Prestige Series Upgrades**

C to B - 50 Points and/or 2 wins

B to A - 100 Points and/or 2 wins (Includes 35+ B AND 45+ B Fields)

Riders who reach this criteria will no longer be eligible to accumulate points in their original category. In effect after SCSP8 Anza Crossing.\*

\*Overall Series is determined by a riders best 8 finishes, therefor an upgraded rider will have 8 races in new category to accumulate points, while keeping their points from their original category for overall series standings.

### **B. USA Cycling Upgrades**

USA Cycling does not recognize North American Bicycle Racing (NABRA) or American Bicycle Racing(ABR) sanctioned events for USAC cyclocross category upgrades or national ranking points.

As it is quite possible for someone to be a more skilled CX racer than would be indicated by either road category or MTB XC category, a rider may also upgrade his or her CX category independently by earning upgrading points according to the table below.

## UPGRADE POINTS AWARDED FOR CYCLOCROSS

Placing	Number Of Starters			
	5-10	11-20	21-50	50+
1st	3	4	5	7
2nd	2	3	4	5
3rd	1	2	3	4
4th	0	1	2	3
5th	0	0	1	2
6th	0	0	0	1

### Requirements for Upgrading via points.

Cat 5 to 4: Experience in 10 races is a mandatory upgrade

Cat 4 to 3: Voluntary upgrade with 10 point. Fifteen points or two wins if the field had at least 30 competitors is a mandatory upgrade\*

Cat 3 to 2: Voluntary upgrade with 15 points. Twenty points or two wins if the field had at least 30 competitors is a mandatory upgrade. \*

Cat 2 to 1: Voluntary upgrade with 20 points. Twenty-five points or two wins if the field had at least 40 competitors is a mandatory upgrade.

\*Juniors are exempt from this mandatory upgrade.

### Cyclocross Conversion.

Cyclocross categories may also be upgraded by conversion from a riders earned road or mountain bike cross-country category. There is no cyclocross category 5 for women, so all new female cyclocross riders start as Cat 4.

### CX Category Based on Road or MTB XC Category

CX Category	CX Category	CX Category
1	Pro	1
2	1	3
3	2	4
4	3(women only)	5 (4 for women)
5	3(men only)	5 (4 for women)

## C. NABRA Upgrades

### Cyclocross Upgrades for Men

Place	Number of Starters			
	1-15	16-25	26-60	60+
1st	3	5	7	10
2nd	2	4	6	8
3rd	1	3	5	7
4th		2	4	5
5th		1	3	4
6th			2	3
7th			1	2
8th				1

20 points in 12 months is an automatic upgrade

### Cyclocross Upgrades for Women

Place	Number of Starters			
	6-10	11-20	21-50	50+
1st	5	8	9	10
2nd	4	6	7	8
3rd	3	5	6	7
4th	2	4	5	5
5th	1	2	3	4
6th		1	2	3
7th			1	2
8th				1

20 points in 12 months is an automatic upgrade

## PART 3- UCI Masters World Championships Eligibility

### A. Informational Purposes

UCI Masters Worlds regulations are not controlled by the Prestige Series, and are provided solely as an advisory for possibly affected riders. Please see the USAC website ([usacycling.org](http://usacycling.org)) or Masters World Championships website for complete and updated regulations.

### B. Racing Age

Must be CX Racing Age 30 or over

### C. No UCI Points

Riders who appear in the UCI Cyclocross ranking or have earned UCI Points in the 2014-2015 season are ineligible for the Masters World Championships

**D. Other restrictions**

1. Riders who participated in the UCI Elite Cyclocross World Championships, Continental Cyclocross Championships or any UCI Cyclocross World Cup during the 2014-2015 season are ineligible to compete at Masters Worlds.
2. Any Rider who has Been a member, during the 2014-2015 season, of a team registered with the UCI in any discipline is ineligible for the Masters World Championships
3. There will be no ability category restrictions in order fro riders to compete

**E. Licensing**

All Racers will be required to hold a 2015 International Racing License. For U.S. based masters age racers unaccustomed to this requirement, USA Cycling recommends beginning the application process as soon as the 2015 licenses will be available to purchase December 1, 2014. The international license allows riders to compete in domestic road, mountain bike, cyclocross and track events; therefore riders will not need to purchase a separate domestic license for the 2015 season.