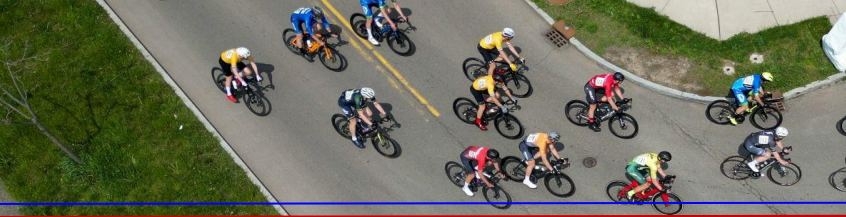
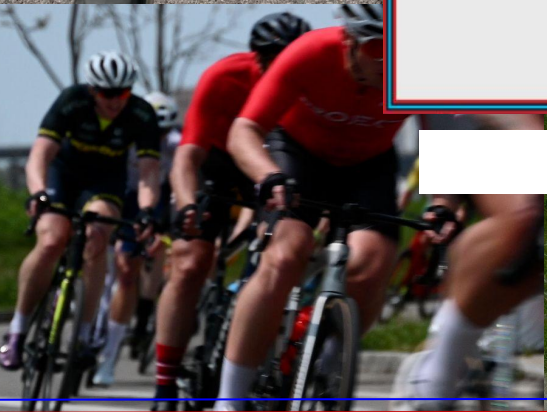


BUFFALO

Bicycling Club

2023 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY



Supporting Bicycle Racing and Development in Buffalo since 1973

RESPONDENT OVERVIEW

- **32% of all members responded** (48 of 147). Slightly lower participation percentage than 2022 (48%)
- **Gender** - **50% of women members responded**
 - **36% of men members responded**
- **Weighted towards racers**
- **Weighted towards full members**
- **Small percentage of all rookies responded**

MEMBERSHIP

- **122 Members** (*up from 110 in 2022*)
 - **Gender:**
 - 18 women - 14% (*up from 14 2022*)
 - 104 men - 85% (*up from 96 in 2022*)
 - **Racing License:**
 - 70 had USAC or UCI licenses (57%)
 - **Sunday Series Participation**
 - 71 participated in at least 1 Sunday Series Race (58%)
 - 30 participated in at least 4 of the 8 club races
 - **Local USAC Race Participation**
 - 58 participated in at least 1 local USAC race
 - 26 participated in at least 3 local USAC races
 - **Membership Type:**
 - 65 full members (53%)
 - 24 rookie (6 of 24 were women)
 - 8 out of towners
 - 15 group ride members
 - 4 junior
 - 6 booster

SURVEY RESPONDENTS

- **48 Members**
 - **Gender:**
 - 9 women (18% of respondents)
 - 37 men (77% of respondents)
 - (2 indicated "prefer not to answer")
 - **Racing License:**
 - 81% of respondents indicated they held a USAC license
 - **Sunday Series Participation**
 - 82% of respondents indicated they participated in the Sunday Series
 - **USAC Race Participation**
 - 75% plan to race local Buffalo area USAC road races and crits in 2024
 - **Membership Type:**
 - 34 full members (70% of respondents))
 - 5 rookie (4 male, 1 female respondents)
 - 5 out of towners
 - 2 group ride
 - 1 junior
 - 1 booster

SURVEY OBJECTIVES

Club Experience -

Learn what members value and care about from BBC Club membership offerings. What can the club do better, what would you like to see in the future

BBC Club Races -

Gain an understanding of what club members think about each of the BBC courses. Find out if members value these as a series for competition or for training/learning

Sanctioned Races -

Race type preferences, Masters Categories, Field Groupings, Race Participation Plans, Prizes and Entry Fees

Training, Education, and Skills Development -

We asked members how we can bridge the gap from Zwift to road riding

Communications -

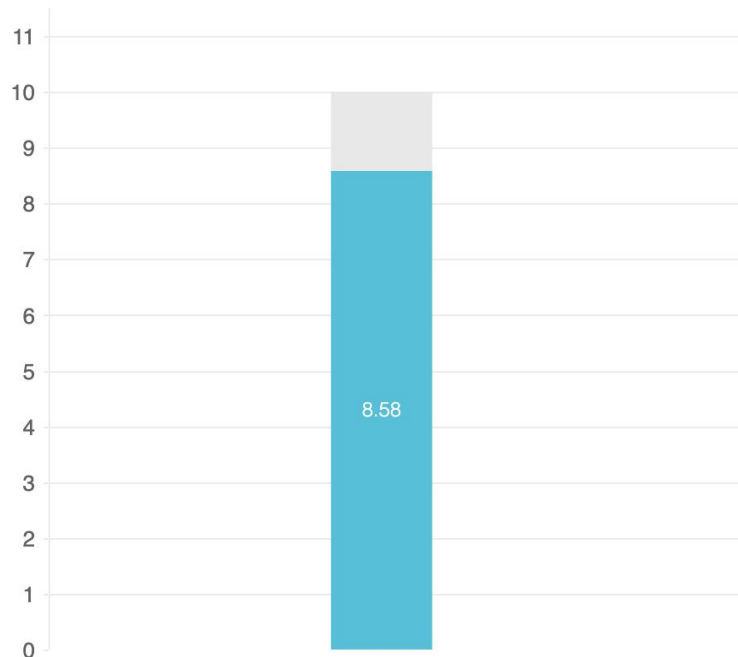
Learn which communications methods are used by BBC members to get information on club events.

Club Demographics and Race Categories -

Include questions on age/gender/race license category (for sorting responses)

OVERALL CLUB EXPERIENCE

NICE JOB! RATINGS ARE UP ACROSS THE BOARD FROM 2022



All: 8.58 ↑ from 7.48

Women: 8.22 ↑ from 5.43

Rookies: 9.0 ↑ from 7.33

5 years or less: 8.89 ↑ from 8.19

6+ years: 8.4 ↑ from 7.24

More than 10: 8.59 ↑ from 7.37



● On a scale of 1-10 with 1 meaning Extremely Poor, 10 meaning Extremely Good, how would you rate your overall experience with the club in 2023?

MOST IMPORTANT 2023



THINKING BACK TO THE PAST 2023 season, what BBC club offerings were the most important to you as a member?

Please rank the items below in order of importance to you from 2023, #1 being the most important and #8 being least important.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 1

Choices	1	2	3	Score	Rank	Response count
Club Group Rides	15.56% (7)	13.33% (6)	46.67% (21)	6.13	3	45
Sunday Series Club Races	26.67% (12)	42.22% (19)	17.78% (8)	6.56	2	45
USAC Sanctioned Races	52.27% (23)	20.45% (9)	6.82% (3)	6.84	1	44
Sunday Zwift Rides	2.33% (1)	11.63% (5)	6.98% (3)	3.81	4	43
Shipyards skills clinic	0.00% (0)	2.38% (1)	7.14% (3)	3.14	7	42
Mentorship Program	4.65% (2)	2.33% (1)	6.98% (3)	3.67	5	43
January Base Building Challenge	0.00% (0)	4.65% (2)	4.65% (2)	3.16	6	43
BBC/BTC TT	4.55% (2)	4.55% (2)	2.27% (1)	3.07	8	44

Rookies:

- USAC races #1
- Sunday Series #2
- Group rides #3
- Zwift rides #4
- Mentorship program #5

At the heart, we are a racing club but we're developing a way to bring in new members by incorporating additional ride options

CLUB PARTICIPATION

How many BBC events did you attend in 2023? Include your participation in all club events you attended including skills clinics, club rides, shipyard crit practice, club races, club banquet, time trials.

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

Choices	Response percent	Response count
0	2.08%	1
1-5	27.08%	13
6-10	33.33%	16
11-15	16.67%	8
15+	20.83%	10

GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK

In 2023 the club added regular group rides to the calendar, many of which were preview loops of the upcoming race courses. Please tell us what you think about these group rides.

What did you like?

What did you dislike?

Any suggestions on how we can improve?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 11

**OVERALL SENTIMENT
POSITIVE!**



GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK DISLIKES

In 2023 the club added regular group rides to the calendar, many of which were preview loops of the upcoming race courses. Please tell us what you think about these group rides.

What did you like?

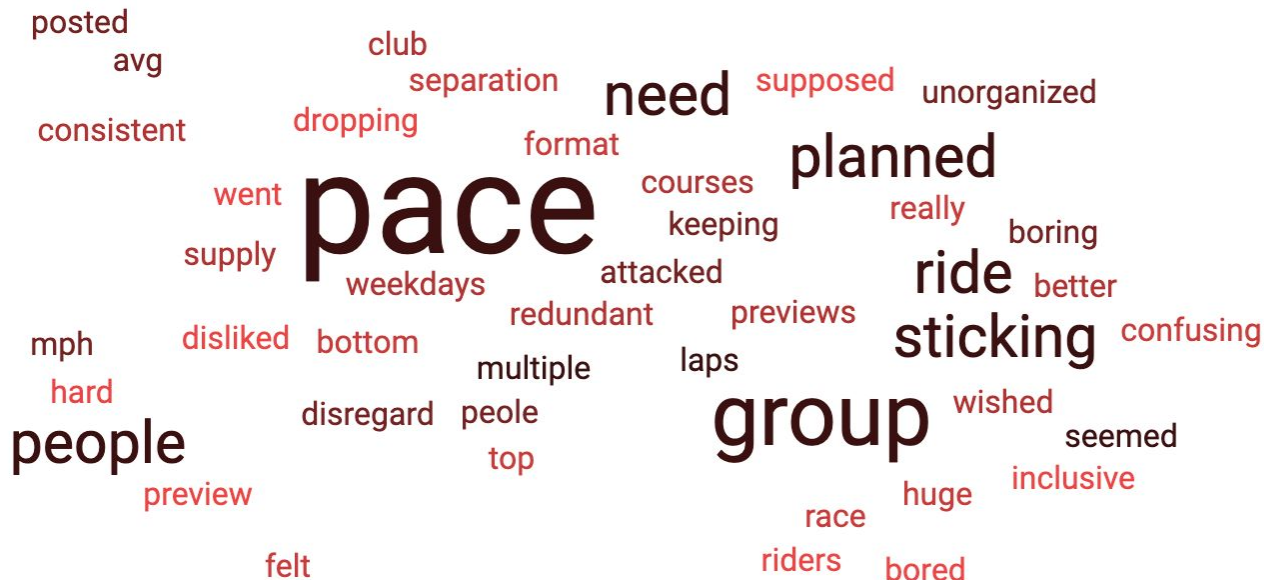
What did you dislike?

Any suggestions on how we can improve?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 11

- need to stick to pace
- laps were redundant
- getting dropped/attacks

Full text in appendix



GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

In 2023 the club added regular group rides to the calendar, many of which were preview loops of the upcoming race courses. Please tell us what you think about these group rides.

What did you like?

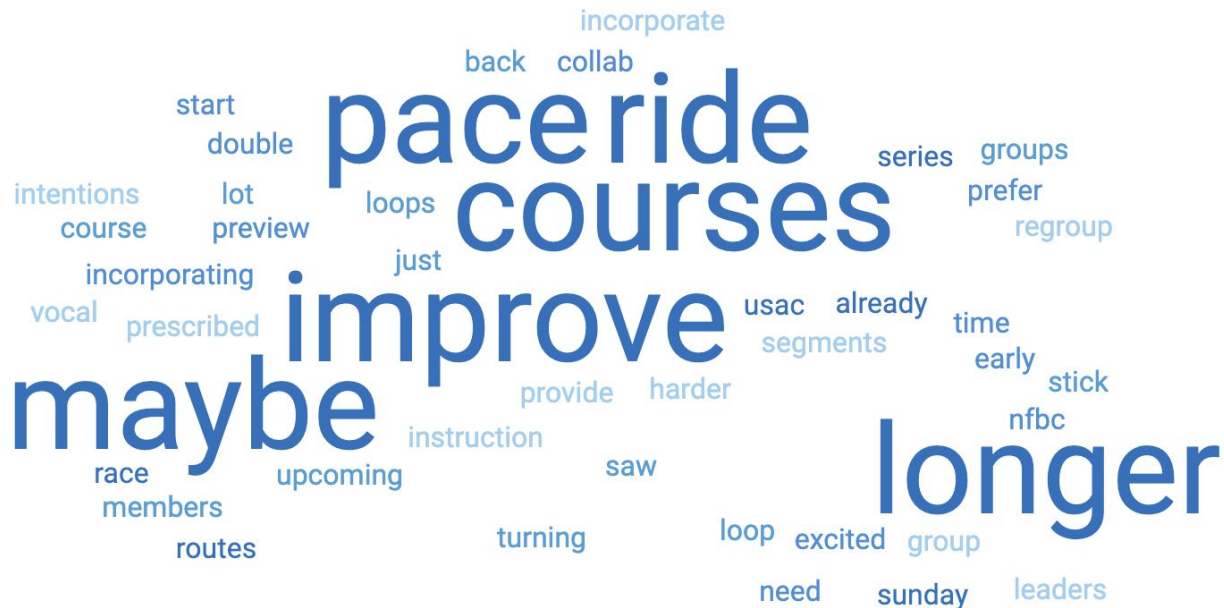
What did you dislike?

Any suggestions on how we can improve?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 11

- longer courses, not just laps
- communication of intentions for pace
- consider including segments and regroup

Full text in appendix



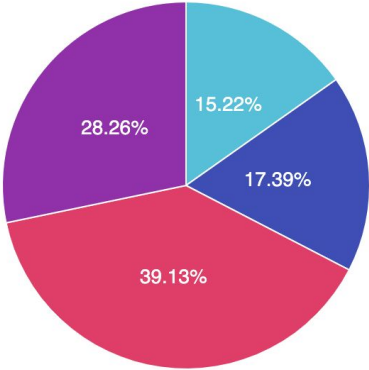
NEW FRIENDS BIKE COLLABORATION (BBC+NFBC)

In 2024 the BBC will be partnering with the NFBC. NFBC members will be invited to attend the Sunday BBC club group rides and BBC members will be invited to join the NFBC Wednesday evening club “fast” rides. The goal is to give our members more opportunities to participate in more rides throughout the week.

NFBC Wednesday night rides would you prefer (please select one)

Answered: 46 Skipped: 2

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Northtowns (flat, course changes weekly)	15.22%	7
Southtowns (hilly, course changes weekly)	17.39%	8
I would like the option to do both (Northtowns and Southtowns)	39.13%	18
I probably will not do either	28.26%	13



Members want option for both Northtowns and Southtowns

- Northtowns (flat, course changes weekly)
- Southtowns (hilly, course changes weekly)
- I would like the option to do both (Northtowns and Southtowns)
- I probably will not do either

SUNDAY SERIES, AND WHY? (OVERALL)

Did you participate in the BBC Club Sunday Series races in 2023?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

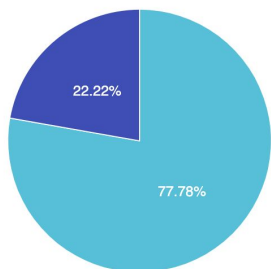
Choices	Response percent	Response count
I want to win	8.33%	4
I want my team to win	4.17%	2
I use them for training	35.42%	17
I like practicing with my teammates	4.17%	2
I'm learning how to race	10.42%	5
N/A I did not participate in the BBC Club Sunday Series Races in 2023	20.83%	10
Other (Please specify) 8 responses	16.67%	8

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	79.17%	38
No	20.83%	10

- 79% participated
- More than half use them for a combination of practicing with teammates and learning to race

SUNDAY SERIES - MORE DETAILS

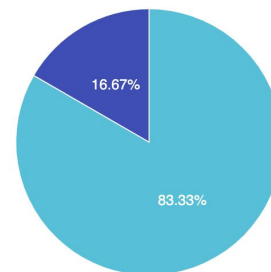
Did you participate in the BBC Club Sunday Series races in 2023?



● Yes ● No

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	77.78%	7
No	22.22%	2

WOMEN (77.78%)



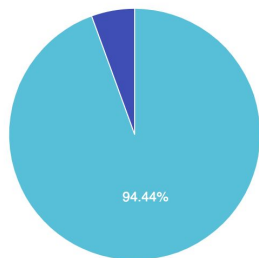
● Yes ● No

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	83.33%	5
No	16.67%	1

ROOKIES (83.33%)

SUNDAY SERIES - MORE DETAILS

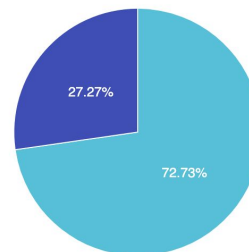
Did you participate in the BBC Club Sunday Series races in 2023?



● Yes ● No

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	94.44%	17
No	5.56%	1

5 YEARS OR LESS (94.4%)



● Yes ● No

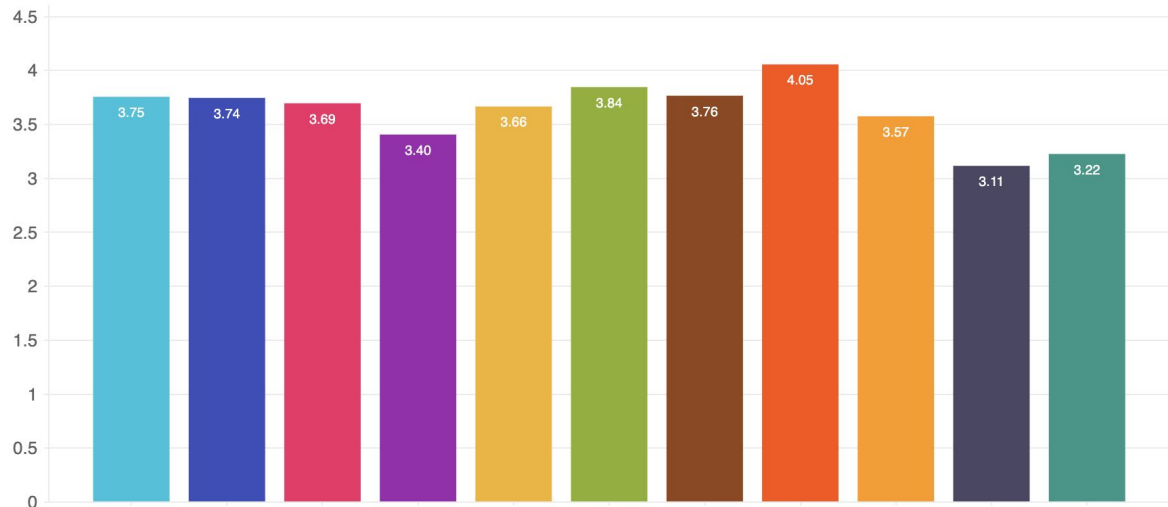
Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	72.73%	16
No	27.27%	6

10+ YEARS (72.73%)

SUNDAY SERIES - COURSES

Rate the BBC Club Races Sunday Series Courses on a scale of 1-5

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



- Corfu
- Corfu Quarry
- Grand Island Fireball (full island loop + circuits)
- Grand Island Fireball (just the circuit)
- Hunter's Creek
- Langford
- Marilla (short)
- Marilla (extended)
- Pembroke
- Rice Hill
- Shero

#1 Marilla Extended

#2 Langford

But not far ahead of others

SUNDAY SERIES - MASTER'S CATEGORIES THOUGHTS?

In 2023 the BBC based on member feedback, we added Masters categories to the Sunday Series Races based on member feedback. Let us know what you think of this addition.

Answered: 34 Skipped: 14



People liked it.

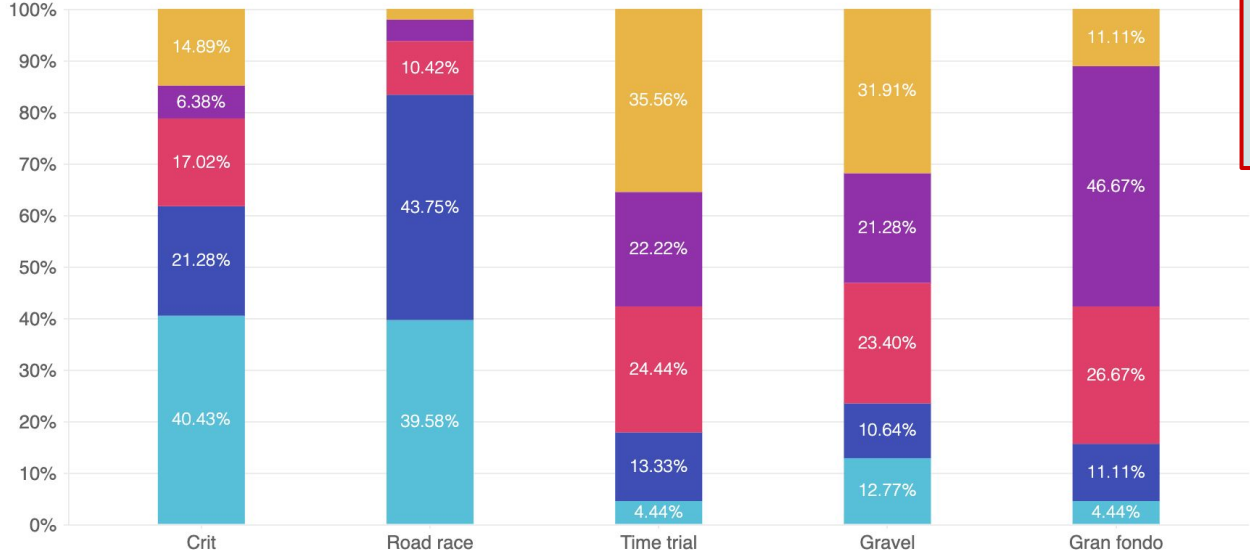
Keep it up!

RACE TYPE PREFERENCES

What type of USAC race do you like the best?

Please rank the items below in order of importance to you from 1-6, #1 being the race type you like best.

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



#1 Crits
#2 Road
#3 Fondo
#4 Time Trial
#5 Gravel

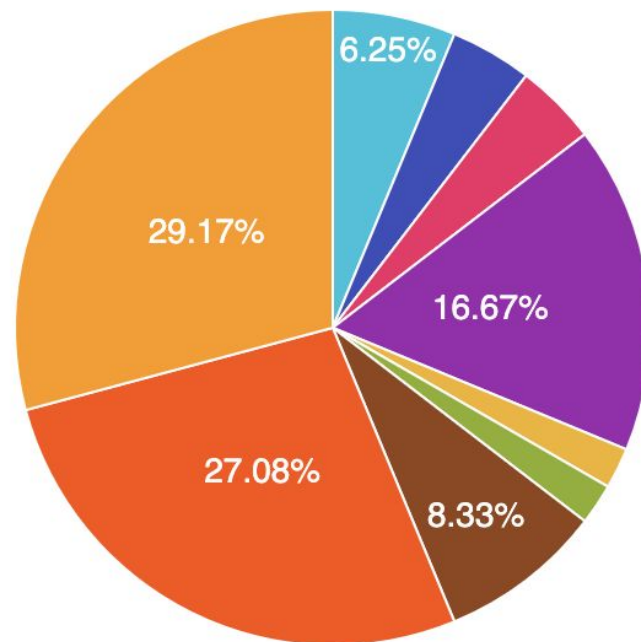
1 2 3 4 5

USAC MASTERS?

Would you participate in more USAC races if there was a dedicated Master's category?
select one

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

- Yes if Master's was offered at 35+
- Yes if Master's was offered at 40+
- Yes if Master's was offered at 45+
- Yes if Master's was offered at 50+
- Yes if Master's was offered at 55+
- Yes if Master's was offered at 60+
- Yes if Master's was offered at 65+
- No - I'm a Master's but this will not entice me to race
- n/a - I'm not a Master's



Add more age break categories for masters, including women's masters. Consider the "age group" model that triathlon and masters states/ nationals has

RACE CATEGORY PREFERENCES

Cat 1-4, Novice: "it depends"

Masters: Prefer age groups

CAT 1

Choices	Response count
---------	----------------

I'm a cat 1, I prefer P/1/2	1
I'm a cat 1, I prefer P/1/2/3	1
I'm a cat 1, I prefer P/1/2/3 with 3's scored separately	1

CAT 2

I'm a cat 2, I prefer P/1/2	0
I'm a cat 2, I prefer P/1/2/3	4
I'm a cat 2, I prefer P/1/2/3 with 2's scored separately	0
I'm a cat 2, I prefer 2/3	1

CAT 3

I'm a cat 3, I prefer P/1/2/3	1
I'm a cat 3, I prefer P/1/2/3 with 3's scored separately	1
I'm a cat 3, I prefer cat 3 only	2
I'm a cat 3, I prefer 3/4	1

CAT 4/NOVICE

Choices	Response count
---------	----------------

I'm a cat 4, I prefer 3/4	6
I'm a cat 4, I prefer 4/Novice	7

I'm a Novice, I prefer 4/Novice	1
I'm a Novice, I prefer Novice/Citizen only	0

MASTERS

I'm a Master, I prefer Master's 35+	0
I'm a Master, I prefer Master's 40+	0
I'm a Master, I prefer Master's 45+	5
I'm a Master, I prefer Master's 50+	7
I'm a Master, I prefer Master's 55+	2
I'm a Master, I prefer Master's 65+	4

Other	3
-------	---

RIDER DEVELOPMENT

We'd like to hear more about how we can help you as a rider develop better skills and knowledge to improve and help others improve in the sport of cycling. As many newer riders gain strength and endurance through Zwift we see the potential to help fill the knowledge gap between "building an engine and getting fast on Zwift" and the bike handling skills and race knowledge and tactics needed to succeed in racing.

In your opinion, what can the club do to help bridge this gap?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

A curriculum, clinics, mentorship and more practice. Lay out the basics, share knowledge, teach etiquette and fundamentals.

Full text in appendix

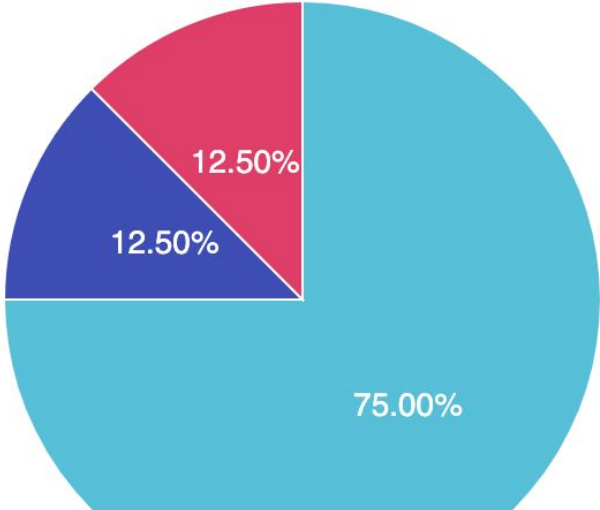


PLAN TO RACE?

Do you plan to race local Buffalo area USAC road races and crits in 2024?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	75.00%	36
No	12.50%	6
Undecided	12.50%	6



**75% PLAN TO RACE
LOCAL USAC**

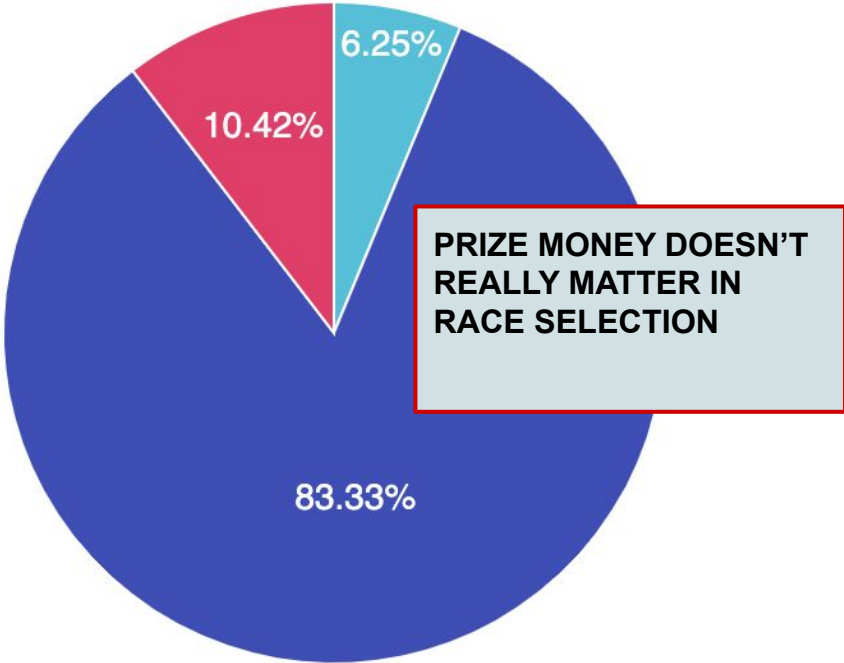
● Yes ● No ● Undecided

DOES PRIZE MONEY MATTER? RACE SELECTION

When selecting a race to register for, does prize money make a difference in your choice of races?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	6.25%	3
No	83.33%	40
N/A	10.42%	5



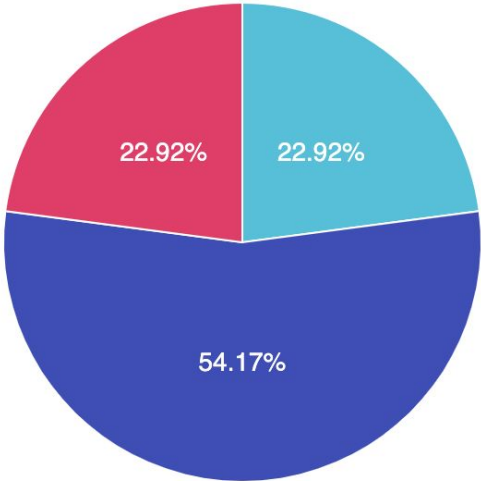
● Yes ● No ● N/A

DOES PRIZE MONEY MATTER? HIGHER ENTRY FEE?

Would you be willing to pay a higher entry fee for a race with more prize money?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

**MORE THAN HALF
WOULD NOT WANT TO
PAY A HIGHER ENTRY
FEE FOR A HIGHER
PRIZE PURSE**



Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	22.92%	11
No	54.17%	26
n/a	22.92%	11

● Yes ● No ● n/a

RACE ENTRY FEE EXPECTATIONS

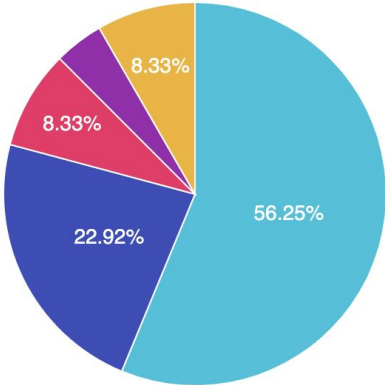
When budgeting for a single LOCAL USAC race, how much would you expect to pay to register?

Think of individual races like: BBC's Hamburg, Freedom Run, Downtown Crit, and the EARC/Plan2Peak South Park Criterium

Please select one

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

MOST MEMBERS EXPECT THE \$40-50 RANGE. 20% MIGHT PAY MORE \$50-60 RANGE.



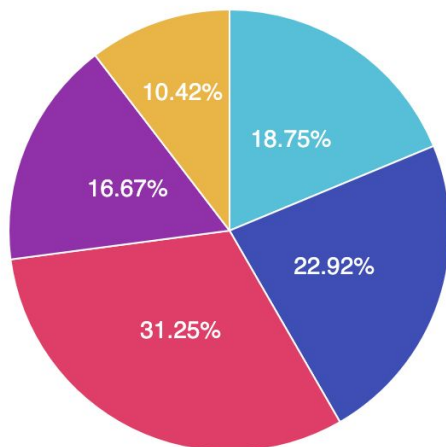
Choices	Response percent	Response count
\$40-50	56.25%	27
\$51-60	22.92%	11
\$60-70	8.33%	4
\$70+	4.17%	2
I don't do USAC races	8.33%	4

● \$40-50 ● \$51-60 ● \$60-70 ● \$70+ ● I don't do USAC races

HOW MUCH DID YOU RACE IN 2023?

How many USAC road races and crits did you race in 2023? Please include LOCAL BUFFALO AREA USAC and OUT OF TOWN USAC races:
select one

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



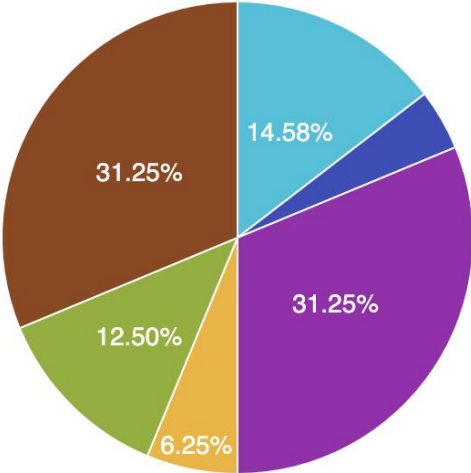
● 0 ● 1-3 ● 4-6 ● 6-10 ● 10+

- 58% raced 4+
- 27% raced 6 or more USAC races in 2023

HOW MUCH DO YOU PLAN TO RACE?

Looking ahead to the 2024 season, how many LOCAL BUFFALO AREA USAC races are you likely to participate in?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



0 1 2 3 4 5 More than 5

IF YOU DIDN'T RACE MORE THAN 3, WHY NOT?

If you raced fewer than 3 USAC road races and crits in 2023, what factors are keeping you home?

Please select all that apply

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Time - too busy	20.83%	10
Cost - reg fee, gas, etc all add up	12.50%	6
Fields - too competitive, not worth it	4.17%	2
Fields - too small not compelling	6.25%	3
Awareness - did not know there were USAC sanctioned races	2.08%	1
N/A I don't race	6.25%	3
N/A I raced more than 3	45.83%	22
Other (Please specify) 12 responses	25.00%	12

IF YOU DIDN'T RACE MORE THAN 3, WHY NOT?

If you raced fewer than 3 USAC road races and crits in 2023, what factors are keeping you home? Please select all that apply
[Other (Please specify)]

I only raced time trials in 2023. NYSBA championships and Senior Games

Intimidation factor being a novice rider not wanting to feel like I don't have a place in a sanctioned race.

Distance, now that I'm older. Driving even 2-3 hours to do a race, is not happening. Second cost. I get it, no one is making money on these races and they take ALOT of work to put on. But with that said, \$50+ for a 45 min race. Is a turn off.

Too old

I'm too fat

Injury

Distance to race

I can't keep up any longer so it's not much fun. But that's not your problem.

The first 3 choices

USAC on top of fees is too much for a pack fodder geezer

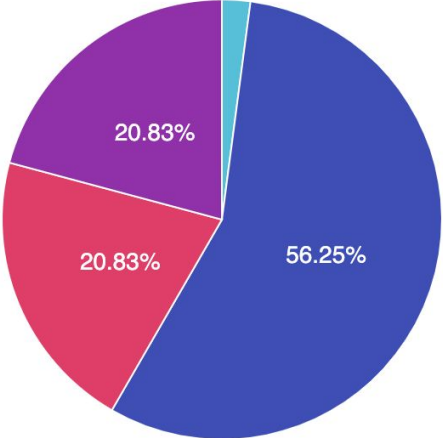
Don't want to get injured

I race some road but mostly CX. I'm turning 60 this year so at this point planning to do less racing and more recreational riding.

DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN OTHER BIKE EVENTS?

How many organized non-USAC events did you participate in during 2023? Please include participation in unsanctioned gravel, fondos, charity ride, Ride for Roswell, etc (ie: events with no upgrade points)?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



Most members had at least one non USAC organized event on their calendars in 2023

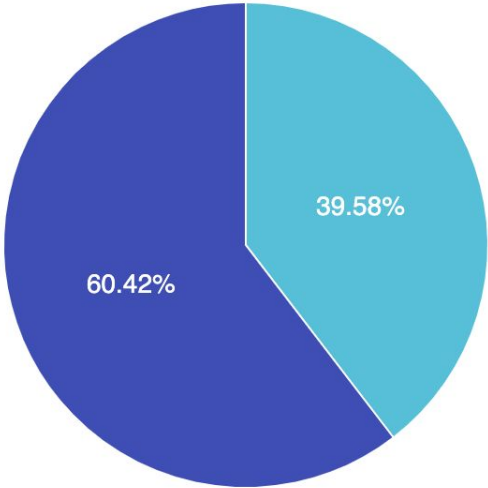
● 0 ● 1-3 ● 4-6 ● 6+

UPGRADE AMBITIONS?

Do you plan to work towards a USAC road category upgrade in 2024?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

LINES UP WITH ~40% OF MEMBERS ARE CAT 4/NOVICE. ALTHOUGH 3'S AND 2'S MAY ALSO HAVE UPGRADE ASPIRATIONS



● Yes ● No

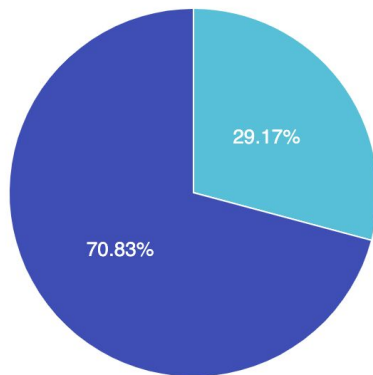
Choices	Response percent	Response count
5/novice	10.42%	5
4	31.25%	15
3	20.83%	10
2	16.67%	8
1	10.42%	5
n/a	10.42%	5

IS CROSS COMING? Is GRAVEL?

The addition of Siuta's CX Saturday training sessions will likely increase CX participation over the next year

Did you race USAC Cyclocross in 2023?

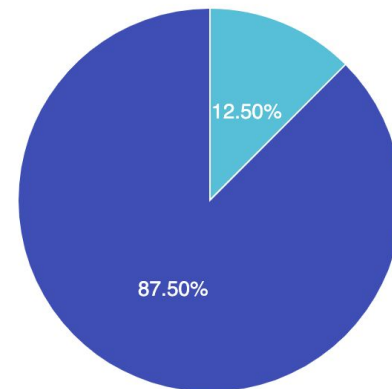
Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



● Yes ● No

Did you race USAC Gravel in 2023?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



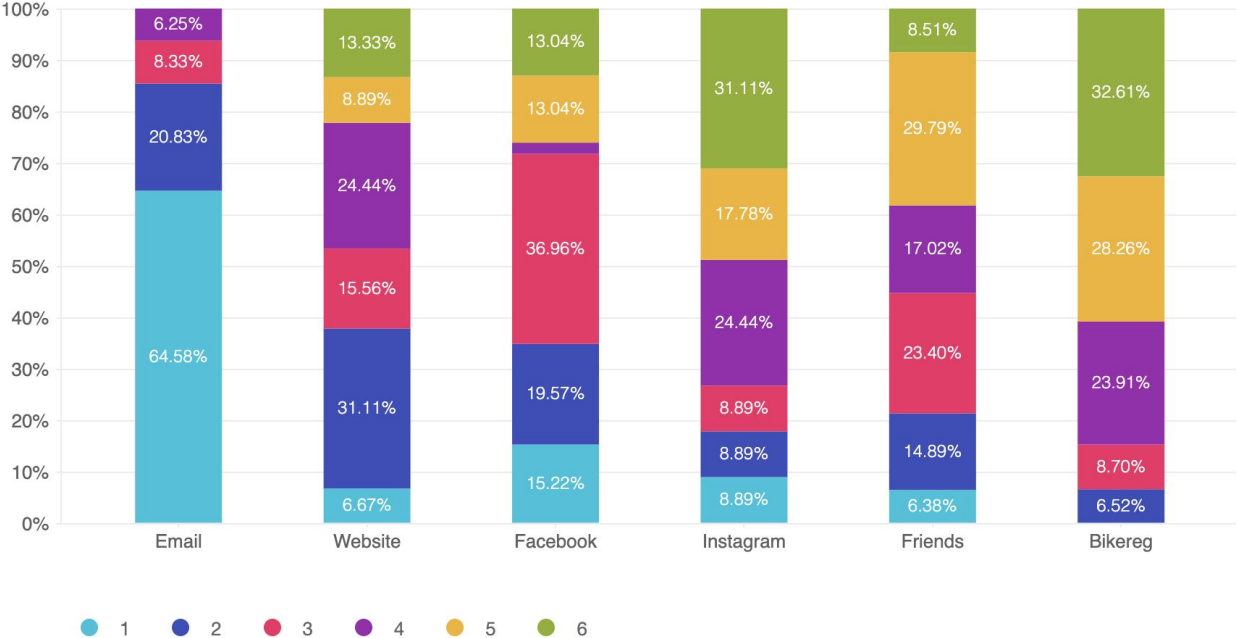
● Yes ● No

COMMUNICATIONS PREFERENCES

How do you learn about Buffalo Bicycling Club news and information?

Please rank the items below in order of how helpful this information source is to you from 1-6, #1 being the most helpful and 6 being least helpful.

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



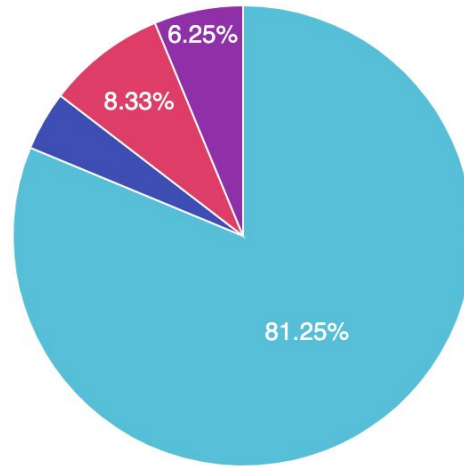
The majority of members prefer email communications. The website serves to include more details and social media and friends are a good amplifier of information

COMMUNICATIONS PREFERENCES

What is your preferred method of receiving information from the Buffalo Bicycling Club?

(select one)

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



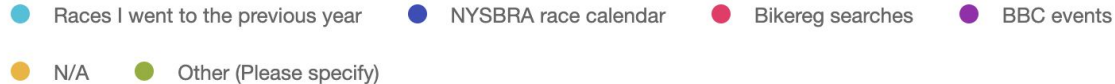
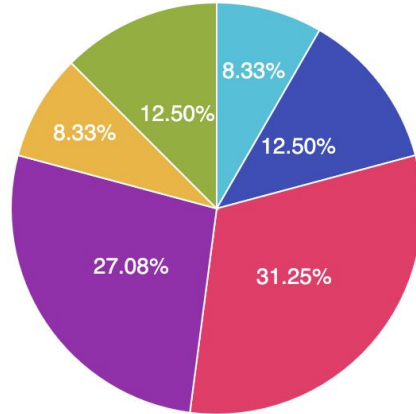
● Email ● Website ● Facebook ● Instagram ● Friends ● Other (Please specify)

**JAMES'S WEEKLY
EMAILS FOR THE WIN!**

RACE SELECTION

What is your primary source of selecting races for the upcoming season?
(select one)

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



-KEEP OUR BIKE REG SEARCHES ROBUST AND DETAILED.

-KEEP MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS GOING.

-CONSIDER ENCOURAGING GROUPS TO ATTEND OUT OF TOWN RACES TOGETHER.

Other:

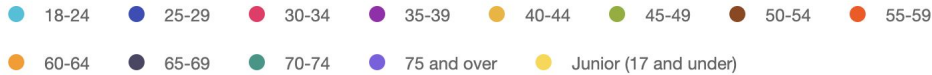
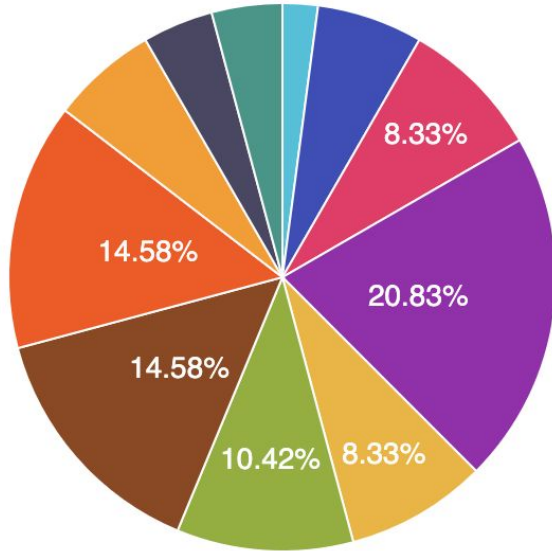
- Team schedule
- Previous races plus recommendations from other teammates & racers
- Difficult courses that encourage interesting racing
- Distance

AGE

What is your age?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

**WE ARE LIGHT ON THE "UNDER 30 CROWD"
CONSIDER COLLEGE/STUDENT MEMBERSHIP SIMILAR TO GVCC**

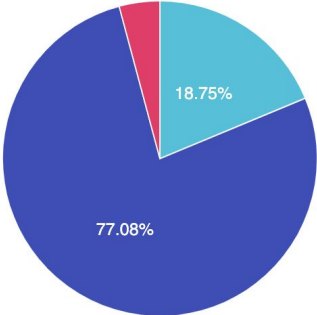


Choices	Response percent	Response count
18-24	2.08%	1
25-29	6.25%	3
30-34	8.33%	4
35-39	20.83%	10
40-44	8.33%	4
45-49	10.42%	5
50-54	14.58%	7
55-59	14.58%	7
60-64	6.25%	3
65-69	4.17%	2
70-74	4.17%	2
75 and over	0.00%	0
Junior (17 and under)	0.00%	0

GENDER

Gender
(please indicate race category registration)

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



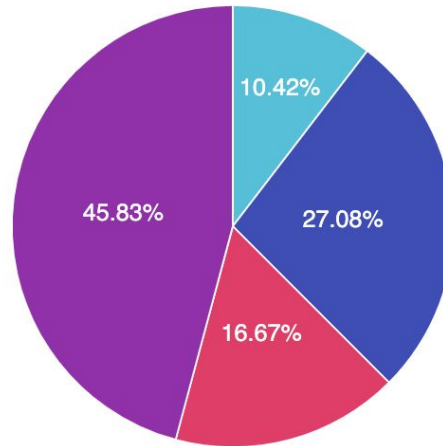
Female Male Prefer not to answer

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Female	18.75%	9
Male	77.08%	37
Prefer not to answer	4.17%	2

RACE EXPERIENCE

How many years have you been competitively cycling?
(select one)

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



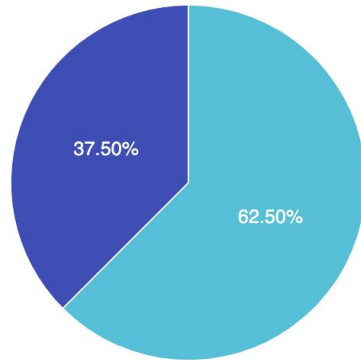
● <2 ● 2-5 ● 6-10 ● >10

A LOT OF DEPTH OF EXPERIENCE ACROSS THE CLUB WITH 60%+ HAVING MORE THAN 6 YEARS OF RACING EXPERIENCE

TEAM TACTICS?

Are you a member of a cycling team?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



● Yes ● No

**37% NOT TEAM
AFFILIATED**

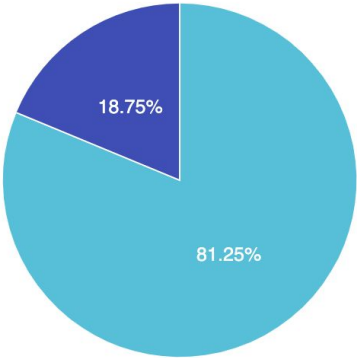
**VERBATIMS MENTIONED
WANTING TO BE ON
TEAMS**

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	62.50%	30
No	37.50%	18

LICENSE AND REGISTRATION

Did you carry a USAC license in 2023

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



● Yes ● No

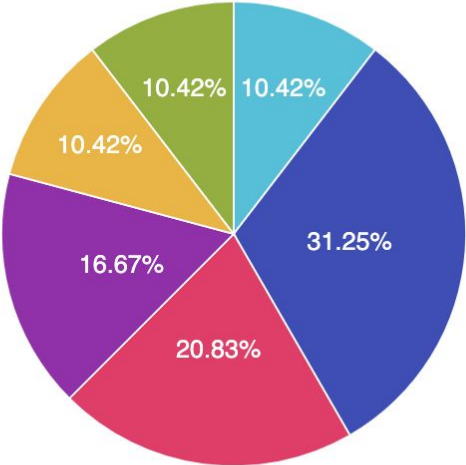
80% CARRIED USAC LICENSES. WE ARE RACERS.

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	81.25%	39
No	18.75%	9

RACE CATEGORY

What USAC Road Race category are you?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



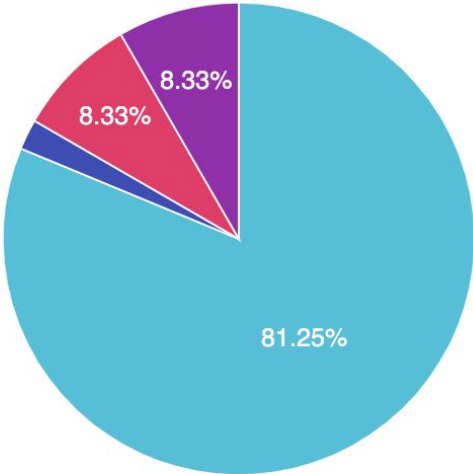
Choices	Response percent	Response count
5/novice	10.42%	5
4	31.25%	15
3	20.83%	10
2	16.67%	8
1	10.42%	5
n/a	10.42%	5

● 5/novice ● 4 ● 3 ● 2 ● 1 ● n/a

LOCATION

Please indicate where you live:

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



● Buffalo Area ● Rochester Area ● Ontario, Canada ● Other (Please specify)

OTHER:
Olean, NY
Massachusetts
Potomac, MD
Niagara Falls, NY

KEY TAKEAWAYS



- FEEDBACK ON ADDITION OF GROUP RIDES WAS POSITIVE.
- IMPROVE BY HAVING LONGER COURSES WITH A COURSE LOOP AND BY STICKING TO PROMISED PACES.
- KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK ON SOFTENING THE ENTRY POINTS TO THE CLUB AND INTRODUCING RACING. “FRIENDLY, INVITING, WELCOMING”
- CONSIDER ADDING MASTER’S AGE GROUP AND WOMEN’S CATEGORIES TO CLUB AND USAC RACES. WITH PRIZES NOT BEING A FACTOR TO RACING, WHY NOT?
- FORMALIZE AND BUILD SKILL DEVELOPMENT/CLINICS PROGRAM TO TEACH RACE CRAFT AND BUILD KNOWLEDGE
- TEAM CONSIDERATIONS - BBC? SHOP TEAMS? (see verbatims)

APPENDIX.

WHAT COULD WE DO BETTER?

We'd love to hear your ideas - please share your thoughts on what you believe the club could do better, what you would like to see in the future, etc.

For Sunday series, score masters and women, and juniors, separate

More crits, maybe a weekday crit series.

BBC sponsored Gravel event!

"Group rides more structured, copy Campus WheelWorks group rides

Resources for mentors

Club CX"

Please consider including women's masters categories and additional time trials (w/ Merxx classes).

I love the Sunday series

WHAT COULD WE DO BETTER?

Nothing further to add, good job last season

Again, I think the club is doing well. These surveys support that. Finding ways to get members riding together is one thing I think could strengthen the club. It still seems exclusive to racing only.

All good

Keep developing skills. Be kind and inviting and open to new riders, show them the ropes. Continue the Women's initiative and continue building upon the great things we're doing.

I first year was very enjoyable with BBC. I learned a lot. I'm still learning a lot. Love the new friendships I've gained through biking. Working on sharing that joy with my wife shortly and get her involved cycling. Thomas, Erin, Steve Wehling, and many others have been so so helpful. I truly see everyone in this cycling community as family.

more weekly rides, including road, gravel, cross, etc.

Promote a cyclocross race this year, we could use another one in the 716. Our fields are contracting and need to build a decent season of races within an hour of people.

WHAT COULD WE DO BETTER?

In my opinion the BBC should not have its own team. I think that the negatives far outweigh any good. To me personally, it doesn't make sense that the club that I pay to be a part of recruits some of its members, who could potentially otherwise be my teammates, to race against me. Perhaps instead, the club could utilize the other existing teams to facilitate its goals. For example...utilizing Projekt as elite 1,2 team for those with high racing aspirations. Utilizing Kanberra as a Masters team for older guys who still like to compete. Utilizing IH as a development for new riders coming into the club and getting into racing.

These are just a couple random ideas, but it might help to more clearly define & coordinate the teams within the club as well as align the goals of the riders on the teams.

More training races. With the decrease in available USAC races, it would be nice to have more training races to keep tuned up

Clearly define if the BBC has a team, and if so what makes them a team.

I have pretty much aged out of racing but I still enjoy riding with the racer crew. I would do unsanctioned races but I realize there may be insurance and many other issues with such races. I don't use a license enough to buy one now. Fondos and group rides are my thing now but I still do occasional MTB and gravel races

I know there has been attempts to bridge the gaps between road, cyclocross, gravel and mountain biking, so thats a good thing

WHAT COULD WE DO BETTER?

Consider hosting on-boarding events in the city for youth who otherwise would not experience bike racing (e.g., Bike Rodeo). Considering partnering with other organizations to provide a pathway to racing from other organized rides in the city (e.g., Slow Roll, East Side Bike Club). Explore other models and programs around the country who are doing this type of work (e.g., Philly Bike Coalition). This may be outside the scope of what the BBC envisions as their purpose, but you did ask what I'd like to see...

Combine 1/2/3 and score everyone together. Don't have enough people to separate and that should be one race. Not two.

More teams bring back the bbc team. I'll race alone if it won't make moose and chris mad.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE BBC?

If you had a friend looking into getting into cycling would you recommend joining the BBC? If yes, why, if no, why not? Please tell us in your own words.

Yes, its a great place to not only join enjoyable rides but also to work on race craft with other like minded cyclists

Yes, but with a warning about ride speeds and getting dropped.

Yes I would. As a rookie member I felt very welcomed to the group right from the first ride I joined. And I've met a lot of new friends. It's a great group of guys and a great cycling community.

Yes good club and nice way to get into racing

Yes, the mentoring program and skills clinics for new riders. Meet new people with common interests.

Yes, if the BBC continues on the current path.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE BBC?

I would encourage them to join now that the club is not solely race centric.

Yes. The Facebook group is helpful and everyone I've met has been friendly and I haven't felt like I'm not a part of the group because I'm not as fast or experienced as other riders.

Yes, I would tell them to join the BBC. It's a great way to meet more cyclists and get into racing and riding longer and it gets you faster. However, I say this because I went through it many years ago. It is intimidating. Members will say things, which I believe they mean no harm. But can come off to newbies as you're just not fast enough you don't have the endurance. Maybe try again next year type of vibe. Your average person looking to get into cycling has no idea how "fast" we go, even on "slow" rides. One "bad" group ride, an most people will be instantly turned off. I don't know how to fix this.

Yes - I always recommend the BBC, great cooperative crew of riders willing to share their knowledge of the sport

I totally would, especially with the addition of the more casual group rides. Looking forward to making Thursday nights a thing again

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE BBC?

For sure. I'd like to see the races continue to grow. So we need to be welcoming to more abilities.

Yes- most organized option there is for new riders

Yes, BBC and NFBC would be top choices depending on what type of cycling - performance or casual.

Yes, of course! I would highly recommend that they come out for a few different events and also look into the mentorship program.

"Yes

The club. Ow is better than it's e er been. Just need more bodies to ride"

Yes, it's the only racing club option in the Buffalo area.

Yes

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE BBC?

Yes. I would also encourage them to ride with local shop rides and get out there and ride ride ride. I think looking forward to this upcoming season the skills building will further solidify my recommendation.

Yes but only if they were serious about racing

Yes if they had any competitiveness in them. If they are purely into riding for social or leisure there are better clubs for their needs

Yes I would, I did the mentorship program and thought it was extremely helpful and encouraging to get advice from more advanced riders

Yes...great group of people with many years of experience.

My wife will be joining this year. She started to bike with me, on the road, during the fall.

We are planning on heading up the Shickluna this week and get fitted and order her a Scott's road e-bike. This way she can start with group rides until her fitness get's to a point of a second standard road bike. :-)

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE BBC?

Yes. Wide range of activities/levels/experiences offered.

Yes, the club is moving in a positive direction lately and has been trying hard to be more inclusive

If they were interested in being a stronger rider I would recommend the BBC, otherwise I would recommend the NFBC for easy social ride.

Maybe. It would depend on their fitness, skills, & goals.

Yes only if they were interested in racing. If they were more of the casual rider I would suggest not BBC.

Yes very much so. the club is very welcoming and in many ways more friendly than say the NFBC

Yes!! It is a great environment for all levels. It is a healthy balance between competition, enjoyment, and learning.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE BBC?

Yes, if they are interested in road, and if they are not terribly introverted. For reasons mentioned above. There are other clubs that are not as competitive minded, that are much more easy to break into as a new member. But if I know someone who can manage the atmosphere and want to ride with fast riders on road, then yes I would recommend it.

Yes, if they were interested in racing and had transportation, resources, etc. However, the barriers to participation are still very high in our sport locally. Seems like the club is focused more on self-preservation (which is fine) than transforming into an organization that provides opportunities for people to experience bike racing who otherwise would not be able to try the sport.

Had this talk with others in the past. If you're open to racing it's a no brainer but they were more group ride focused so they opted out since at the end of the day, were a racing club.

Yep, great way to meet local cyclists

Yes, I believe there is a lot of value to being a member. I don't participate in a lot of events, but that is just due to my lack of time.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE BBC?

Yes. Good opportunities for beginners to get going, but also advance if they prefer/are able

Yes, it's a great place to learn how to race and build camaraderie

Yes. I believe that the club leadership is taking steps to make riders entering into the sport less of an obstacle. The competitive aspects of cycling and racing can be intimidating for newcomers and women. Mentors can help to take some of that stress away as riders begin to get accustomed to pack riding, the routine of training and race prep, along with having a support system of people as fellow riders is very important for younger riders.

I would as it's a great way to learn racing before getting hyped up for a sanctioned race that you'll get dropped from in the first few miles.

BRIDGE THE GAP FROM ZWIFT TO ROAD

We'd like to hear more about how we can help you as a rider develop better skills and knowledge to improve and help others improve in the sport of cycling. As many newer riders gain strength and endurance through Zwift we see the potential to help fill the knowledge gap between "building an engine and getting fast on Zwift" and the bike handling skills and race knowledge and tactics needed to succeed in racing. In your opinion, what can the club do to help bridge this gap?

I think the fact is racing itself can be pretty scary to a lot of people (myself included) having clinics where there is little pressure would be awesome. I myself learned alot doing 1 on 1 riding with my mentor and the pop up crit clinic we did at the shipyard. I think more of that would encourage people to join the Sunday series races

Clinics

Skills training. This includes riding in a peloton, riding in a pace line, and just being comfortable and safe riding in a group. I also think crit skills benefit everybody.

Learning how to corner and hold your line is hugely beneficial. Plus it's fun.

BRIDGE THE GAP FROM ZWIFT TO ROAD

Group rides designed for skills development.. maybe Thursday night skills ride through beaver island to stay away from circuit portion

More skills clinics and shipyards

After group ride, mentors and mentees watch video with various 30sec-1min clips of race tactics. Group conversation can happen after each clip and clips can be rewatched.

More group rides but focused on drafting. Even though personally I have ridden many years I still struggle with that.

Having just a novice ride or small group rides where there may be less intimidation than a full group ride or race with a few mentors to monitor and coach the group.

New riders are intimidated. Doing anything to make these riders feel comfortable on and off the bike. While riding/racing and just being around club members. New riders will make mistakes, they may cause crashes. We can't "punish" them or make them feel bad in these situations.

Cross our collective fingers and pray. After that use our eyes and ears to figure out new rider's skills and help them improve.

BRIDGE THE GAP FROM ZWIFT TO ROAD

No further thoughts to add, very happy with how the club is doing

Getting used to riding in a pack has helped my confidence for racing. The more group rides that we can offer, the better. I've used the 43N rides to figure out bike handling. I actually started out with the NFBC group to feel more comfortable riding with other people.

The club is doing a good job

Host training races that demand technical skill development.

Pool riders together to go to bigger regional races

Not sure I can think of any improvements other than trying to get various riders together even for "private" rides. In my opinion, inclusion is the key to growing the club.

Good question, I'm not really sure. Since the whole cat 5 min race requirement went away, I think the only thing that can make these guys with big engines safe is to have courses with features and pinch points. We see every year what happens with courses like the 2 Days crit or Freedom Run this past year, while courses like Marilla or Hamburg have very little to no issues year after year.

BRIDGE THE GAP FROM ZWIFT TO ROAD

Seems like you guys have a great mentoring program.

All is good

More on bike skills events

Invite riders in, let them know there are important skills to learn for both safety and to help them win. Let them know it's not all about FTP. Bring in Peter to do skills clinics, build in skills development formally into some of the club rides and maybe on alternating Thursdays to the Fireball.

Skills rides and more teaching from experienced riders

USAC skills clinics with upgrade points

I really liked the skills courses we did in the shipyard, and having the recon group rides with some sections where we can ride faster and harder I think would help people improve their pack skills under some fatigue

Make sure the skills match the engine before a rider is upgraded

BRIDGE THE GAP FROM ZWIFT TO ROAD

Everything BBC has done is excellent. Just need to keep growing the drive from within.

Would love to see more of team tactics as this would be fun to me. But the team thing confuses me at times. It appears as if all good riders quickly go to Project or Shickluna. So I feel a bit lost on what team I would be working toward.

Offering more club based rides (more days of the week), and race prep rides.

This is a challenge. I think the group rides with some mentoring on the road seem to connect best. Just talking at adults and telling bike stories gets boring fast. I think the current curriculum is good

I'm not sure.

"More bike handling & fundamentals. Explaining more cycling etiquette & tactics.

Emphasizing the consequences of your actions in a group in relation to safety of others."

The easy answer to this would be to say "more crits/crit based skills clinics" but that only works if the people that need the skills attend. The only way to bridge the gap is with experience.

During rides perhaps on the first lap veteran riders voluntarily share knowledge.

BRIDGE THE GAP FROM ZWIFT TO ROAD

I ride Zwift a lot in the winter with occasional forays outside. I am able to convince myself I have OK fitness on Zwift. I ride outside and feel as slow as if I hadn't trained at all. Would steering or a rocker plate make training more realistic? I ride and race MTB so I don't think it is a bike handling thing. I think Zwift allows me to cheat somehow and convince myself I am in better shape than I am. That is only my experience. I know many people see big benefits from Zwift. This is not a BBC problem. Just my personal observation.

Offer road rides with skill work. It should be on the new rider to show up and be open to learning the basics

I'm sure they're already offered, but race clinics! As someone who was injured in a race as a result of lack of race knowledge, I would love the opportunity to take advantage of frequent race clinics this year.

Practice crits and cyclocross sessions. If you can learn to drive a bike in those contexts, you'll become safe, predictable, and effective.

More skills focused things. While clinics may be boring and less attended because of it, maybe it's more frequent more engaging events. Weekly parking lot crit or something along those lines

BRIDGE THE GAP FROM ZWIFT TO ROAD

Mentorship is a good start. Maybe some kind of group racing mentorship? Small groups that go over tactics and skills on the road

Possibly a good “bikemanship” program. It could include watching a couple videos in a group setting and discussing, as well as a ride or two. Focus on the things that are so taken for granted by those of us who have ridden for years like predictability & safety.

Don't really know, only used Zwift a couple times but didn't have much luck with it.

Continue with group rides and formal and informal mentoring

Skills clinics and crit practice are important. Practice makes perfect with building skills, and this is where the fireball practice crit races can come in. The most important thing is just getting people to do them.

Keep working at bring new people into the club be being welcoming to new riders. Ambassadors can help make young and new riders welcome. Make sure people don't get dropped on group rides and regroup if it happens.

Let em crash. Trial by fire.

GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK

The race preview aspect was great but I prefer longer loops as opposed to multiple laps on the same course.

As a Rookie member, I liked previewing the race course before racing it. I'm not sure if the senior members need any course recon, but it was nice knowing what to expect with climbs and turns, and just getting a feel for the course. I think you only really need to do it once though, so if the Sunday Series repeats, I don't think it's necessary to do a second course preview.

"Like- preview of course and to ride with others

Dislike- seemed unorganized, people attacked (that should be talked about prior and tell people they can if they want) I would want to spice things up."

"Liked the preview

Disliked... nobody adheres to taking it easy"

"Dislike: not keeping to posted ave. Mph

GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK

Like: chatting in the group"

I did not have the opportunity to take part due to work commitments, but am very happy with the merger with NFbC. Will try to make some in 2024

Love the idea of previewing the course before the race, but sometimes due to location and drive time getting out there twice was tricky in the same week.

I liked it. It was cool getting to pre-ride the race course.

Group rides were great! I noticed that attendance/participation tapered off towards the end of the season, probably owing to fatigue after a full summer of racing. Maybe leave the calendar a little bit more flexible to take pressure of the weekly off of club members later in the season?

These were some great training rides. I was able to meet up with some people to ride to and from the events, so it was great training. It also helped me feel more prepared for the races.

Preview rides are boring and not well attended. Need to make better courses to entice members to participate.

GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK

Don't make them previews. Gets redundant

Was only on one group ride. I liked the group atmosphere. However, starting at 9AM would be better for me.

I think its a great idea to have these. I would have loved to attend more of them but there are so many weekend races in such a short period. Just a thought, would it be worth trying to move these and or even the club races to a weeknight similar to how the GVCC does it?

"Liked to make it a king training day"

I'm not into club group rides. I prefer smaller groups. I don't need the club to supply these.

I liked the group rides. I think we can do better by incorporating maybe a loop of an upcoming course and turning it into a longer ride, not just loops of the course.

Rides were fun and well attended,

GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK

I liked that they previewed the race routes. Made it easier to recon without having to find extra time. The groups really need to learn to adhere to prescribed pace on group rides. It is off putting to new riders and I saw many new members not come back after group rides turned into duos or solo rides.

I liked these rides, I thought they were at a pace. Maybe something to add next time is segments where people could push for a little bit and then regroup with the bunch we could have some small mini races during the ride to make it more fun

As a newbie, all events were very helpful. They were nice to see the race courses prior to the race as I have never raced before. It was also nice making friends through the event. I enjoyed them a lot.

I liked them and tried to attend whenever possible.

I enjoyed these and wish I could have made it to more

"Liked the preview loops.

Rides were good for the most part.

GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK

Pace could be more consistent."

Format was confusing. Not so much a group ride as a race. The A group really felt like a huge separation between the top and bottom riders

Liked them just fine. They were exactly what I expected.

Could take it or leave it

I loved the atmosphere as well as the organization of the group rides. From the designated stops on the way to the pace groups, the group rides were put together beautifully! It was my first year, so I have nothing to suggest :)

I enjoyed them.

Good idea. Group leaders could provide more structure, be more vocal about ride intentions.

No complaints here, I only rode with the B group but heard the As got a little racey now and then which may not be the intention of these rides but as I said, I wasn't there to verify.

GROUP RIDE FEEDBACK

Fun. No changes needed.

This is great and something I look forward to when I'm riding more again!

Did not do any

The group rides were great for getting the club together. More people came to those and they were a way to get people together in a non competitive environment. I am looking forward to having even more people attend through the NFBC.

I did enjoy the group rides on many of the courses. They helped to get acclimated to the course even though you may have ridden or raced the course in past seasons. I believe this keeps newcomers interested and engaged to start racing.

Liked the group ride, didn't like that it was supposed to be a group ride preview but people got bored and went hard, dropping the people we were suppose to be inclusive of.