

# Alberta Bicycle Association 2022 Annual General Meeting



October 5, 2022

## 2022 Board of Directors

President	Shantel Koenig
V.P. Administration	Helen Bain
V.P. Racing	James Kendal
V.P. Recreation & Transportation	Don Hollingshead
V.P. Women's Cycling	Erin Ruttan
V.P. BMX	Jonas Tremel
Chief Commissaire	Chris Bullivant
Member at Large	David Roberts
Member at Large	
Member at Large	
Member at Large	

## 2020 Racing Committee

V.P. Racing	James Kenda
Member	Alex Volstad
Member	Albert Nguyen
Member	Petrina Tulissi
Member	Jamie Lamb
Member	Masa Higuchi

*Alberta* 

## 2022 BMX Committee

V.P. BMX	Jonas Tremel
Member	Marco Bregliano
Member	Kris Mitschke
Member	Tyler Clemence
Member	Tyla Thomsen
Member	Vacant

## 2022 Recreation & Transportation Committee

V.P. Recreation & Transportation	Don Hollingshead
Member	Bob Walsh
Member	Darren Bender
Member	Jeff Gruttz
Member	Sally Dolton

## ABA Staff

Executive Director	Heather Lothian
Provincial Coach	Vacant
Road/Track/Cross Coordinator	Jiayi Sun

The **Mission** of the ABA is to advocate, develop, and facilitate bicycling for Albertans.

The **Vision** of the ABA is to be the recognized authority and leader for bicycling in Alberta.

2022 Alberta Bicycle Association Annual General Meeting

October 5th, 2022

ABA AGM, AGENDA

7:00pm-8:00pm

Zoom

1. Review and Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of AGM Minutes October 4, 2021
3. Reports
  - 3.1 Shantel Koenig-President
  - 3.2 Jonas Tremel- Vice President BMX
  - 3.3 James Kendal- Vice President Racing
  - 3.4 Don Hollingshead- Vice President Recreation & Transportation
  - 3.5 Erin Ruttan- Vice President Women's Racing
  - 3.6 Chris Bullivant- Chief Commissaire
4. Items for Approval
  - 4.1 Audited 2022 Financial Statements
5. Elections
  - 5.1 President - 2 years
  - 5.2 Vice President BMX -2 years
  - 5.3 Vice President Racing-2 years
  - 5.4 Chief Commissaire- 2 years
  - 5.5 2 Members at Large-2 years
  - 5.6 1 Member at Large- 1 year
  - 5.7 3 Racing Committee Members- 2 years
  - 5.8 2 BMX Committee Member- 2 years
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

*Time allotted for Questions and Answers following the completion of the agenda.*

**2021 Alberta Bicycle Association Annual General Meeting**

**October 6th, 2021**

**ABA AGM Minutes**

**7:00pm-8:00pm**

**Zoom**

Quorum not achieved- Shantel Koenig announced the winners for the 2021 awards

Agreed to start the meeting at 7:20pm.

**1. Review and Approval of Agenda**

No objections- agenda as circulated approved

**2. Approval of AGM Minutes September 21, 2020**

No objections- minutes approved as circulated

**3. Reports**

**3.1 Shantel Koenig-President**

- Trying and long year, was nice to see some events start up
- Looking forward to next year with some racing resuming
- Deferred to report circulated prior to the meeting

**3.2 Jonas Tremel- Vice President BMX**

- Started in June under covid restrictions
- AB Cup series starting in July
- Lots of positive things this year– volunteers and parents ensured races all went ahead
- Hosted National Champs in Calgary, almost 600 riders
- Large project in the works, BMX community is excited about in St. Albert- build of a super-cross hill
- Shane Carson- President of Alberta BMX Supercross Association spoke to the St. Albert Supercross track build.
  - 12-24 months
  - have a financial model
  - seeking funding from the Province and City of St. Albert
  - purpose is for rider development

**3.3 James Kendal- Vice President Racing**

- Biggest achievement was feedback regarding mountain bike racing- opened up single event licenses across all categories and found it brought people out who wouldn't normally come out to race
- Like to see organizers host both Marathon or Enduro and XCO over a weekend
- Cross season has been happening, good uptake in participation

- Want to keep youth in sport
- Athlete Highlight-Kelsey Mitchell's gold medal; lots of other great athlete performances internationally across disciplines
- Looking forward to another year on the board, and looking forward to more racing

#### 3.4 Don Hollingshead- Vice President Recreation & Transportation

- Committee in hiatus due to Covid
- Bob Walsh is working with committee regarding rumble strips
- Aaron Schooler working with City of Edmonton regarding passing laws
- Aaron Schooler-spoke about getting the by-law passed, would like to see the safe passing law as a provincial law and get it into some educational pieces i.e. driver education
- Jeff Gruttz-working with Trailnet, significant way of feeding the provincial cycling scene

#### 3.5 Erin Ruttan- Vice President Women's Racing

- Lots of new women on bikes in the province, uptake on people offering learn to ride clinics specifically for women, clinics were filling up
- ABA saw 77 new female cyclists sign up via zone 4
- New women's only club formed in Edmonton (Cassette Collective)
- Velodromes have done some amazing things for women and seeing growth in their membership. Same number of men and women at Track Provincials, which is a first
- Working on collecting metrics of women's participation
- Many women from Alberta doing amazing things at the international level

#### 3.6 Chris Bullivant- Chief Commissaire

- Increase in adult women at BMX events
- Zoom commissaire courses were offered in the spring- invited other provinces to participate as well
- UCI Announced BMX Elite National course – Scott Henderson from AB attended
- New assignment system for BMX inline with other disciplines, more transparent system

### 4.0 Items for Approval

#### 4.1 Audited 2021 Financial Statements

- Due to planning over the last 10 years we stayed healthy had the savings to keep things going
- Professional audit was completed
- Discussion about plan for the future and what the plan is, no plans at the moment for any capital spending

***Motion to approve audited financial statements for 2020- Helen Bain/Chris Bullivant- carried***

### 5.0 Elections

#### 5.1 Vice President Administration - 2 years

Helen Bain nominated by Michael Pinkoski

**Acclaimed – Helen Bain**

5.2 Vice President Recreation & Transportation -2 years  
Bob Walsh- Nominated Don Hollingshead

Acclaimed- Don Hollingshead

5.3 Vice President Women's Racing-2 years  
Office received nomination for Erin Ruttan

Acclaimed- Erin Ruttan

5.4 2 Members at Large-2 years  
Tyla Thompson nominated Mike Chalmers

Mike Chalmers acclaimed

5.5 2 Racing Committee Members- 2 years  
Shawn Bunnin nominated Petrina Tulissi  
Erin Ruttan nominated Alex Volstad  
Helen Bain nominated Aaron Schooler- declined  
Shawn Bunnin nominated David Roberts

Elected- Alex Volstad, Petrina Tulissi

5.6 3 BMX Committee Member- 2 years

Office received nominations for:

Tyler Clemence  
Kristopher Mitschke  
Tyla Thomsen  
Ryan Reeve  
Ryan Reeve- nominated Sandy Fokkens

Elected Tyler Clemence, Kristopher Mitschke, Tyla Thomsen

Electronic ballots will be deleted at the conclusion of the meeting

## **6.0 Other Business**

6.1 Adjournment  
Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm

## By The Numbers

### Membership

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
UCI BMX	920	742	406	1175	1127	1096
UCI Racing	687	401	234	827	1009	1052
Citizen License	67	17	3	38	29	22
UCI Technical License (Commissaire only prior to 2020)	99	99	74	87	76	80
General Members	Unknown	3603	2553	3757	3749	3525
<b>Total</b>		<b>4862</b>	<b>3260</b>	<b>6011</b>	<b>5990</b>	<b>5775</b>

### Events and Participation

	# of 2022 Events	2022	2021	2019	2018	2017
BMX	11	5972	5092	5803	5553	4879
MTB	3	853	290	737	854	707
Gravel	2	N/A		303		
Track	1	37		136	104	114
Cyclocross	16	N/A	1384	N/A	2487	2293
Road	13	1561		2581	2901	2920

## President Report– Shantel Koenig

There's this thing that happens as you get older where time goes by faster and faster each year. For me, it feels like 2022 has flown by in a blink of an eye, and I'm not sure if that's the age thing or if it's also a sign that things are returning to a somewhat normal state. Either way, I'm thankful that we were able to see the return of many club activities, events, programs, and projects this year; after a bit of a lull, it now feels like we are building momentum as an organization in many ways. We continue to grow our online presence and strengthen our community ties, we are developing strategic initiatives in order to grow our membership and increase attendance at events, and many of our clubs are expanding their programming and building capacity in the coaching realm. I think that there was worry among many of us that interest in activities and events and the overall relevance of the ABA would fade as the pandemic dragged on; however, from a personal perspective, in the last year I've found renewed inspiration in the value and need for our organization through my own experiences of getting to organize events again, compete and be part of a community, and by seeing the interest and excitement in cycling by both old and new members.

When I started as president two years ago, I was eager, excited, and maybe a bit naive in my hopes and plans for where we would be two years down the road. Despite the slight derailment, I'm now even more motivated to take us forward and build and improve the organization alongside our amazingly dedicated and knowledgeable Executive Director, Heather Lothian. When I reflected on my experience heading the Board the last two years, I summed up what I've learned and where I see us going into a handful of catchphrases:

- Look forwards not backwards – now more than ever we're at a turning point as an organization; more people are cycling, interests in and the disciplines of cycling have evolved, cycling infrastructure and acceptance is increasing, and we have the opportunity to evolve and grow and need to be better at proactively and strategically deciding where we want to go and what we want to be.

- Change can be good - even if something has always worked okay, it's important to have a critical look at whether what we've always done in the past is the best way going forward. Now is a great time to be looking for opportunities to tweak things at all levels so that we are more efficient and effective both administratively and operationally.

- It's okay to be different - we are unique as a province when it comes to cycling. What works well in other provinces may not always be the best fit for us, and therefore, it's important that we make operational and programming decisions that work best for our membership. We will continue to develop programs and come up with solutions that work best for us as a provincial organization.

You can't make everyone happy - we are a large and diverse organization, and accordingly, there are a lot of different opinions on how things should be run. It's important to listen to all of these opinions; however, when it comes right down to it, not everyone is going to get their way, and this is okay.

Celebrate the little victories - as an organization, we've always done a great job at celebrating big achievements, but I think we can do a better job at celebrating the little things. We need to look for opportunities to highlight the awesome little things that happen throughout the year within clubs, at local events, and among members.

Show appreciation for what we have - our organization relies on a tiny (2!) staff that put in an explicable amount of work to ensure we keep operating day to day, and our events, clubs, and programs rely heavily on volunteers, many of who give their time to multiple projects. Consider how you can be involved or give back, and even a quick "thank you for what you do" can be just what someone needs to hear.

It's just riding bikes - we're all passionate about this sport and it's easy to get worked up over decisions or results, but in the end it's just riding bikes. That's all. Riding bikes should be fun.

A huge thank you to Heather for all of her hard work this past year, and also to my fellow board members – passion, alongside patience and cooperation brought us through another very challenging year. As always, thanks to our members, club presidents, commissaires, coaches, and event organizers – you've been amazing partners in getting things rolling again this year, and I'm excited to see what happens in 2023.

Once again, we continue to punch above our weight when it comes to the competitiveness of Alberta riders, and they continue to impress locally, nationally, and internationally, and make us all proud. We are all inspired by your commitment to cycling, and watching your achievements keeps us all going, so thank you.

As we look towards 2023, there is a great deal to be excited about and ways that we can grow and evolve as an organization. This is your organization, so become involved and let us know how we can be better.

Thanks,

Shantel

## Chief Commissaire Report – Chris Bullivant

It's hard to believe that the summer of 2022 is already over. For the first time since 2019 we had a full "normal" season. I am already excited to see what 2023 brings.

We had some struggles with finding enough qualified commissaires to run all the events this year. There were some last-minute schedule changes that put more than one event on the same weekend in August. These struggles highlighted the need for more development especially in the Road and track disciplines. We did have one of our Alberta commissaires shadow at the track nationals gaining needed experience.

BMX had one of the best seasons for commissaire development. We hosted 2 in person courses this spring and one on Zoom. With growing number of engaged officials we have had the opportunity to move new people into college roles and really assess their strengths.

In 2023 I hope to grow the number of officials in all disciplines by offering easily accessed training and an up-front assignment process. Cycling should be fun for all!

Cheers

Chris Bullivant  
Provincial Chief Commissaire  
UCI BMX Commissaire

## VP BMX REPORT – Jonas Tremel

The 2022 BMX season is the second full season of racing and hosting of events since the shutdown due to COVID-19 and based on the numbers it would appear that the sport is still recovering but getting closer to the pre-covid numbers. The majority of the clubs in the province were still down numbers from 2019 but are showing improvement over 2021 so the progress for 2022 is in the right direction.

The provincial series ran a full schedule starting in Edmonton for provincial 1 & 2 in June and continued on to Cochrane, Lethbridge and Okotoks and finished up with Grands in Stony Plain. Our event numbers were strong throughout the summer and showed significant growth from 2021 paving the way for a strong future and upcoming season in 2023.

The provincial team had another successful season under the watch of coach Daina Tuchscherer. The season was kicked off with the return of their season opening camps in Abbotsford and Calgary to set the tempo and get all the riders on track for the rest of the season. Many team riders finished in the overall #1 position in their age group and if not then near the top of the podium in the province and many team riders were on the podium at nationals in their respective categories. In all, BMX is strong in the province of Alberta and the forecast looks good.

This year marked the second year in a row that the BMX National Championships was held in Calgary and they set a high bar with attendance of 704 riders for a national championship. The attendance from Alberta was 400+ riders and around 275+ from out of province so we will be watching 2023 to see if the trend continues with strong numbers in our sport.

Alberta riders were represented again on the world stage in Nantes, France. Molly Simpson, Max Ganakovskiy, Dylan Tremel, Carson Kowaski, Riley Lavorato and Abygale Reeve all put on the maple leaf to ride for Canada at Worlds this year. Molly Simpson rode to a W3 in the U23 female category, a huge accomplishment on all levels. We are looking forward to watching this group and future riders from Alberta represent on the world stage.

I would like to thank everyone in the BMX community that helped make this year a success from all the volunteers, officials, athletes and many more that come together to make this sport happen and thrive for everyone that shows up when the gate drops. I would also like to extend my thanks to the ABA staff (Heather Lothian) and the BMX committee (Kris, Tyla, Tyler and Marco) for their help through the 2022 season. BMX in 2022 had some challenges and frustrations but it was overall a positive year for growth and forward momentum by the group overall in numbers and in the competitiveness of its riders. I am happy to say that 2022 has been a strong year in the recovery of the sport of BMX in Alberta and we are headed in the right direction, UP.

## VP Women's Racing Erin Ruttan

### September 2022

Carrying over the momentum of the past few years, 2022 once again gave us a lot to be proud of in terms of growth and development of women in cycling. Though the number of licenses purchased by women remain similar to 2021 and 2019 (respectively) the participation of women purchasing licenses has increased. Perhaps more importantly, we are seeing a significantly higher percentage of women participating in provincial events when considering the total number of riders at this level of event. Both road and track provincials saw a 10% increase in percentage of female racers with track cycling being the closest discipline to gender parity at 43% female participation. Though some of this increase is due to the drop off in total participation, this drop off was far more drastic among male categories. This speaks volumes to the great work our coaches are doing in the background to support, maintain, and develop female riders.

I'm proud to say that the ABA is making strides in gender parity within our selection documents which has now been adopted within Alberta Summer Games and Canada Summer Games selection documents. This allows Alberta to select athletes based on strength within the total age pool that year. With the vast selection of strong young women rising through the ranks in Alberta, our 2022 Canada Summer Games team had slightly more women. The hard work of these youngsters paid off with Alberta taking the podium in five of six women's events.

Alberta women continue to make waves on the world stage, you can find a full list of amazing results by discipline in the VP Racing report. In addition to these results, Anabelle Thomas was selected as one of four Junior women to attend Road Worlds.

Finally, I would like to thank the tremendous efforts of the ABA, Cycling Canada, and our community of volunteers who have gone above and beyond this year on a special project supporting refugees calling Calgary home. This work was complicated and done quietly. Thank you to everyone who helped make life feel a little closer to normal for women who were going through a hard situation.

I'm excited to see what 2023 has in store for us, as always if you know of a women's program or group that isn't listed on the ABA website, please connect them to our VP Women's Racing so that we can continue to help support grassroots programming.

## VP Recreation & Transportation– Don Hollingshead

### Safe Passing Laws

The current status is that both Edmonton and Calgary, being charter cities, have changed their municipal traffic laws to include the safe passing legislation. The Safe Passing Laws require motorists to give cyclists at least 1 metre of clearance when passing at speeds up to 60 kph and at least 1.5 m for 60 kph and above.

The current provincial government has yet to enable changes to the Traffic Safety Act that would make the Safe Passing Law a provincial law.

### Hiker Biker Campsites

Jeff Gruttz has been working with Alberta Parks to create non-reservable sites at existing camp grounds with minimal facilities for self propelled travellers. So far a few of these “hiker-biker” sites have been created in Kananaskis Country at 4 different campgrounds.

It is hoped that because of the minimal facilities offered (pit toilet, picnic table) that Alberta Parks will relent and charge the back country price (\$12) for these sites from the current \$31/night. We are still waiting.

Thanks again Jeff for your persistent and effective campaign to get these sites. We hope that the Parks Canada takes note. These are a great model for the National Parks.

### Bow Valley Parkway

Following public engagement on closure periods for the Bow Valley Parkway this summer, Parks Canada decided to keep it open to motor traffic during July and August, and closed June and Sept for a 3 year trial period.

James Kendal hooked the R&T Committee up with Bruce Eidsvik of Rundle Mountain Cycle Club in Canmore. Bruce has been in touch with Parks Canada on its closure policy and found that amongst the public feedback, “PC had received some negative feedback from a few interest groups; climbers! (who want easy access to their climbs), people advocating for equal access (but not the actual organizations that support the disabled, they are big supporters), people who feel all taxpayers should have equal access (not just cyclists) and of course the bus tour organizers. In general, local businesses are very supportive. The issue is that this minority was vocal and went to great lengths to outline their rights...so Parks Canada could perhaps have smelt a legal challenge?

And, it is a bit of a logistics nightmare for them for which they get no additional funding. And believe it or not, wildlife interaction is actually a little bit more of a problem with cyclists, since cars just zoom by and keep their distance. However, all of these concerns can be reasonably overcome.

The RMCC held a thank you to Parks Canada ride on Sept 23 and had about a dozen from RMCC and also the Outlook (local paper) showed up to take some pics.

The Superintendent did say that he would like to ride with us in the future. So, we will plan another ride in the Spring and make it a Saturday or Sunday.”

**OUT FOR A SPIN** Lynn Giesler of the Banff Mountain Cycling Club holds a placard and rides to show appreciation and support for the seasonal closures of Highway 18 – also known as the Bow Valley Parkway – in Banff National Park on Friday (Sept. 23).  
JUNGMAN 1988 PHOTO

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A group from Red Deer (RDABC) led by Greg Neiman had this to say: “Some of our members rode the BVP recently and it was glorious. But you can’t count on good weather during Alberta harvest time every year. The lot at Johnson’s Canyon was totally packed when we arrived, so closing car access at one end of the parkway did not seem to affect visitor numbers. Closing the south access to cars one or two days a week all summer should not be a difficult compromise, given the high number of cycling tourists doing this could attract.”

Bruce suggested another option to total closure of the BVP during July/August was to split the road - making it one way for cars and two way for bikes in the other lane. If speeds are kept down, that could also be a great compromise.

Jasper’s Superintendent has met with Alberta Cycling Coalition to discuss Cycling Safety issues and I understand are also considering a possible cyclovia for Jasper.

### **Provincial Trail Development and Federal Funding**

The Federal Government announced \$3B in funding for transit and active transportation infrastructure recently.

Alberta Trailnet has 2 shovel-ready trails and passed a motion:

*“That Alberta TrailNet Society confirms that it meets all of the requirements of the Canada - Active Transportation Fund Agreement, and that the Executive Director be authorized to execute the following Canada – Active Transportation Fund Agreements on behalf of Alberta TrailNet Society:*

*Active Transportation Fund Agreement for Meanook to Perryvale Trail project*

AND

*Active Transportation Fund Agreement for Northshore Trail Lesser Slave Lake Survey and Big Stoney Bridge planning.”*

The building of urban segregated cycling facilities will require political will in addition to construction funding. Priority snow and ice clearing and removal of parking for segregated cycling facilities are 2 such political issues.

Interurban trails also require cooperation with land owners and adjacent land owners including railroads and first nations. A number of these projects are in the works around the province with the help of local organizations championing the land acquisition, partnerships and fund raising aspects. An example of this cooperation is the recently completed Meadowlark Trail between Beiseker and Irricana, NE of Calgary.

### **CAN-BIKE training**

Chris Grant recently arranged a 3 day CAN-BIKE level 5 instructor workshop for the City of Lethbridge (Sept 13-15 '22). 3 students graduated the training and can now deliver CAN-BIKE training in southern Alberta.

I attended as auditor. Chris is working towards his CAN-BIKE Master Instructor status.

### **Edmonton River Valley Planning Modernization**

Every once in a while, cyclists do win. Such was the case with mountain bike restrictions in Edmonton's river valleys that were challenged in Shantel Koenig's paper

[River Valley Planning Modernization Mountain Bike Community Response Feb 28 2022.pdf](#)

The City of Edmonton relented. The efforts made by the Edmonton Mountain Bike Alliance and company were successful in maintaining the status quo for natural trail use by mountain bikers in the river valley while the Ribbon of Green planning process continues. EMBA's newsletter gives a quick overview of how things played out.

<https://mailchi.mp/f8996461f314/council-approves-cycling-and-maintenance-in-preservation-areas-and-recommends-development-of-a-service-package-for-a-river-valley-trails-strategy?>

Congrats!

# VP Racing Report for the Alberta Bicycle Association

Prepared by James Kendal

September, 2022

I would like to acknowledge and give thanks to the stakeholders that help us compete and recreate in the sport of cycling. That being volunteers, board members, ABA management, affiliated clubs, officials, sponsors and athletes who participate and support the association and the sport. The last three seasons have been chaotic and we have managed to navigate our way through the pandemic intact. While not a perfect recovery we still managed to see a decent level of racing, and an appetite to compete that began with the 2021 cyclocross season and carried over into the 2022 calendar. Our sport is grassroots and relies heavily on volunteer grit to execute events at a reasonable cost in a safe and sanctioned environment. Without the volunteer model we would not survive or our sport would see significant cost increases. Thank you to all of you for moving us forward each and every year.

Our **Racing Committee** met consistently throughout the year and over the Summer we debated an alternate path, or a more accessible pathway, to bring more youth and novice participants to the sport of cycling. We felt that the "Citizen" class should become a more prominent feature for 2023 racing and decoupled from Category 5. That said, a motion was put forward to remove Category 5 and introduce a co-ed Citizen category. The motion was discussed at length and shared with select organisers as well as online feedback through social media channels. In addition, the analysis of actual peloton sizes in road races, across all categories, led us to determine that we could safely increase the size of Categories 2 through 4 by having Category 5 riders opt into Category 4 or stay as Citizen Category.<sup>1</sup> Race organisers will now have a new option to offer shorter events for riders in the Citizen Category and potentially attract younger riders as well as sport riders that traditionally gravitate to fondos and club riding but who may be interested in actual racing. Stay tuned for more details from the ABA. Besides discussions around licensing categories, upgrade requests took up a bit of time for the committee and were fairly extensive this year due to factors such as Nationals, Canada Summer Games selections and riders who missed racing in the previous years who felt they should be upgraded. That said, the committee will look for more efficient and consistent ways to process upgrades based on policy as well as having proper time lines for upgrade requests.

Edmonton saw the Canadian National **Road, Time Trial and Criterium** Championships return in 2022 with a partnership between **Juventus Cycling Club** and **Do North Events**. This event was a daunting undertaking that had a number of challenges but overall was quite successful and a great showcase for Alberta riders, female participants, and juniors, in particular, who did amazingly well and returned a number of medals for the province.

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<sup>1</sup> The combined average from our two most attended races (Tour De Bowness and RMCC Stage Race) this season saw an average peloton size of 25 riders Cat 2, 20 riders Cat 3, 20 riders Cat 4 and 27 riders in Cat 5. The one exception would be the 2022 Steida RR which had 51 participants but each subsequent road race saw a decline in Cat 5 registrations.

The majority of our traditional Alberta Road Races returned to the calendar but registration numbers were down from 2019 levels. 2022 participation rates declined by 21% compared to 2019. While we cannot know exactly why numbers are down it is safe to assume that some athletes left the sport during covid and some athletes have migrated towards more sport and gravel riding with less participation in sanctioned events. We are confident that with the change in licensing in 2023 we should see increased participation rates. It is also important to have our race organisers not overlap events. With Gravel racing it would be wise to encourage organisers to work with the ABA for insurance and to not host events on key weekends that have a history of hosting races. <sup>2</sup>

We continue to struggle to host **Alberta XC Mountain Biking** events and we only had two Alberta Cup races take place in June and July along with a Canada Cup. Both the **RMCC** Ziggy Gnarly and the Canada cup were hosted in Canmore. Participation was solid and the Canada Cup had a number of out of Country athletes hunting UCI points attend the June race. My observation, based on registration at the Ziggy Gnarly, is that having a marathon race and continuing to offer Single Event Licences across the categories, is financially helpful to the host organiser and creates a more exciting event and experience especially when hosting Events at the Canmore Nordic Centre which adds significant costs. Outside of organised Alberta Cup level events it is encouraging to see mid week MTB events taking place in Edmonton, the new **Kids of Mud** programs as well as **Trailblazer** races. If we can build on mid week club racing I think we can grow the interest for organisers to step up to host weekend events.

**Local Midweek** road, cyclocross and track racing saw good participation and Midweek Mayhem brought back their Criterium series this summer. Midweek events are an excellent entry point for new riders and grass roots development.

**Alberta Cyclocross** racing in 2021 showed the first sign of a true return to racing in Alberta and we had a full season of competing in Edmonton, Sundre, Canmore and Calgary. It was encouraging to see a potential “collective” model form on short notice to put on events in Edmonton. In addition, the first ever Western Canada CX challenge took place in Canmore in September 2022 and was well received and was hosted by Cyclemeisters Calgary and RMCC. Josh Peacock from Cycling Canada attended the WCCX and hopes that this event can build over the years. Both Edmonton and Calgary have had great turnout for mid-week cx racing. Overall, attendance numbers for CX races in Edmonton and Calgary are down from pre-pandemic years but are robust enough to make for a great experience for participants..

**Track Racing** was minimal this year with the majority of non-club events cancelled due to low registration and/or weather. This year (due to weather cancelation) youth track provincials was paired with Elite/Masters taking place in August. Feedback on this shift was quite positive. In addition to provincials the velodromes hosted a combined five club races and three Thursday night race series.

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<sup>2</sup> A full break down of participation rates and road racing comparison stats can be found here [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aSqaM6A0akjwOaFvH\\_szJvoxVOHUaGYc/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117246394648172247399&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aSqaM6A0akjwOaFvH_szJvoxVOHUaGYc/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117246394648172247399&rtpof=true&sd=true)

### **Alberta Athlete Highlights<sup>3</sup>**

We need to give a collective high five to our Alberta Athletes who were shining bright this past year. Results below are for the 2022 Summer season.

#### **Commonwealth Games**

Kelsey Mitchell- Silver Team Sprint, Silver Sprint, Silver Time Trial, Bronze Kieran  
Sarah Orban - Silver Team Sprint, 5th TT

#### **Pan American Track Cycling Championships-**

Kelsey Mitchell- Gold in Sprint, team sprint and Kierin, silver in TT  
Sarah Orban Gold team sprint  
Evan Burtnik- Gold Team Pursuit  
Ryan Dodyk- Silver Team Sprint

#### **Canada Summer Games**

Alex Volstad- Bronze Criterium  
Mairen Lawson-Silver TT  
Annabelle Thomas- Silver RR  
Jenaya Francis- Bronze XC Sprint  
Team AB- Bronze Team Sprint (Christiane Bilodeau, Jenaya Francis, Ella Myers)

#### **Road Nationals**

Lowell Taylor & Ed Veal- Gold MB TT, Silver MB RR  
Carla Shibley & Meghan Brown - Gold WB RR, Gold WB TT  
Annabelle Thomas- Gold RR, 6<sup>th</sup> Crit  
Jenaya Francis- 4<sup>th</sup> RR  
Alex Volstad- Silver Crit, 6<sup>th</sup> RR  
Alec Cowan - Bronze Crit  
Evan Burtnik- 5<sup>th</sup> RR

#### **MTB Nationals**

Ella Myers- 6<sup>th</sup> (jr.)  
Nico Knoll- 4<sup>th</sup> (u17)  
Logan Sadesky 5<sup>th</sup> (Elite)

#### **Track Nationals**

Kelsey Mitchell- Gold Team Sprint, Gold Kierin, Gold TT, Silver Sprint,  
Sarah Orban- Gold Team Sprint, Silver Kierin, Bronze TT, Silver Sprint  
Ryan Dodyk - Gold TT, Silver Sprint  
Kate O'brien - Gold C4 TT  
Frank Kovacs - Gold and Canadian Record Masters Men B TT

#### **Cyclocross**

Christiane Bilodeau 14th and 15th Rochester C2 (2 day),  
Sidney McGill 10th Jingle Cross C1, 10th Trek Cup C2 10th Charm City Cross  
Ella Myers 17th Junior World Championships  
Jenaya Francis 19th Junior World Championships

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<sup>3</sup> Results compiled and provided by Heather Lothian, ABA Executive Director