

Discussion items from meeting

1. First order of business was the introduction of Jeff Huotari, our sponsor from Blue Sky Health. He indicated that he supported our effort to race and to set an example to the community that an active, physical lifestyle can lead to good health. He also talked about his efforts to try and get a non-competitive running series going last year that did not take place in part from a lack of manpower and concern about liability issues. It was discussed that the team (in conjunction possibly with the youth racing team – see item 3) should consider sponsoring youth races – maybe 4 in number every other week – possibly as more noncompetitive events to encourage the youth in the community to ride their bikes more and to think about racing. These races would be done more as an entire family activity, possibly with a potluck dinner following them. Discussions about having these races at the Tech trails was also brought up.
2. The issue of how the team interacts with other cycling groups in the community and how we are perceived by the local biking community was then discussed. Some misconceptions have arisen concerning what the team is about and why we have formed as a group. The consensus of the team was that we needed to get involved in the various biking activities within the community to show that we care about biking and getting more people (young and old) involved in biking.
3. Related to the discussion in items 1 and 2 was how the team can become involved with the race youth cycling team being formed by KCC (Keweenaw cycling club). Several team members have expressed an interest to Lori Hauswirth about being involved and the team thought that having as many members as possible being involved was a goal for the team. Chris and Pat (others) will attend a meeting with KCC about this youth team tonight (Thursday).
4. The use of e-mail versus the various forums on the web site to get information about who was going to upcoming races and the logistics involved, training rides, etc. were discussed. It was decided that unless the item was of general interest to the team, these other items should be dealt with through the various forums Diane has set up on the team web site.
5. In conjunction with helping the youth in the area, discussion was given to building a pump track/BMX course. Some sort of outdoor BMX facility is being considered by Houghton to replace the indoor BMX at the Dee. Where and how the team might help out in building a pump track and/or BMX course was then discussed at some length.

Meeting adjourned approximately at 7:20.