



2012 LAJRS
Information & Application Packet

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*Please replace former LAJRS logos with the one above.
(Available for download by race organizers at <https://www.usacycling.org/lajrs/>)

I. You Are Invited to Participate

A. Overview

The USA Cycling Junior Race Series is entering its 20th year in 2012. This program has been particularly successful over the years as the Lance Armstrong Junior Race Series (LAJRS) in providing racing opportunities for Junior and Espoir-aged young men and women. Thanks to Lance Armstrong and his generosity, and to the cooperation and hard work of the LAJRS event organizers and their staffs, the LAJRS program has evolved into a nationally recognized junior and Espoir-aged race series. The number of designated events has increased each year since 1993, from only 12 events in ten states in 1993 to over 100 events nationally. This series will continue in 2012, and its success will depend upon the continued hard work of those race organizers who are involved.

B. USA Cycling Goals

Our immediate goal for the LAJRS series is to continue to grow the racing opportunities for Juniors and Espoirs by developing long-term partnerships with race organizers who will create safe and fun racing opportunities for boys and girls, young men and women.

The ultimate goal is to continue to increase the quantity and quality of road racing opportunities for USA Cycling licensed Junior and Espoir-aged riders in the United States, thus offering them the opportunity to pursue the dream of Olympic participation.

C. USA Cycling Objectives

The LAJRS program promotes quality Junior and Espoir age bicycle racing while providing opportunities for the success and advancement of developing riders. The program will increase the quantity and quality of USA Cycling licensed Junior and Espoir riders in the United States, creating a larger pool of talented athletes from which to draw National Team athletes. The program is part of a USA Cycling “athlete pathway”. This “pathway” provides a clear path for riders to follow from beginning racing experiences through training camps to National Teams. For more information, browse to www.usacycling.org/juniors/roadpathway.php.

D. Regional Camps

Athletes ages 14 to 22 will have the opportunity to qualify for USA Cycling Regional Camps by finishing in the top five places in each LAJRS race.

E. Requirements for LAJRS Designation

Along with providing a safe event, which includes races that are appropriate for different ages of riders, LAJRS event organizers will agree to provide as many racing opportunities for rider’s ages 10 to 22 as feasible. Priority should be given to those groups that will receive camp invitations. Details about **age-graded races** are on page 6 of this packet.

The organizer must also submit the results from the LAJRS races *electronically* to USA Cycling within **48 hours** from the end of the event. We are requiring this prompt and efficient method of submitting results in an effort to better serve the riders. This will enable us to quickly and accurately post the results on the USA Cycling web site.

F. Benefits for Race Organizers

The benefits package for race organizers is designed to reward successful events and to increase promotional exposure for their events. This can bring valuable exposure to events, which can increase the interest of sponsors and local media. Benefits are as follows:

- Use of the “LAJRS” and “USA Cycling” names and logos for event promotion
- Pre-event promotion of the series on the USA Cycling web site (<http://www.usacycling.org>)
- Increased interest in the event by Junior and Espoir riders because of the LAJRS connection with the USA Cycling Results and Rankings Program and the USA Cycling Regional Camp Program

USA Cycling will provide:

- Medals to top 3 places in each junior category offered

G. Application Deadlines

Applications will be accepted until two weeks prior to the event. Applications received within two weeks will not be considered. Successful applicants will be notified via email. The 2012 LAJRS calendar will have the first posting on the USA Cycling website by February 2012. Subsequent postings reflecting changes to the schedule will be done as necessary.

II. Requirements for Designation

A. Event Designation Criteria

LAJRS applications will be evaluated and awarded based upon the following criteria:

- A review of the submitted application
- The quality and safety of past events, with additional consideration for previous attendance and proposed prize list
- The adherence to the designated requirements in past events
- Event location and date
- No date conflict with other nearby LAJRS events in the same region
- Reasonable race entry fees for junior riders (see Section B below)
- Ability to submit electronic formatted results on a timely basis
- Supporting materials, such as event fliers and newspaper clippings from past events
- Documentation of any extra considerations the race organizer offers the junior riders to help defray race-related costs. This may include housing in private homes, reduced race entry fees, free meals, special reduced rates at nearby motels, etc

Note: It is understood that new races may not meet all of the above criteria.

B. LAJRS Rider Entry Fees

Entry fees for a LAJRS event should be reasonable and reflect what services and prizes participants receive. They should also be consistent with the average pricing of USA Cycling events in the region. To assist in the growth of the sport, organizers are strongly encouraged to offer juniors reduced entry fees of \$15 or less per day of racing.

C. USA Cycling Results and Rankings Program

Each LAJRS race is required to participate in the USA Cycling Results and Rankings Program. Participation in this program also allows your race's results to be posted on the USA Cycling website and ensure that rider's will be able to utilize your race toward their national ranking. More importantly, camp qualifiers are based on these results.

Further details on the Results and Rankings program may be found at www.usacycling.org/news/user/story.php?id=622.

D. Organizer Qualifications

USA Cycling event organizers or clubs who are applying for a LAJRS race designation must have demonstrated the ability to organize high quality, professional events. The applicant must have successfully followed the guidelines listed below:

- The director must be a member of a USA Cycling Club or an Event Organizer.
- The club and event organizer must be in good financial standing with USA Cycling.
- The LAJRS events must be permitted through USA Cycling.
- All state road, criterium, and individual time trials that include juniors are encouraged to be a LAJRS event.

E. Organizer Requirements

In exchange for the benefits of LAJRS designation, race organizers will be required to meet the following requirements in service to the participating athletes:

- Provide a safe event
- Provide races which are appropriate in length and level of difficulty for the age of riders

- Include the suggested age-graded racing categories (see next page for details)
- Submit LAJRS results to USA Cycling *electronically* within 48 hours from the conclusion of the event (details follow)

F. Required Age-Graded Racing Categories

An official LAJRS event should provide the following racing *opportunities* and separate scoring for the following age groups. If it is not feasible for an event to have all of the following, the emphasis should be placed on the categories that receive development camp invitations*:

<u>MEN</u> (“Racing ages” used)	<u>WOMEN</u> (“Racing ages” used)
10-12	10-12
13-14	13-14
15-16	15-16
17-18	17-18
19-22 (cat 1, 2, 3 Espoir)	19-22 (cat 1, 2, 3 Espoir)

In the likely case of very small fields in the younger age categories listed above, **promoters may use their discretion** regarding combining age and gender groups. (As a kid, it’s no fun to race against one’s self!) BUT, the individual age and gender groups listed above **must be scored separately**. Please see below for examples of *possible* groupings. Mixed Groupings are only recommended for exceptionally small fields:

	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>	<u>MIXED GROUPINGS</u>
Group 1:	10-12, 13-14	10-12, 13-14	M10-12; W10-12, 13-14
Group 2:	15-16, 17-18	15-16, 17-18	M13/14, 15/16; W15/16, 17/18
Group 3:	19-22	19-22	M17/18, 19-22; W19-22

- Race directors are urged to keep in mind the spirit of the Lance Armstrong Junior (Road) Race Series program and make the racing opportunities for the junior and Espoir riders as fair and enjoyable as possible.
- Junior-only events need not include the Espoir group (age 19-22).
- Riders may choose to race in more than one race or age category field during a LAJRS event. However, he/she must pay separate entry fees along with each race application. At the time of the race, the promoter may find it necessary to combine those two age groups that the rider has entered. If this is the case, the rider will automatically be “placed” according to his/her finish in his/her ACTUAL age category, UNLESS the rider has specifically requested being listed under the “older” age category prior to the race. (This is to avoid one rider taking everything.)

***Juniors:** Automatic Athlete Development Camp Invitations are based on competitive race results from the following: At least one Top-5 finish from LAJRS or other similar caliber road events, or one or more Top-5 finishes from ADJM or other similar MTB events, both in the 15-18 age groups, or by permission based on race resume from the previous 12 months of racing prior to any camp. 14 year-old racing age athletes are eligible for camp invitation provided they have qualified racing in the 15-18 age group categories.

If a junior athlete raced in any 2011 LAJRS or regional mountain bike event (AMBC, NMBS or any other large event) after June 1 in 2011 and placed top five in 15-16, or 17-18 categories, that athlete is automatically qualified to attend any regional development camp in 2012.

G. Limited Liability

USA Cycling reserves the right to use information provided in your application to promote your LAJRS event in our member publication and Internet web page. For that reason, it is important for you to be accurate in the date and description of your event. Please submit any changes in the date(s) and/or name of your event to USA Cycling promptly.

2012 LAJRS Application Form

- 1) Complete application. If all the information is not available at time of application submission, please indicate "unavailable."
- 2) Include event flier with application.
- 3) Submit 2012 LAJRS application and event flier to Tony Leko.

FAX: 719.434.4384

EMAIL: tleko@usacycling.org

MAIL: Tony Leko, Attn: LAJRS Application, 210 USA Cycling Point, Suite 100, Colorado Springs, CO 80919

******Please print clearly. Applications that are incomplete/illegible will not be considered for the 2012 Calendar.******

A. Event Information

Name of Race: _____

Race Date: _____

Race Location: _____

USAC Organizer/Club: _____

Race Director: _____ **Number of Medals Requested: G S B**

Mailing Address (NO P.O. Boxes): _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Phone Number to be Published: _____

Email: _____ **Event Website:** _____

Has this event been a LAJRS event before? Yes No

If yes, what years? (please circle appropriate years)

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011

Type of Event (please check one or more): Criterium Road Race Time Trial Stage Race

Please indicate the racing categories to be offered: Jr Men: ___ 10-12 ___ 13-14 ___ 15-16 ___ 17-18 ___ 19-22

Jr Women: ___ 10-12 ___ 13-14 ___ 15-16 ___ 17-18 ___ 19-22

B. Event Results

Results must be complete and submitted in the electronic format within 48 hours from the end of the event, as described within the Results and Rankings Program. If you have any problem complying with this, please contact the USAC Results and Ranking Manager.

USA Cycling requires that event results for LAJRS events be submitted to USAC for posting to the USA Cycling web page and for awarding Results and Rankings Program ranking points to USA Cycling licensed riders. All results should be submitted within 48 hours following the conclusion of the event.

Do you plan on using an electronic timing and results system? Yes No

If yes, what is the name of the event computer specialist or timing company who will be responsible?

Name: _____ **Telephone:** _____

Email Address: _____ **Results Website Address:** _____