



Dear Race Directors:

Thank you to each of our Illinois race directors who are working diligently to host an Illinois cycling event. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by the Illinois Cycling Association (ICA), the teams, and riders who are able to showcase their talent and sponsors at your events.

The IL Cup has the potential to be a benefit to both race directors and riders. The ICA's goal is to simplify the rules and requirements placed on race directors so that you can run your races as efficiently as possible while still benefiting from the additional ridership that a multi-event series generates.

The ICA will be accepting IL Cup applications through **Friday, February 23, 2024**. All application materials can be found in the Illinois Cup Guide for Race Directors. Applications will be processed quickly (in the order received) so early season races that successfully apply will have as much time as possible to notify riders of their inclusion in the Cup.

Successful applications will include the following:

- **Completed IL Cup Bid Application (see the last page of this document)**
- **Updated Race Flyer (and Guide if available)**
- **Flyer/Guide must include:**
 - **Clear designation of which events count toward the IL Cup, and if combining fields, how riders will be scored for prizes and the Cup**
 - **All IL Cup categories must be represented**
 - **ICA and IL Cup logos**

Please E-mail completed applications to the ICA Officer-at-Large (Chad Briggs, e-mail: briggs32281221@gmail.com). Once completed applications have been received, the ICA will review the application and inform you of their decision regarding your event's inclusion in this year's IL Cup.

We look forward to working with you to make the Illinois Cup series a success.

Sincerely,

Illinois Cycling Association



ILLINOIS CYCLING ASSOCIATION

2024 Illinois Cup Guide for Race Directors

Race Director Requirements and Guidelines

All Illinois Cup events will be permitted through USA Cycling and must meet the minimum required length for upgrades. All rules in the USA Cycling road rulebook will be enforced.

Individual races that are part of an Omnium may be considered for the IL Cup, but not the overall Omnium. Only in rare cases will a first-year event be considered for the Illinois Cup. We would like race directors to run a USAC-sanctioned event for one year before applying.

Categories for the 2024 IL Cup

Each required category listed below must be offered at an Illinois Cup race. **Cup categories may be combined** but must be scored separately. For example, if Masters 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, and 65+ fields are combined into one race, their results must still be scored and reported separately. Similarly, if Juniors fields are combined, separate results should be provided for each age and gender category.

Required IL Cup Categories:

- Juniors
 - Boys: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18
 - Girls: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18
- Masters (Open)*
 - Men: 35-44, 45-54, 55+
 - Women: 35-44, 45-54, 55+

* Masters Category 4/5 riders will also be scored separately in each age group
- Men Category 4
- Women Category 4
- Men Category 3
- Women Category 3
- Men Category 1/2
- Women Category 1/2

Optional IL Cup Categories:

To reach a broader audience of potential racers, the ICA is encouraging (but not requiring) race directors to add the following categories to their race offerings. **If two or more Cup races offer these categories, an IL Cup competition will be offered.** More information on these categories can be found via the USAC and Paralympics Cycling resources provided below and by working with the ICA Officer-at-Large.

- ParaCycling ([US Paralympics Cycling](#))
- Non-Binary (see [USAC Rules](#) for Transgender Cyclists)

IL Cup Race Designation and Scoring Guidelines

Race Directors should **clearly denote on all printed and electronic material which race categories are part of the IL Cup**. If fields are combined, clearly indicate which categories are eligible for Cup points. Please use the following as a guide:

- A. If two or more Cup categories are combined (e.g., Women 1/2 and Women 3), then ...
 - a. Racers in each category will be scored separately and *will not displace each other* for points. For example, if the first Women 3 rider across the line finishes 4th in the combined field, they will be awarded 1st place points in the Women 3 category, while a Women 1/2 rider finishing 5th will be awarded 4th place points.
- B. If a Non-IL Cup category is combined with an IL Cup category, then only the Cup category riders will earn points, and they will not be displaced by non-Cup riders.

Registration & Results

The ICA strongly encourages Illinois Cup race directors to use BikeReg.com for pre-registration. **Results MUST be sent to the ICA Officer-at-Large (Chad Briggs; e-mail: briggs32281221@gmail.com) at the conclusion of your event.** We strongly encourage **results delivery within 48 hours** so Cup results can be quickly updated.

Equipment

For the determination of mass start events, it is required that photo finish equipment be used, as well as a registration to results computer program. As long as BikeReg is used as the registration system, the ICA can supply the following upon request:

- Finishlynx Finish Line Camera
- 12 Foot Ladder for FL Camera
- Finish Line Computer to Review Finishes
- Small table for Finish Line Laptops
- Results Laptop
- Registration Laptop
- Registration Printer (w/ink - paper is race director's responsibility)
- Lap Cards

IL Cup Marketing Requirements

Logos for the ICA, Illinois Cup, and USA Cycling must be included on ALL promotional materials, including websites and flyers. Website logos should also link to the ICA (www.illinoiscycling.org), IL Cup (<http://www.illinoiscycling.org/racing/illinois-cup>) and USAC webpages (www.usacycling.org), respectively.

Overall IL Cup Awards

The winner of each IL Cup category will receive one free entry into each Illinois Cup race the following year. This award is non-transferable to any other rider. If the winning rider upgrades or moves into a new age group, they can apply their winning entry to the new category. This award is only good for one entry per race. If the rider chooses to enter a 2nd race, they must pay the associated entry fee for another race. If there is a 2nd race discount, it will be left up to the discretion of the race director whether to award the discount for the additional race. For this offer to be valid, the rider must pre-register. A list of last year's winners will be sent to you upon your race's inclusion into the IL Cup.

2024 IL Cup Bid Application

Application Deadline: Friday, February 23

Required Application Materials:

- **Completed IL Cup Bid Application**
- **Current Race Flyer (and Guide if available)**
- **Flyer/Guide must include:**
 - **Clear designation of which events count toward the IL Cup, and if combining fields, how riders will be scored for prizes and the Cup**
 - **All IL Cup categories must be represented**
 - **ICA and IL Cup logos**

Application Procedure:

All race directors submitting applications must complete the application and return it to the ICA by the application deadline. The ICA reserves the right to reject incomplete applications. Questions and completed applications can be sent to Chad Briggs, Officer-at-Large (briggs32281221@gmail.com).

Selection Criteria:

The bids will be reviewed by the Illinois Cycling Association, and the following criteria will be applied (in no particular order): (A) Acceptance of guidelines, (B) Calendar flow, (C) Chief Ref and Official's reports from previous year's race, and (D) Previous year's race and race director in good standing with USAC. If there are a large number of IL Cup applications, preference will be given to events that offer gender parity in their prizes.

Race Director Commitment:

Race Date(s): _____

Race Name: _____

Race Director's Name: _____

Race Director's Contact Email Address: _____

Race Director's Phone Number: _____

Team Affiliation: _____

Signature: _____

In signing and returning this page, along with the other required application information, I agree to the listed requirements discussed in the above guide.

Any issues or concerns with any item(s) put forth in this guide have been discussed with the IL Cup Committee at or before the time of submitting this application.