

28 April, 2022

I'd like to inform the BOD and Executive Board that effective immediately I resign from my position as 2nd Vice President of WMRRRA.

I am proud of the things I achieved in my time in this role such as creating a new website, bringing increased transparency to WMRRRA through published board minutes, bringing new sponsors, and working to create ways for others to volunteer. However, I have also had interactions that make it impossible for me to continue volunteering for WMRRRA.

The following issues have moved me to resign:

1. Board professionalism

As a nonprofit board, a degree of professionalism, including mutual personal respect, is required for us to lead the organization effectively. I have been subject to conduct that is unprofessional in any setting, and particularly unacceptable in a volunteer-led, nonprofit club. This behavior falls short of the values I expect in members of WMRRRA, especially members of our BOD, and is incompatible with my continued involvement as a volunteer of WMRRRA. In a sport with substantial inherent dangers, mutual respect among club members is imperative; the board must lead by example. I continue to hold a high bar for the conduct and respect amongst WMRRRA members and my fellow racers.

2. Member disenfranchisement

The BOD chose to fill an empty seat on the board in a way that disenfranchised club membership and the eboard (executive board), and communicated a lack of trust. By the previous bylaws, the BOD was required to appoint an individual that had served on the eboard, positions that members are voted into by general membership. The BOD appointed an individual who did not meet those qualifications and changed the rules to allow their actions. Despite being eligible under the previous bylaws, none of the current eboard was asked if they would serve on the board of directors. **This exercise of BOD power without regard for member enfranchisement is incompatible with my values of transparency and inclusion.** Openness and transparency are crucial to our organizational health.

3. Culture of consumption rather than mutual creation

As a nonprofit volunteer org, WMRRRA exists as the collaborative effort among club members to make the most effective racing organization possible. This requires creating a positive culture around volunteerism. I do not find the current actions of the BOD to have that result. Efforts to broaden inclusion and foster a culture of mutual creation through volunteerism should be prioritized.

I wish the best to the remaining eboard and volunteers. I will miss our monthly meetings where we worked together to build a better organization. May you all continue to strive towards that mission.

Chris Wilcox
Former Executive Board Member
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