

Membership & Quotas Report – 2011/12 Season

Apr 16, 2012

S. Nickle, Membership Chairperson

Membership Levels:

PARA in Total

The membership retraction expected but not realized last year, was seen this year with an overall reduction of 5% (2% J1-J7).

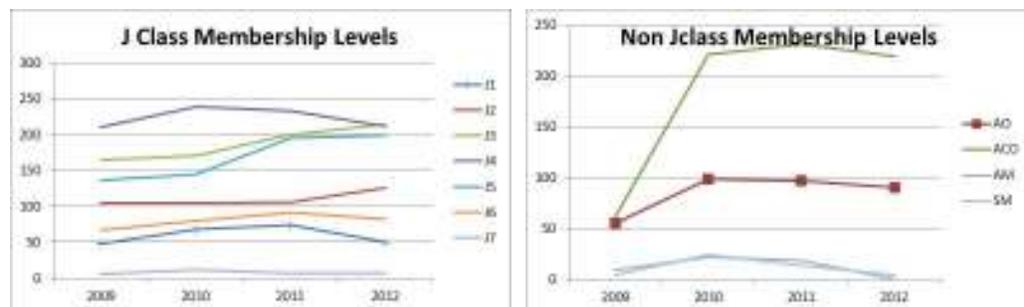
Of note is the erratic record of growth/reductions:

- Significant growth in J2 (+19%) offset by a reduction in J1 (-32%) to result in an overall 5% reduction in the J1,2 group.
- J3 class continued to grow by 7%
- J4 & J6 classes saw ~10% reduction while J5 saw a 2% growth.

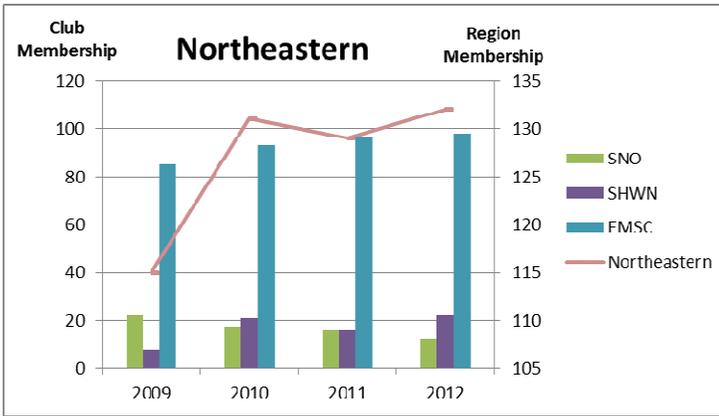
The number of Masters or Seniors competitors continues on its marked decline. Not totally unanticipated as there are no specific programs for these age class offered by PARA.

		2012	Δ % 2011 to 2012	2011	Δ % 2010 to 2011	2010	2009
Officials	CO						46
	AO	91	-6%	97	-8%	99	56
	ACO	220	-5%	232	-1%	222	62
	Subtotal	311	-5%	329	-3%	321	164
Competitors	J1	50	-32%	74	-26%	68	48
	J2	126	19%	106	21%	104	105
	J3	214	7%	200	25%	171	164
	J4	212	-9%	233	-11%	239	210
	J5	199	2%	195	38%	144	136
	J6	82	-10%	91	3%	80	67
	J7	7	0%	7	-36%	11	6
	Subtotal	890	-2%	906	9%	817	736
AM	1		19	-95%	22	10	
SM	5	-64%	14	-80%	25	5	
Subtotal	6	-82%	33	-87%	47	15	
# members Total	Total	1207	-5%	1268	2%	1185	915

The below charts illustrate the membership levels for the past 4 years:

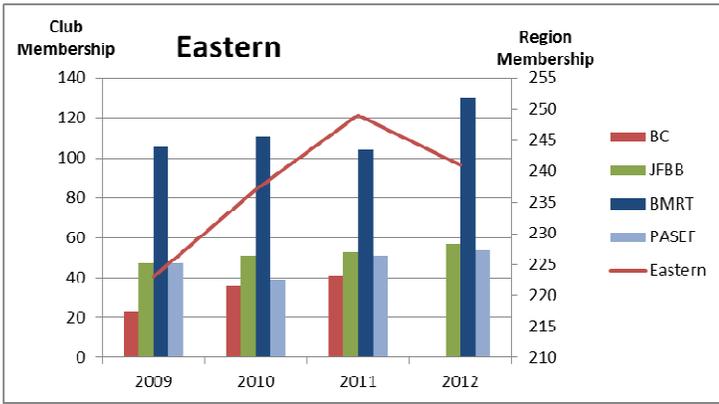


PARA J1-J7 Competitors by Region (ref: Appendix D for data)



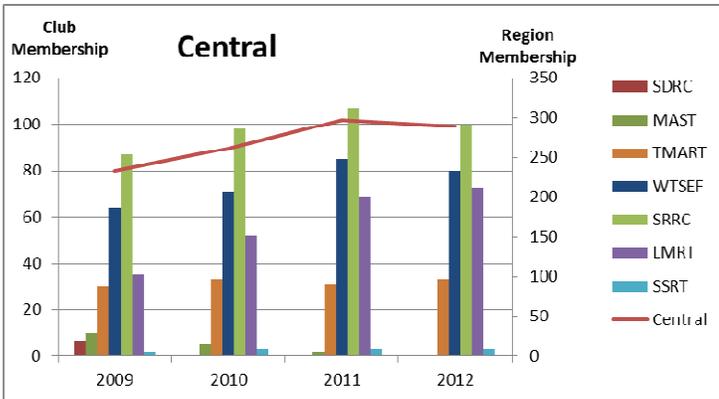
Northeastern Region → overall 2.3% increase [129 to 132]

- SNO mountain continues to see decreasing membership
- Shawnee (SHWN) membership numbers returned to the level they were at in 2010



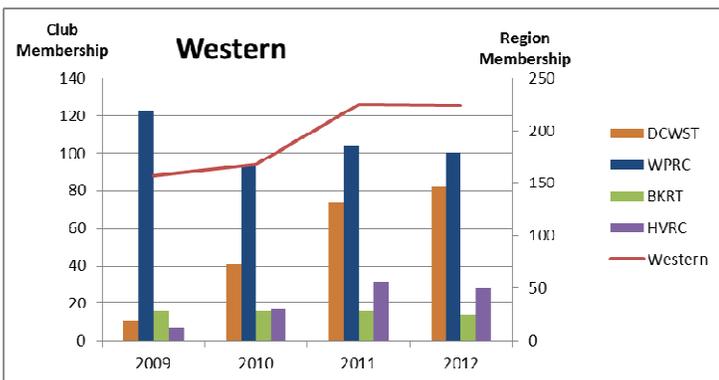
Eastern region → overall 3.2% decrease [249 to 241]

- With Bear Creek suspending their racing program, it appears that Blue, Jack Frost, and PASEF all grew with Blue picking up the majority.



Central region → overall 2.7% decrease [297 to 289]

- Relatively minor shifts in membership numbers compared to prior years.



Western Region → overall no significant change [225 to 224]

- HVRC membership numbers dropped somewhat but remain higher than their 2010 levels
- BKRT membership levels dropped for the first time since 2009
- DCWST grew where all other Western clubs reduced in the 2012 season.

Membership Income: Total income from individual memberships this year was \$35,040, a decrease of 4.4% from 2011 season. With USSA's Dues Management fees (5%), this resulted in a net income of \$33,314.25.

Membership Renewal Timing: There were far fewer members having to pay late fees this and in general, members are taking out their memberships earlier (both before and after the Oct 15th due date).

While this does provide added income to PARA, it is also an indicator of the level of indecision our member clubs face in staffing for their programs.



This indicates actions to remind our members of their due dates should continue:

- USSA notices (2 sent this year)
- PARA newsletter reminders

And while we may not have visibility to the actions taken by the individual club and regions to remind their members, we shouldn't overlook your efforts as I'm sure they have a direct impact on renewals!

2012 Issues Memberships for Foreign citizens, while less of an issue from previous years, continues to be a challenge. The information provided to these USSA members on the need to take out State level registration remains unclear and is often misunderstood. Although this has been raised to USSA, it is unlikely to be addressed for the foreseeable future.

Communications Membership lists with contact information were issued to club directors:

- Nov 30/11
- Jan 2/12
- Jan 30/12
- Feb 14/12

The change in USSA's website has made it much easier to generate membership lists by club as needed for the most up-to-date information.

Looking ahead:

USSA Dues Management fees will continue at 5% service fees for registration. With the BOD confirmation an increase in the membership rates for the 2012/13 season will not be pursued, we have confirmed to USSA the same rate structure as in previous years.

For the 2013 season, the FIS age classifications will take effect. Though this causes a shift of only 1 year, the impact is expected to be significant as it effectively shifts the racing “window” 1 year older ... where this is a smaller group of racers and away from the younger racers (larger group).

States		2012	Current	Age	New Groups	#	States
PA Cup 180	178	52	J1	20	U21	28	107
				19			
				18	U18	79	
				17			
J3 Derby 200	214	214	J3	16	U16	164	164
				15			
J4/5 Derby 428	411	212	J4	14	U14	225	451
				13			
				12	U12	226	
				11			
		199	J5	10	U10	140	
		82	J6	9			
		7	J7	8	U8	29	
				7			
				6			
				6			

Need for Change .. (based on this year’s membership reclassified)

Today, PARA Clubs provide all events beyond the qualifier races (ie Derbies, Festivals, etc) for the J6, J7 racers (10% of racers). Without change to the Derby structure, this “unsupported” group will grow to being 19% of racers.

- It will be imperative that PARA address this gap or risk alienation and potentially a significant amount of income.

Additionally, the dynamics of the state championships will change:

- the PA Cup racer base will drop significantly (-40%)
 - the mid level group(-23%)
 - the youngest racers at states will increase (+10%)
- Without a change to quotas, this will introduces the risk of lowering overall level of competition in the upper age groups and increasing it amongst the youngest group.

Lastly, the dynamic that should not be overlooked is that of today’s College age J1 racers. The most significant loss of racers is in the transition between J2 to J1 and the transition to post-secondary life is a key contributing factor.

- Will the reduced number of racers in the upper level and effective lowering of the competition level, accelerate this transition away from racing?

This year (2012) will be my final year as Membership Chairperson as I hand-off the responsibility to David Bond.

Since taking over as Membership Chairperson mid-season 2007, I've had the privilege of working with a very dedicated group of people (you, the PARA Directors) and the luck to have the opportunity to be able to transform the membership role from paper/mail-in to on-line administered role then on to being administered by USSA. The net effects was a marked improvement in data accuracy, timeliness, and ease of renewal for our members and has enabled the membership role to be one that is positioned to support our member clubs with the stats and forecasting that you see in this report.

With my son long out of racing and my focus elsewhere, it's time to hand over the reins to someone much closer to the action. I'm sure you'll find David's spreadsheet expertise, his position as a board member and his dedication to PARA will position PARA to handle next years' challenges and years to come!

Thank you for giving me this opportunity,

Sheila Nickle
Membership and Quotas Chairperson

Appendix A: 2011/12 Quotas

Age Class >>>		J4/5					J3					
Quotas	slots	95					75					
	disgressionary	5					5					
	total	100					80					
raw score	M	14.5	18.1	12.1	6.2		9.2	17.7	9.2	6.0		
raw score	F	12.1	13.1	11.9	7.1		7.1	5.7	14.2	6.0		
rounded	M	14	18	12	6	50	9	18	9	6	42	
rounded	F	12	13	12	7	44	7	6	14	6	33	
						94					75	
quota slots	M	15	18	12	6	51	9	18	9	6	42	M
	F	12	13	12	7	44	7	6	14	6	33	F
quota slots by region	total	27	31	24	13	95	16	24	23	12	75	total

Appendix B: 2011/12 Membership Levels (Includes all members regardless of renewal date)

Class		J6				J4/5				J3					
Region		Western	Central	Eastern	Northeastern	Central	Eastern	Northeastern	Western	Central	Eastern	Northeastern			
Age Class >>>		too young				J4/5				J3					
PARA Membership by Region + Gender	M	25	12	10	7	54	76	51	31	219	26	51	27	16	120
	F	11	11	9	4	35	57	51	33	191	20	16	41	17	94
	Total	36	23	19	11	89	133	102	64	410	46	67	68	33	214
PARA Distribution by Region + age class	% of Total	40%	26%	21%	12%	100%	32.4%	25%	16%	100%	21%	31%	32%	15%	100%
Gender Breakdown in Region	%M	69%	52%	53%	64%	61%	57%	50%	48%	53%	57%	76%	40%	48%	56%
	%F	31%	48%	47%	36%	39%	43%	50%	52%	47%	43%	24%	60%	52%	44%

Class		J2					J1					SM					AM								
Region		Western	Central	Eastern	Northeastern	?	Western	Central	Eastern	Northeastern	?	Western	Central	Eastern	Northeastern	?	Western	Central	Eastern	Northeastern	?				
Age Class >>>		J2					J1					SM					AM								
PARA Membership by Region + Gender	M	11	30	19	6	0	66	4	8	11	8	2	33	0	2	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	14	18	17	11	0	60	2	10	6	1	0	19	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	25	48	36	17	0	126	6	18	17	9	2	52	0	2	1	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
PARA Distribution by Region + age class	% of Total	20%	29%	29%	13%	0%	90%	12%	35%	33%	17%	4%	96%	0	40%	20%	0	40%	60%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Gender Breakdown in Region	%M	44%	53%	53%	35%	0%	52%	67%	44%	65%	89%	100%	0.635	0	100%	0%	0	50%	60%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
	%F	56%	47%	47%	65%	0%	48%	33%	56%	35%	11%	0%	0.365	0	0%	100%	0	50%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

Appendix C: Membership Data

J1 -J7 Competitors		890	906		
		2012	2011	2010	2009
	SDRC	0 -	0 -	0 -100%	6
	MAST	0 -100%	2 -60%	5 -50%	10
	TMART	33 6%	31 -6%	33 10%	30
	WTSEF	80 -6%	85 20%	71 11%	64
	SRRC	100 -7%	107 9%	98 13%	87
	LMRT	73 6%	69 33%	52 49%	35
	SSRT	3 0%	3 0%	3 50%	2
Central		-2.7% 289	297	262	234
	PASEF	54 6%	51 31%	39 -17%	47
	BMRT	130 25%	104 -6%	111 5%	106
	JFBB	57 8%	53 4%	51 9%	47
	BC	0 -100%	41 14%	36 57%	23
Eastern		-3.2% 241	249	237	223
	SNO	12 -25%	16 -6%	17 -23%	22
	EMSC	98 1%	97 4%	93 9%	85
	SHWN	22 38%	16 -24%	21 163%	8
NE		2.3% 132	129	131	115
	WPRC	100 -4%	104 11%	94 -24%	123
	BKRT	14 -13%	16 0%	16 0%	16
	HVRC	28 -10%	31 82%	17 143%	7
	DCWST	82 11%	74 80%	41 273%	11
Western		-0.4% 224	225	168	157
	IND	4 -33%	6 -50%	12 50%	8