



GRADING POLICY – effective from 07/12/2016

1. **Objective:** This Policy seeks to establish a simple and convenient means of ranking riders so as to assist in providing fair and competitive racing.
2. **Grading Committee:** The Grading Committee shall be comprised of not less than three racing members of the Club and shall convene at times and by means determined by the members of that Committee.
3. **Grading:** The Grading Committee shall determine the grade of each rider that races regularly with the Club, and may vary the grade of any rider from time to time (including for individual races) so as to achieve the objective of this Policy. The matters that the Grading Committee may take in to account when grading a rider include but are not limited to:
 - a. Recent performance of the rider in any race sanctioned by Cycling NSW, other State cycling bodies, or Cycling Australia.
 - b. Points that the rider has accumulated in accordance with the Points System set out in clause 4 below.
 - c. The personal circumstances of the rider, including whether the rider is recovering from illness or injury and whether the rider is currently racing or returning to racing after a break from racing. As a general rule returning riders will resume in their published grade for a reasonable period of time in order to assess current levels of competitiveness.
 - d. All matters relating to grading are at the discretion of the Grading Committee. Rider re-grading requests are to be submitted through handicapper@hunterdistrict.com prior to race day in order to be properly considered. As a general rule re-grading requests will not be assessed on race day.
4. **Points System:** The Points System exists to provide assistance to the Grading Committee to achieve the objectives of this Policy. It is not the sole or determinative matter that the Grading Committee is to consider when grading a rider. The Points System is to operate as follows:
 - a. Riders who place 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th in any eligible race are awarded podium points that expire 6 months after the date on which they are awarded or the rider is moved to a higher grade (whichever occurs first). See the Grading page for further information.
 - b. Eligible races, generally, are graded scratch, kermesse or criterium races conducted by Hunter District Cycle Club with at least 6 riders in your grade. From time to time other local club races may be deemed of equivalent standard and / or results from State Opens (or Masters events) may also be used.
 - c. The accumulation of the requisite number of points is an indication that the rider might be able to be re-graded into a higher grade, at the discretion of the Grading Committee.
5. **Disputes:** A rider may request that the Grading Committee review its decision on the grading of that rider, and may provide the Grading Committee with further relevant information to assist the Grading Committee in its review. The Grading Committee's decision on the review is final.
6. **State Grading:** The Grading Committee will comply with the Grading Policy adopted by Cycling NSW in respect to NSW State Grades.
7. **Publication of grades:** Club grades, points accumulated under the Points System, and NSW State grades shall be published by the Club on the Club's website.
8. **Junior Riders:** Will be monitored to ensure that they develop the appropriate skills and fitness to ride in their designated grade. The "Junior request for regrading form" will be used to allow a rider to request a regrading if they believe that they have adequate skills and fitness to progress to the next grade – this improvement may be related to non-club based events including Opens, NJTS, State Teams and camps etc.