



CYCLOCROSS FEE MODIFICATION
CAPITOL OFF ROAD PATHFINDERS AND CITY OF MADISON
NORTH-EAST GREENSPACE PARK & GARNER PARK
FALL ONE DAY PRACTICE AT OLIN, MARSHALL, GARNER, ALDO LEOPOLD,
HEISTAND AND REINDAHL
2018 - Updated

Cyclocross, a section of the Capitol Off Road Pathfinders (CORP) represented by Mr. Rob Lewis, approached the Parks Division with a request to practice the sport of cyclocross in a City of Madison Park in 2015. All parties came to the agreement on the use of the southern area of North-East Park (5501 Tancho Dr., also known as the North-East Greenspace). Cyclocross has had two successful seasons from the perspective of both Mr. Lewis and Parks staff. We would like to extend the use of the temporary practice course for a third one-year term. We would also like to allow a trial of using a section of Garner Park for small practice and “Learn To” sessions. Madison Parks and CORP agree to the following conditions:

1. Term. Agreement shall be for a term of one year, beginning upon signing and terminating on December 1, 2018.
2. Location. North-East Greenspace and Garner Park.
3. Use. Cyclocross may have non-exclusive use of North-East Greenspace Park and Garner Park, providing a safe environment and adequate space for the public to also enjoy the parks. At Garner Park, Cyclocross may hold only small practices and up to two “Learn to...” sessions that only occur during weekday evenings in August with a maximum of 12 people per session for two hours. Parks staff will meet with Mr. Lewis at the beginning of each calendar year to discuss continued use of the park(s) and whether any modifications for future use are proposed. Locations for Fall practice listed in Section 9
4. Maintenance. Parks will mow the designated course at North-East Greenspace. The majority of this area is currently a managed meadow and therefore not on a regular mowing schedule. Staff will periodically mow and monitor the course for this use. Parks staff will place signage in the North-East Greenspace notifying patrons that there is a designated course for cyclocross practice.
5. Fee. CORP will make an annual payment of \$700 to cover the cost of the additional mowing to maintain the course and the use of Garner Park. This fee will be due by June 15, 2018.
6. Damage. If Parks staff notes any particular areas that are worn or damaged in the turf, staff will work with Mr. Lewis to modify the course to allow time for the turf to recover.
7. Compliance with Laws. Cyclocross shall comply with all City, state and federal statutes, ordinances and regulations.
8. Suspension, Cancellation and Termination. The addition of the cyclocross practice course is a temporary use in this park. The Parks Superintendent has the discretion to discontinue this use in the park if, at any time, the course is abused or damaged. Parks reserves the right to close and/or limit use of the park for cyclocross practice to protect the park’s assets.



9. Fall 2018 Practices. Madison Parks and Cyclocross are mutually interested in increasing recreational biking opportunities in Madison Parks. In Fall 2018, we propose the use of a variety of parks for one day practices that are free and open to the public. This will provide the opportunity for more biking and to gauge the interest and impact of biking at these locations. The practices will be organized by Travis Gruchow and his team “L5 Racing.” The routes will be marked with flags and obstacles will be movable objects. No construction or modifications of the park are needed. Practices would occur on Wednesdays. The Parks locations and dates include: Olin 9/19; Olbrich – 9/26; Marshall – 10/3; Garner – 10/10; Aldo Leopold – 10/24; Heistand – 11/7; Reindahl 11/14.

SIGNATURES:

Date _____

Date _____

Rob Lewis, Cyclocross Trail Steward
Services Manager

Claire Oleksiak, Park Community

Exhibit A

Map of NorthEast Greenspace



Exhibit B

Map of Garner Park



Exhibit C

Map of Olin Park



Exhibit D

Map of Reindahl Park



Exhibit E

Map of Olbrich Park



Exhibit F

Map of Marshall Park



Exhibit G

Map of Hiestand Park



Exhibit H

Overview of Cyclocross

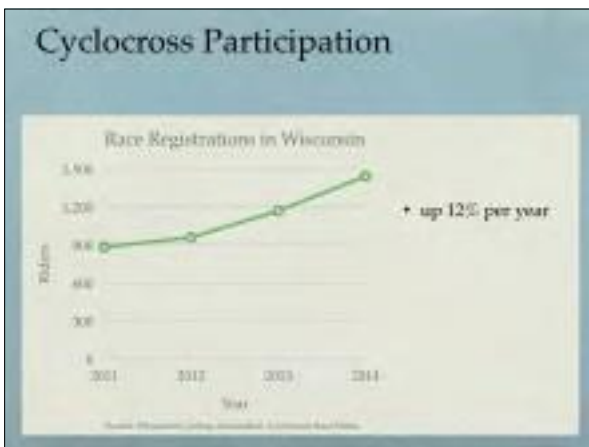


- 1 A good description of cyclocross is steeplechase on bikes.



- 2 Each lap is similar to a cross country running course featuring mostly grass, with sharp turns, steep hills and small hurdles.

Cyclocross has a tradition in Europe going back at least 50 years, while interest in the U.S. has picked up in recent decades.



- 3 In Madison and Dane County, interest and participation in races continues to grow every year...

While races begin in September, practices begin in July and continue into November.

Cyclocross Practice
Badger Prairie Park



- 4 This is cyclocross practice. [video of practice] Kids and adults ride for a few hours on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening, and then go to race events together on weekends.



- 5 Some of you may have searched the internet for cyclocross and found images like this... Muddy race events like this are actually quite rare, and only raced with the permission of the land manager or parks department. But we're not here to talk about racing.

Cyclocross Practice
Badger Prairie Park



- 6 We're here to talk about practice in dry conditions. [video of practice] At practice, riders use mowed grass areas to improve skills essential for safe, confident racing.



- 7 In all of Dane County, Badger Prairie is the only park officially available for cyclocross practice.

For many Madison residents it's pretty hard to get there within a reasonable amount of time. With evening bike commutes like these, everyone wants a better arrangement.



- 8 A dedicated cyclocross facility on the northeast side of Madison could be a reasonable solution that creates a viable option on both sides of the metro area.



- 9 Through discussions with Parks staff, we agreed that Northeast Greenspace has land ideal for cyclocross practice. This area of the park was seeded with turf grass but is unmowed because Parks has no current use for it.

We can create a practice area here by simply mowing the grass.



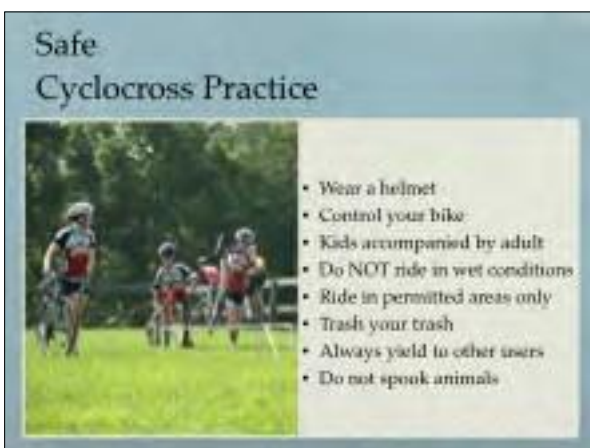
10 Let's take a look at it from eye level.

The course flows naturally and we can use the existing landscape to practice essential skills. It's a small but adequate cyclocross facility, with under a mile of trail.



11 As riders, we want to be safe so we can enjoy what we're doing. This is especially important when kids and beginners try to master important skills. At practice, experienced riders mentor younger riders.

And in general, practice is slow, somewhere between jogging and running.



12 In addition to standard Park rules, cyclocross follows an off-road bike etiquette.

This list reminds us to protect ourselves, preserve park land and respect other users.



- 13 People often ask me: what happens to the grass? The answer is: very little. In cyclocross, grass provides the best traction. We want to protect the grass because good traction means safer practice and better race results.



- 14 As with other turf sports, blades of grass are pushed over but recover within a few days.



- 15 If a specific area is used repeatedly, the blades of grass may turn brown by the end of the season. The result is similar to well-used walking trails like this one on the left.

The photo on the right is after a cyclocross race at Heistand Park.

Both photos were taken on the same day in December 2013.

Similar impact...



16similar recovery.



17 For over 20 years, cyclists have shared the trails with other users. We are courteous and careful around runners and walkers on trails as narrow as 6 feet wide.



18 Working with Madison Parks staff, the trail layout is located on undeveloped park land, and separated from other patron areas. At 16 feet, the trails are wide enough for everyone. Parks should allow CX practice for its underserved residents are: 1, it's a safe, low-speed family-oriented activity, 2, has virtually no environmental impact on mowed grass in dry conditions and, 3, this course respects other patron areas.

