



PHOTO: MATTHEW RESCHKE

2025 ILLINOIS CUP Rider Handbook



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to another year of bicycle racing in Illinois and the surrounding region! We know most of you are already hard at work training and preparing for the road season.

The **Illinois Cup** was established to recognize competitive racers and highlight some of the best road races in Illinois and the surrounding area. Once again, **the Cup will remain open to all riders** – not just residents of Illinois.

As in past years, all winners will receive a medal, a special gift from the ICA, and one free entry into each Illinois Cup race for 2026.

Finally, we'd like to thank outgoing ICA board member **Chad Briggs** for his many years of dedication toward hosting this series. We are grateful for the foundation that has been laid and excited to see what the future will hold.

See you out there!

Robby Kanyur
Director, Illinois Cup

Rage Thomas
President, ICA

UPDATES FOR 2025

Not much is changing in 2025 – we're focusing on learning the ropes and keeping a good thing going. That being said, we're implementing a few tweaks based on feedback from last year:

- **Expanding the calendar** – all six races are returning from 2024, and we're excited to be adding Monsters of the Midway (UCVC, OKCC) to the calendar. This event takes place on the Midway Plaisance near the University of Chicago campus.
- **Scoring changes** – we know that life happens, so your Illinois Cup points will be calculated based on your best six (6) results. This will allow you to skip or DNF a race and stay in contention for the Cup.
- **Category updates** – we will be tweaking the age ranges for Junior and Masters categories based on participation rates from the past several years. The new categories are outlined on the next page.

CUP CALENDAR

April 26 – Monsters of the Midway (Chicago, IL)

<https://www.bikereg.com/monsters-of-the-midway-2025>

April 27 – Battle on the Border (Kenosha, WI)

<https://www.bikereg.com/battle-on-the-border-2025>

May 10 – Muskego Park Criterium (Muskego, WI)

<https://www.bikereg.com/muskego-park-criterium>

May 25 – Quad Cities Criterium (Davenport, IA)

<https://www.bikereg.com/quadcitiescriterium>

June 7 – Elmhurst Cycling Classic (Elmhurst, IL)

<https://www.bikereg.com/ecc25>

June 8 – Cobb Park Criterium (Kankakee, IL)

<https://www.bikereg.com/cobb-park-criterium>

August 16 – Edwardsville Criterium (Edwardsville, IL)

<https://edwardsvillecriterium.page/>

Your final Illinois Cup points will be calculated based on your best six (6) results.

2025 CUP CATEGORIES

The Masters and Juniors age categories have been updated for 2025. This change has been made to better align with existing races in the region and at the national level.

We will continue to evaluate these categories for 2026 and beyond.

- **Elite Men and Elite Women**

- Category 1/2
- Category 3
- Category 4

- **Masters Men* and Masters Women***

- Age 40-49
- Age 50-59
- Age 60+

- **Junior Boys and Junior Girls**

- Age 9-12
- Age 13-14
- Age 15-18

*Masters Cat 4/5 will be scored separately for the Cup.

ELIGIBILITY

All riders are eligible to earn Cup points, not only Illinois residents. The only requirement is that riders hold an **annual, unsuspended USAC license** on August 16, 2025 (the last race of the series).

If the ICA cannot determine if a rider has met this requirement, it is the rider’s responsibility to provide proof.

SERIES AWARDS

Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 riders (based on series points) in each category. **The winner of each category will also receive one free entry** into each Illinois Cup race the following year.

This award is non-transferable to any other rider or race. It is good for one entry per event.

We are tentatively planning an **end-of-year award ceremony!** Follow the ICA on social media for more details.

POINTS AND SCORING

Illinois Cup points will be calculated based on the results posted by ICA officials at the race. Points are awarded to all eligible racers according to the following schedule:

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8	P9	P10	P11	P12	P13	P14	P15
35	30	25	21	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	3	2	1

Due to schedule constraints, events will combine some fields. Regardless of how each race director determines podiums and prizes, **each Illinois Cup field will be scored separately** for the purpose of calculating Cup points.

When a non-scoring category is combined with an Illinois Cup field (e.g. Novice racers in a Cat 4 field), riders from the non-scoring category will not earn Cup points and will not displace Cup riders. They will be excluded completely.

If there is a tie in points for any category after the final Cup race, the tie will be broken by the highest placement in the last Cup race either rider finished. If Rider A competed in the final race and Rider B did not, Rider A wins by default.

The ICA will keep a running total of points and post updated standings on <https://www.illinoiscup.org> after each race.

UPGRADING

Riders who upgrade mid-series will keep their points in their original category and take half their points with them to the higher category, but only if the upgrade occurs by the midpoint of the Cup series (before Quad Cities).

If you upgrade mid-series, please contact Robby Kanyur at robertkanyur@gmail.com so we can update the standings.

Racers who meet requirements for a mandatory USAC category upgrade will stop earning Cup points in their current category.

Racers downgrading during the season will not take their higher category points with them, but will begin to earn points in the new, lower category.

The final Cup standings will be based on **the sum of points earned in each rider's top six (6) results** in each category. In the event that a rider wins the Cup in multiple categories, they will only be eligible for one set of free race entries.

CONTACT

Thank you for racing with us! We are excited for the 2025 season and for the future of the Illinois Cup. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.



Robby Kanyur

Director, Illinois Cup
robertkanyur@gmail.com
602-448-1147

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