

March 31, 2017

### **Saskatchewan Cycling Association awards 2016 achievers at AGM**



The Saskatchewan Cycling Association awarded trophies to its top volunteers during its annual general meeting held on Sunday, March 26, 2017

#### **Outstanding Volunteer in the Road Sector Award - Winner Blair Chapman, Saskatoon**

The purpose of this award is to recognize the outstanding volunteer contribution in the Road Racing/Track/Cyclo-Cross sector.

After many years as a Cycledelia member and a Bikes on Broadway supporter, Blair Chapman stepped his support up a big notch for the last 2 years. His demonstrated ability to bring in a significant increase in sponsorship meant that Cycledelia has also notched up the quality of this excellent race, including a meal for all racers and volunteers. In addition, the club has been able to purchase 2 printer timers and some great signage AND donate \$3500 to the SCA High Performance committee to use for athlete development this year. Congratulations Blair!

#### **Outstanding Achievement in Cyclo-Cross Racing - Winner Cornelius Kluge, Saskatoon**

In 2016 Cornelius placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Canadian Cyclocross Championships in the Masters Men 60+ category. Cornelius was one of only 3 Saskatchewan athletes to attend the championships, and the only athlete from Saskatchewan to finish on the podium. This is a fantastic result for Cornelius and is representative of the talent pool in Saskatchewan.



Janice Matus presenting Cornelius Kluge with outstanding achievement in Cyclocross

#### **Outstanding Achievement in the Mountain Bike Racing - Winner Alex Vanneste, Saskatoon**

In the last 3 years Alex Vanneste has become one of the most elite Mountain Bike Racers that Saskatchewan has ever produced. He has begun to expand his race calendar throughout North America and is cracking into the top ten at big professional events. In 2016 Alex competed in the Open Professional and Amateur Category at the Fernie 3 Day MTB stage race where he placed 9<sup>th</sup> overall (out of 107). Later in the season Alex competed at the Dakota50 in the Open Professional and Amateur Category where, despite an unaided flat tire repair he placed 6<sup>th</sup> among U25's and 39<sup>th</sup> overall (out of 40 and 457 contestants respectively). Further season Highlights are listed below, and demonstrate that Alex is one of the best all-around MTB racers in

Saskatchewan. Alex is poised for more success over the next 4 years.

#### **Outstanding Volunteer in the Recreation & Transportation Sector – Winner Colette Forbes, Regina**

The purpose of this award is to recognize the outstanding volunteer contribution in the R & T sector.

Colette has been a long standing member of the Recreation and Transportation Committee with Sask Cycling. She has been an invaluable member when planning the GASP tour. She is willing to take on any job that needs to be done, including a SAG driver when we are running short.



**Cameco Volunteer Award – Winner – Susan Clarke, Saskatoon**

The purpose of this award is to recognize the outstanding volunteer contribution in the Mountain Bike sector.

At one time or another, Susan has been involved in almost all aspects of cycling in Saskatchewan including as a volunteer in the mountain bike sector. She was instrumental in organizing one of Saskatchewan’s longest running mountain bike races and has been outstanding at development of the sport at the provincial level as well as locally through the Dirt Kids program. And her ability to include and involve others in the sport is second to none!

**Ken Wilson Achievement Award – Winner- Lukas Conly, Grasswood**

This is awarded for an outstanding performance in any timed cycling event.

In 2016 Lukas has been racing throughout Canada and the United States for the Canadian Trade Team, Giant Langley p/b Wounded Warriors. Lukas had a highly successful season but among his results one in particular stands out. Lukas made a special effort to compete in the Saskatchewan Provincial Championships where he placed 1<sup>st</sup> in both the 40 km Individual Time Trial and in the Criterium. At the age of 19 Lukas has become the youngest ever 40 km ITT champion of Saskatchewan.



**Janice Matus presenting Alex Vanneste with the President’s award**

**Wotton Bowl – Winner- Jure Rupnik, Weyburn**

This is awarded for outstanding achievement in road or track racing.

Jure is currently the only UCI professional cyclist licensed by Saskatchewan, racing for the Canadian UCI team H&R Block Cycling. He deserves this award not only because of the level he races at, but the results that he is achieving in NRC (US professional series) races and UCI (International professional series) races throughout Canada and the United States. Jure’s 2016 highlights include 6<sup>th</sup> place at the San Dimas Road Race (NRC), 9<sup>th</sup> place at the Sea Otter Classic (NRC) and 14<sup>th</sup> place at stage 3 of the Joe Martin Stage Race (UCI). Jure also continues to support local Saskatchewan racing; he made a special effort to attend the provincial road championships where he placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in both the Individual Time Trial and the Criterium Provincial Championships.

**President’s Awards – Winner- Janice Matus, Martensville**

The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding volunteer contribution toward the overall development or progress of the SCA and can only be received once in a life time. This contribution may include development of a club, sector, committee, event, athlete or team, etc.

Janice has been a key component of the road cycling scene in Saskatchewan for many years. Since 2009, she has been the organizer for Bikes on Broadway and she has been instrumental in ensuring the growth of road racing. In addition, she has been a commissaire in road, mountain, cyclocross and recently BMX cycling. She has been a member of the SCA Board as Chief Road Commissaire since 2007 where her experience and her attendance in many hours of meetings have been invaluable.

The Saskatchewan Cycling Association awarded plaques to three members, in recognition of long-term volunteer service. On Sunday, plaques were awarded to:

- Don Cook, Saskatoon – 10 years
- Don Wilson, Regina – 5 years
- Colette Forbes – 5 years