



Rules

Article 1. Organization

The Midwest Cup is owned and operated by Midwest Endurance Events, LLC and its Board consisting of representatives from the series races and is conducted under the regulations and sanction of USA Cycling. All regulations, points tabulations or discrepancies, awards and/or forfeitures will be handled by the Midwest Cup Board. Race disciplinary action will be handled by USA Cycling and/or it's licensed officials.

2026 Board Members include:

Fat & Skinny Fest – Greg Demopoulos
Elmhurst Cycling Classic – Tim Radcliff
Cobb Park Criterium – Steve Feehery
Grand River Shootout – Ryan Schmeling

Article 2. Events and Categories

The following races count towards the 2026 Midwest Cup:

- Elite Men
- Elite Women
- Women Cat 3 (Scored separately in the Elite Women Races)
- Masters Men 40+ Category 1/2/3
- Masters Women 40+
- Men Category 3/4
- Junior Boys
- Junior Girls

	Men Elite	Women Elite and Women Cat 3 (scored separately)	Masters Men 40+ Cat 1/2/3	Masters Women 40+ Cat 1/2/3	Men Cat 3/4	Junior Boys	Junior Girls
Zimmer Biomet Downtown Road Criterium	Men Cat 1/2	Women P/1/2/3/4	Masters Men 40+ Cat 1/2/3	Masters Women 40+	Cat 3/4	-	-
Zimmer Biomet Circuit Road Race	Men Cat 1/2	Women Cat 1/2/3	Masters Men 40+ Cat 1/2/3	Masters Women 40+	Cat 3/4	Junior Boys 9-18	Junior Girls 9-18
Zimmer Biomet Village Road Criterium	Men Cat 1/2/3	Women Cat 1/2/3/4	Masters Men 40+ Cat 1/2/3	Masters Women 40+	Cat 3/4	Junior Boys 9-18	Junior Girls 9-18
Elmhurst Cycling Classic	Pro Elite 1/2/3	Women Pro Elite 1/2/3	Masters Men 40+ Cat 1/2/3/4	Masters Women 40+	Cat 3/4	Junior Boys 9-18	Junior Girls 9-18
Cobb Park Criterium	Pro 1/2/3	Women Pro 1/2/3	Masters Men 40+ Cat 1/2/3/4	Masters Women 40+	Cat 3/4	Junior Boys 9-18	Junior Girls 9-18
Creston Criterium	Men Pro 1/2/3	Women Pro 1/2/3	Masters Men 40+ Cat 1/2/3/4	Masters Women 40+	Cat 3/4	Junior Boys 9-18	Junior Girls 9-18
East Grand Rapids Gaslight Criterium	Men Pro 1/2/3	Women Pro 1/2/3	Masters Men 40+ Cat 1/2/3/4	Masters Women 40+	Cat 3/4	Junior Boys 9-18	Junior Girls 9-18

Women Category 3 racers will be scored in the Elite Women Midwest Cup Road Series standings, and will be eligible for the Elite Women purse if their omnium results place them in the money. Additionally, Category 3 Women results will be recorded from the Elite Women Race results and scored separately to determine Category 3-specific Omnium points. See Section 4.1 (Highest finish Woman Cat 3 rider gets 30 points, second highest Woman Cat 3 rider gets 28 points, etc.)

Events listed on the 2026 schedule are the only races/categories that count towards the Midwest Cup. Points are only awarded at these designated races and specific events for the Midwest Cup Road Series categories outlined above.

Article 3. Participation

Participation in the Midwest Cup Road Series is not an additional registration **nor** cost to the individual events involved in the Midwest Cup Road Series. Riders are not required to participate in all Midwest Cup Road Series races to be eligible for awards based on point earnings.

Article 4. Scoring

4.1 Overall – Points Table

Place	Points	Place	Points
1	30	11	10
2	28	12	9
3	26	13	8
4	24	14	7
5	22	15	6
6	20	16	5
7	18	17	4
8	16	18	3
9	14	19	2
10	12	20	1

Individual standings will be calculated by adding the total of points earned in each event based on finalized results from each event.

4.2 Tie Break Rules:

Final individual standing ties will similarly be left to stand with the exception of the overall series winner in each individual category. Overall series winner ties will be broken by the following criteria in order until separation can be achieved.

1. Number of 1st places in Midwest Cup events.
2. Number of 2nd places in Midwest Cup events.
3. Best placed racer in the final event of the Midwest Cup.

Final individual standing ties for positions beneath the overall series winner will be left standing and prize money will be split. For example, if there is a 3-way tie for 6th place overall, the prize money for 6th, 7th, and 8th will be added together and split 3 ways between the tied racers. The next highest point earner in the final standings would therefore be awarded 9th place prize money.

4.3 Category Updates

Any points earned in a given category (i.e. Men Category 3/4) do not transfer in any capacity to the new category field if the racer upgrades category (Category 2 upgrade) and is no longer eligible to race the field. The racer will maintain those points earned prior to upgrading and will still be eligible for any final awards after the completion of the Midwest Cup Road Series based on points earned prior to upgrade.

4.4 Point questions, inquiries, or protests.

Questions or protests regarding a racer's placing in a race need to be directed to USAC officials on race day per USAC rules. Questions or protests regarding points, standings, or tie breaks need to be directed to Midwest Cup board. They may also be filed on subsequent days with Midwest Cup board but must be addressed and resolved before the start of the next event in the series begins.

Protests or discrepancies that arise and are not covered in current Midwest Cup rules will be decided by the Midwest Cup board. Every effort will be made to get input from teams and racers, but final authority rests with Midwest Cup board.

Article 5. Ceremonies and Leader's Jerseys

Individual race promoters will have award ceremonies approximately 15 minutes after the conclusion of the individual races.

5.1 Daily awards ceremonies will recognize the following, in order.

1. Race specific podiums
2. Weekend omnium podiums (if applicable)
3. Top 3 Overall in the Midwest Cup points standings

5.2 At the end of each event in the series, the new or reigning leader in each category is required to attend the podium ceremony. Failure to meet these obligations will result in forfeiture of points on the following scale. If racing back-to-back races that impact podiums, please let the announcers know so the podium can be held upon conclusion of the second race.

1. First offense: warning and reminder of rules
2. Second offense: deduction of Overall points by 10 points
3. Any additional violations will result in a deduction of Overall points by 20 point/per offense

5.3 Midwest Cup Series Leaders in the Elite Men and Elite Women categories will be presented with a Midwest Cup Series **Leader Jersey**. The Midwest Cup Leaders jersey must be worn by the Midwest Cup Series Leader while racing the category currently led, EXCEPT when leading the weekend omnium and awarded the event omnium leader jersey.

5.4 Start Ceremonies or “call ups” are at the discretion of the individual events in the Midwest Cup Road Series and may include event omnium leaders, past winners, local standouts, etc. At minimum, the Midwest Cup Road Series Leader in the Elite Men and Elite Women fields will receive a call up.

Article 6. Disciplinary

If any racer in the Midwest Cup Road Series is suspended from competition by the UCI, USAC, or their home federation, all their points will be immediately forfeited (starting at date of suspension).

Article 7. Prizes

The Midwest Criterium Cup is made up of seven individual races with four unique owners/promoters. Each promoter in the Midwest Cup determines their event’s prize purse and is not under the purview of the Midwest Cup and the purse may be broken down any way a promoter sees fit or split between placings and primes.

Prizes

The final top three in each of the 2026 Midwest Cup Road Series categories will be as follows:

- First Place – Midwest Cup Road Series Jersey and trophy
- Second Place – Trophy
- Third Place - Trophy

2026 Midwest Cup Elite Men and Elite Women Overall Prize Money

Place	Payout	Place	Payout
1	\$1000	11	\$125
2	\$750	12	\$75
3	\$650	13	\$75
4	\$500	14	\$75
5	\$400	15	\$75
6	\$275	16	\$50
7	\$225	17	\$50
8	\$200	18	\$50
9	\$175	19	\$50
10	\$150	20	\$50

Prize money for the final standings will be paid out no later than 30 days after the final series event. This is to allow time for any and all protests as well as results from any anti-doping test conducted. Please be sure your address in BikeReg is accurate.

For individual winnings, racers may opt to have those payments made to their team or other prize money entity, but must turn in appropriate tax forms for that entity by the final series event.

Article 8. Video and Photography Consent

This is formal notice that any or all images of entrants in Midwest Cup races or onsite at the race venues may be used by the promoter, Midwest Cup board, and its agents for advertising, trade and any other lawful purposes. Riders not wanting to allow the use of their image can do so by not entering the race. By entering a race, each entrant gives consent for use of his/her name and photographic likeness to the promoter and its agents.

Article 9. Cancellations, Restarts, and Force Majeure

The Midwest Criterium Cup is made up of seven individual races with four unique owners/promoters. The Midwest Cup has no say in race day operations of these events, nor decides things like cancellations, refunds, or many other matters inherent to the individual events. Decisions on these issues will be made solely by the individual promoters in consultation with USAC, local agencies, or whatever other resources they deem credible.

9.1 Cancellation- In the event that a race is cancelled, either before or during, no Midwest Cup points will be awarded for that round of the series, in that category.

9.2 Restarts- Should a race on the Midwest Cup need to be stopped and restarted, decisions on breakaway gaps, staging, or call ups for a restart are at the discretion of the promoter and chief referee. Points will be assigned per Article 4.

9.3 Early Finish- Should force majeure dictate that a race be shortened (officially finished, but on an earlier lap), Midwest Cup will award finish points per Article 4.