

30th July 2013

UCI President Pat McQuaid welcomes nominations and clarifies misinformation

UCI President Pat McQuaid has welcomed that he has received three valid nominations to stand for re-election.

The UCI President has been nominated by the Swiss Cycling Federation, the Thai Cycling Association and the Fédération Royale Marocaine de Cyclisme in accordance with the UCI Constitution.

The UCI Constitution permits anyone to be a member of multiple federations - although only one licence may be held by any one individual - and any federation to nominate one of their members as a candidate.

“No one has changed the rules. No one has broken the rules. I have received enormous support from federations around the world urging me to stand for re-election and expressing their hope that I will continue on as UCI President. These nominations are a testament to that,” said McQuaid.

"Morocco, for example, is now African's number one cycling nation qualifying riders for the UCI World Championships and the Olympic Games. I have witnessed the growth of cycling in Morocco on my many visits there since becoming UCI President in 2005 and my membership of that federation goes back to early 2009," he added.

“There was nothing stopping Brian Cookson from showing an interest in cycling around the world over the years by joining other federations that would have allowed him to secure additional nominations when he decided to stand for President. I respect that his horizons however do not stretch much further than British Cycling and that his home is where his heart and ambitions as a Presidential candidate lie,” he added.

McQuaid also acknowledged a proposal from the Malaysian Federation – which has been presented by the Asian Continental Confederation – to change Article 51 of the UCI rules so that any two national federations would be entitled to nominate a candidate to stand for President of the UCI.

The very essence of this proposal was first suggested in an email from the Asian Continental Confederation to all members of the UCI Management Committee on 22 May 2013 as a means of strengthening the independence of the President.

“This proposal should not come as a surprise to anyone on the UCI Management Committee. It has now been formally submitted in accordance with the rules and it is for Congress to decide whether it should be accepted or rejected. Unlike Mr. Cookson, I have enough confidence in my candidature to respect that,” said Mr. McQuaid.

“Whatever the decision of Congress it will not change the fact that I have three valid nominations to stand as a candidate for re-election. While Brian Cookson and his commercial supporters may

wish otherwise I am pleased to declare that he will face an election in September and that they can not escape that reality," he added.

"As Brian himself stated recently:

"Democratic institutions become stronger by having leadership contests, not weaker, so I welcome anybody who wants to stand as a candidate.

"Let's have the debate - it's good, it's healthy and that's how democracy should be. I'm quite happy to be the only challenger, or one of several challengers."

"Brian should explain what has changed since he made that statement," said McQuaid.

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