

Hello, my name is Kevin Salk, and I am a candidate for a board seat with SCNCA. As a native of Southern California and a recently upgraded Cat 3 Masters racer for Big Orange Cycling, I have a deep passion for cycling and have actively contributed to the racing community. I currently serve as the Big Orange race team director and race day coordinator.

My journey in racing began a number of years ago when I started as a Cat 5 racer with Big Orange. Over time, I've progressed through the ranks. I don't race with the dream of standing on the podium or even being on the first page of the results. For me, racing is about giving my best effort, improving as a racer, being with my teammates, building friendships within the racing community, and ultimately having a great time at the races.

I share this background because it underscores my passion for bike racing in Southern California. I firmly believe that bike racing is fundamentally a team sport, and SCNCA should be committed to advancing the growth of this sport in our region. Unfortunately, there has been a decline in the number of races in our region, and this necessitates change. We need dedicated racers who are committed to making Southern California cycling stronger, stable, and attractive to potential sponsors. We also the SCNCA to be willing to utilize their resources to help promote and support junior racers, not just as athletes but as better individuals.

My platform for SCNCA is as follows:

1. **Accountability:** I aim to hold SCNCA accountable for how they manage the organization. Transparency and responsible governance are essential to ensure that the association is effectively serving the cycling community.

2. **Resource Allocation:** I believe in making SCNCA's resources more accessible to race promoters. By doing so, we can facilitate the organization of more cycling events. This will contribute to the revival of the racing scene in Southern California.

4. **Racer Engagement:** We should focus on creating events that attract all types of racers to the events. Programs like the Beginner Racer Program at California Bike Racing events are fantastic and should be replicated at various events to encourage new racers to become better and safer racers. I participated in those programs and it dramatically improved my bike handling and racing skills. There should be SCNCA sponsored camps and other group events that bring the race community closer.

In conclusion, I am running for an SCNCA board seat because I am deeply committed to the growth and well-being of bike racing in Southern California. My platform centers around accountability, resource accessibility, and initiatives to grow the number of races and racers. Together, we as a board can work to ensure that the Southern California cycling community continues to thrive and evolve. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

