

Public summary — National Advisory Council meeting

22 July 2026

Meeting overview

The AusCycling National Advisory Council ('NAC') met on 22 July 2026 to provide advice on matters affecting clubs, event organisers, members and the broader cycling community. The principal focus was the proposed national framework for classifying and sanctioning cycling events. The NAC also discussed future engagement with the AusCycling Board and practical ways to make the NAC's role and activities more visible to clubs and members.

The NAC is a committee of the AusCycling Board. Its role includes contributing community perspectives and supporting the development, implementation and monitoring of AusCycling's strategy. It provides advice on longer-term and systemic issues rather than managing individual events or local operational matters.

Event classification and sanctioning

The NAC considered work underway to replace the range of different event classifications, fee arrangements and practices operating across disciplines and jurisdictions with a clearer national approach. The proposed framework is intended to make it easier for clubs and organisers to understand how an event is classified, what standards apply, what support AusCycling will provide and what costs or membership requirements may be involved.

Discussion focused particularly on state and territory, inter-club, club and mass-participation events. The NAC explored how factors such as an event's place in the sporting pathway, the host organisation and the level of prize money could be used to determine the appropriate classification. Members emphasised that definitions should be clear enough to minimise uncertainty or unintended workarounds, while still recognising the different ways in which road, track, BMX, mountain bike, gravel and other events are delivered.

The NAC also examined the distinction between recreational rides and events that combine competitive and non-competitive participation. It supported clearer treatment of these event types so that genuine participation opportunities can continue to grow while safety, insurance, integrity and event-delivery obligations are applied consistently.

Why this matters for clubs

A consistent national framework could reduce administration and remove some of the historic differences experienced by clubs in different states, territories and disciplines. The approach under consideration includes the principle that club and inter-club events

should not attract sanctioning fees, while private organisers would make an appropriate contribution for the services and coverage they receive.

The NAC noted, however, that changes to an event's classification can also affect membership requirements under the new membership framework, particularly where a longstanding club event may be treated as a higher-level competition. The potential impact on regional clubs, occasional competitors and established events will therefore need careful consideration. The importance of matching promised AusCycling services with the organisation's capacity to deliver them was also highlighted.

Next steps

The event framework remains under development and no final model was approved at this meeting. AusCycling will undertake further consultation, including targeted engagement with disciplines, clubs and organisers likely to experience the greatest changes. Feedback from the NAC will be used to refine definitions and address practical issues before the framework is considered through AusCycling's formal approval processes. A phased introduction during 2027 is currently proposed.

The NAC also discussed an upcoming in-person workshop with the AusCycling Board. This will provide an opportunity to strengthen the connection between community experience, NAC advice and Board-level strategic decision-making.

Improving access to the NAC

The meeting considered several ways to improve awareness of the NAC, including a dedicated area on the AusCycling website, information about meeting dates, profiles of Council members and clearer ways for clubs and members to raise strategic or systemic issues. The NAC supported publishing accessible meeting summaries while protecting confidential discussions and ensuring that individual members can contribute openly without their comments being personally attributed.

These initiatives are intended to help clubs better understand how the NAC operates, what issues it considers and how community experience informs AusCycling's future direction.