



Welcome

GearLink Racing originated in 2003 as Team GearLink after a group of cyclists led by Mirek Magdziak, a former Polish National cycling champion, realized that there was a need to offer serious cyclists in the Tampa Bay area an opportunity to take their cycling to the next level.

It wasn't long before Team GearLink had established itself as a respected leader in the local cycling community and in the FRCA statewide, with a dedicated and focused membership having a clear vision to excel as well as to give back to their community.

In October, 2008 Team GearLink changed its structure from an individually owned for-profit corporation, to a member-owned non-profit corporation. As part of the restructuring, Team GearLink officially changed its name to *Gearlink Racing, Inc.*

Despite the new structure and new name, the team remains committed to its original goals, namely, to actively further the sport of cycling in the following ways:

- By establishing and following a methodical, disciplined, and organized training program designed to improve its members' fitness levels, and to develop and improve racing skills and tactics for successful racing.
- By promoting cycling education and awareness.
- By participating in sanctioned and recognized races and race-related events.
- By organizing local races and training events.
- By supporting cycling-related charitable organizations and events.
- By acting as ambassadors of the sport of cycling in the local community.
- By building friendships and social relationships with like-minded people who share a love of cycling.



Team Membership

GearLink Racing is a diverse group consisting of men and women masters racers with a significant non-racing membership as well as an active tri-athlete membership. Although the primary emphasis of the team is on Masters racing, the team recognizes that through its diversity comes its strength, and that this diversity allows the team to occupy a unique position as a leader in the local cycling community. Racers, non-racers, males, females, juniors, and seniors, are all welcome at GearLink Racing.

Prospective members must fill out a Membership Application which is subject to approval by the Board of Directors. Memberships are for the calendar year, and expire on December 31st of the year during which a member's application is approved by the Board.

GearLink Racing is member-owned. This means that each year every team member will receive a Certificate of Membership, evidencing their ownership interest in GearLink Racing. Membership entitles each team member to one vote at the annual team meeting at which time a Board of Directors consisting of five team members is elected. Directors serve for one year. Membership also entitles team members to vote on such other matters as may be brought before the membership by the Board of Directors from time to time, and to vote on all other matters specified in the team by-laws. The only exception to the one-member one-vote rule applies to Mirek Magdziak who holds membership certificates equal to 25% (twenty-five per cent) of the total team membership in any year.

All prospective members must read and complete the following Membership Application Package for membership consideration:

- Board of Directors and Communication
- Membership Dues & Benefits
- Code of Conduct
- Racing License and Racing History Form
- Membership Application (please include a reference from a current team member)
- Release and Indemnity Agreement

Applicants will be contacted via e-mail or telephone upon receipt and review of their completed Application Package. All revenues generated by GearLink Racing are 100% for the exclusive benefit of the Team and its members. We encourage and welcome your suggestions and support.



Board of Directors and Communication

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The GearLink Racing board is elected annually in the fall. Any member in good standing is eligible to run for a board seat. The 2014 Board of Directors are:
Harry Portellos: President (hportell@tampabay.rr.com)
Dr. Moses Bernard: Vice President – Membership (drmosesbernard@gmail.com)
Jared Zimlin: Secretary (jzimlin@yahoo.com)
Michele Allgire: Treasurer (mallgire18@gmail.com)
Kelby Roberts: Marketing (kelbyroberts@gmail.com)
Mirek Magdziak: Special Advisor to team and board of directors.

COMMUNICATION:

Team Website:

Our website address is: www.gearlinkracingteam.com. All GearLink Racing members in good standing will have access to member's only sections of the website which include training programs and a member's only section of the discussion forum.

Email:

To keep abreast of current events, training ride schedules and training plans all members will receive messages through the team Email group on www.googlegroups.com. Please provide your current email address in the membership application. Once your membership application has been approved and processed, an invitation will be sent for you to join the group. The email group is for any team member to post messages. Please keep threads to minimum and if necessary, for longer discussions, start a new thread on the team website discussion forum.

Social Networking Sites:

Go to www.facebook.com and/or www.twitter.com and register for an account. Search for Gearlink Racing and sign up to be a fan or follow us so you can receive regular updates from the team. Messages posted to either account will update simultaneously to both accounts.

Note: *Any messages posted that include inflammatory or derogatory comments will not be tolerated and may revoke one's membership.*



Membership Dues & Benefits

Membership Dues:

Membership dues for the 2014 calendar year are **\$50.00**. Members who join after July 1, 2014 will pay a reduced membership fee of \$30.00 for the remainder of the 2014 calendar year.

All memberships for the 2014 year will expire on December 31, 2014.

SEND MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT AND APPLICATIONS TO:

GearLink Racing, Inc.
P.O. Box 42, Palm Harbor, FL 34682-0042

Note: You may pay your membership dues online through the Paypal link on the website BUT a signed copy of the latest release must be submitted each year.

Membership Benefits:

Some of the Members' benefits include the following:

- Annual ownership interest in GearLink Racing, Inc.
- Substantial discount on GearLink Racing team kit (bibs, jersey, and accessories).
- Substantial discount on membership at team sponsor **Total Fitness Gym**.
- Access to training programs, training rides, racing clinics, and team education clinics and seminars.
- Invitation to attend the team annual party and other team social functions.
- An opportunity to ride and train with one of Florida's most successful and prestigious racing teams.

Each team member who purchases at least one 2014 team kit (jersey and shorts) are eligible for special benefits listed below. Please refer to the **Team Benefits Package** for more information on benefits and eligibility requirements:

- Eligibility for a substantial discount on bikes, equipment, labor and parts at our current bike shop sponsor **Chainwheel Drive**.
- Eligibility for promotional and discount offers from various team sponsors.
- Eligibility for team race fee reimbursement program.



Code of Conduct

GearLink Racing, Inc. is a team and cycle racing is a team sport. A team embraces the concept of training and riding together in a safe manner. As a team member, one must understand that you are representing a number of sponsors who expect the highest level of ride conduct.

All riders must agree to the following in order to be a team member:

1. No unsportsmanlike conduct between team members, other riders, pedestrians or motor vehicle operators.
2. No reckless riding that could endanger other team members or riders during training or racing.
3. Obey all traffic laws.
4. Do not leave a fellow team member who is either injured or has mechanical problem with their bicycle.
5. Respect other people's property or persons during training or racing events.
6. Abide by all USA cycling rules and regulations during racing events.
7. Do not litter while riding on public roadways.

The Board has the right to revoke one's membership for any violation of team policy.



Membership Application

NAME

DOB

ADDRESS

EMPLOYER

POSITION

USAC #

CATEGORY

HOME #

CELL #

EMAIL

REFERENCE

EMERGENCY CONTACT

TELEPHONE

APPROVAL		
_____	_____	
President	Membership Director	
Member Number	Level	Paid



Release and Indemnity Agreement – Page 1 of 2

In consideration of my acceptance as a new or continuing member of **Gearlink Racing, Inc.**, (including its predecessors, successors, and assigns) I hereby freely and voluntarily acknowledge and agree as follows:

I ASSUME ALL RISKS, known or unknown, incidental to membership in **Gearlink Racing, Inc.**, and in all official or unofficial team activities. I acknowledge and understand that participation in **cycling of any kind (whether racing, training, recreational or otherwise; and whether as a rider, coach, mechanic, spectator, or in any other capacity) is an inherently dangerous activity, and that racing in particular is extremely dangerous**, and that the dangers of any such activity include, but are not limited to, collisions, falls, road hazards, motor vehicle accidents, equipment failure and weather hazards, and that such dangers may result in **death**, broken bones, trauma, heart failure or other cardio-vascular occurrences, and innumerable other severe physical or mental injury or trauma.

On my behalf, and on behalf of my heirs, executors and administrators, **I HEREBY INDEMNIFY, AGREE NOT TO SUE, AND RELEASE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY OF WHATSOEVER NATURE AND KIND, Gearlink Racing, Inc.**, as well as the “Released Parties” (defined below in Exhibit A), of and from all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, or expenses of any nature arising out of or in any way connected with my membership in Gearlink Racing, Inc. or arising out of my participation in any cycling, racing or other activities in connection therewith, and **I further agree to indemnify and hold Gearlink Racing, Inc. as well as each of the Released Parties harmless** against any and all such liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses including, but not limited to, all attorney’s fees and costs, whether as a result of simple or gross negligence, misfeasance, malfeasance, or any other act or occurrence of whatsoever nature and kind. I understand that choosing to participate in any Gearlink Racing, Inc. activity is an entirely voluntary act on my part, and I completely, knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently agree to assume all risks associated therewith. **I understand that this Release and Indemnity Agreement also includes any claims based on simple or gross negligence, and action or inaction of Gearlink Racing, Inc., its members, directors, or of any of the Released Parties and includes bodily injury (including death) and property damage, whether suffered by me before, during or after such participation.**

I hereby covenant, certify, represent and warrant the following: (I) I am 18 years of age or older (II) I am in good health and I have no physical or mental condition or limitation that would endanger my membership in Gearlink Racing, Inc., or my participation in any of its activities, or that would endanger the safety of any other person, (III) I have sufficient cycling experience, (IV) and I authorize medical treatment for myself, at my sole cost, if the need arises. I further agree that if I or any of my heirs, successors, administrators, assignees or representatives bring any claim whatsoever in contravention of this agreement, the party bringing such claim shall be fully liable for all fees, costs, and expenses (including but not limited to all attorneys fees through all appeals) in connection with such claim. This agreement shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with Florida law. Venue for any legal action relating to or arising out of this agreement shall be in Pinellas County, Florida. This agreement may not be modified or waived orally. Every term and provision of this agreement shall be severable such that if any term or provision is found to be unenforceable or invalid, all other terms and provisions of this agreement shall remain valid and enforceable.

THIS RELEASE INCLUDES ANY AND ALL RIGHTS AND CLAIMS ARISING FROM ANY PARTY’S NEGLIGENCE, INCLUDING THAT OF THE RELEASEE OR RELEASOR.

THIS RELEASE SHALL BE FOR AN INDEFINITE TERM AND MAY ONLY BE REVOKED BY WRITTEN INSTRUMENT SIGNED BY THE RELEASOR AND SERVED UPON A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF GEARLINK RACING, INC.



Release and Indemnity Agreement – Page 2 of 2

THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT HE/SHE IS GIVING UP SUBSTANTIAL LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE RIGHT TO SUE GEARLINK RACING, INC., OR ANY OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, FOR ANY REASON, AT ANY TIME, WITHOUT LIMITATION.

I HAVE READ AND DO HEREBY FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO THE FOREGOING, WHICH CONSISTS OF TWO PAGES.

Date: _____ Printed Name of Releasor: _____

Signature of Releasor: _____

EXHIBIT "A" (RELEASED PARTIES)

The Released Parties are:

Gearlink Racing, Inc., and its members, directors, and officers (past, present, and future)
Gearlink, Inc.
United States Cycling Federation and its affiliates
Gearlink Racing, Inc.'s suppliers, sponsors, and promoters (past, present, and future)
Chainwheel Drive
Suncoast Cycling Club, and its members, directors, and officers (past, present, and future)

The Released Parties also include, but are not limited to, the parent, related and affiliated companies of all of the foregoing and the officers, directors, employees, agents, attorneys, representatives, members, successors and assigns, spouses and family members of each of the foregoing persons or entities.