



In a recent Podium Insight interview, Tina Pic discusses how the Frazier Cycling junior development program can grow the base of women cyclists.

1-21-10 PODIUM IN SIGHT interview with Tina Pic.

After twelve years as a professional cyclist and a slew of victories, including a record six US National Criterium Championship titles (2002-2005, 2007 and 2009), **Tina Pic** retired from racing at the end of 2009. In her illustrious career, the sprinter also won five USA Cycling NRC Champion titles, two Gold medals in the road race at the Pam Am Games and was a member of the USA team at the World Championships six times.

What could be done to grow the fan base for women's cycling?

I don't know, I think it's something that you need to build the awareness to somehow. Maybe it just needs to start with grassroots programs and the kids.

There's a junior cycling group really close to where I live, it's called the Frazier Cycling group. I think they really have a good idea. They're bringing the kids up from really young, once in while they'll say 'hey you want to come and meet us, go out to eat or something?' So I'll go and talk to the girls, they're really excited, I'll hear the stories: maybe they were the next door neighbor and they hear about the club, and they go to learn to ride a bike, they don't know how to clip in, they're falling down and how hard it is at first and how far they've come at such a young age. The girls that we went out with, were between six and fourteen, and it was a lot of girls. I know that they have a men's junior team as well. The girls that are coming through that program are really amazing, they're winning Nationals, they're doing really well. Maybe that's where it has to start, once you get the kids involved and bring them up, there has to be some sort of feed something to bring the awareness up. And you have to have those young riders in to complete, in Europe they start a lot younger, we have to have that so we can compete on their level. Lots of times, the women here get into it after college, they fall into it somehow and they might be really strong right away but they don't have the skill. If you've grown up [doing it] you automatically have the skills. So maybe that's one way to build awareness.

And then there's more awareness in the neighborhood because people see them riding all the time and then the cars start to become more tolerant hopefully, when they see more people on the road. Here, now it's pretty amazing, I'll just go ride to the lake which is pretty close and I always see now gobs of people and that's a big thing, once you start to build the awareness and the people get into it, then you're going to build all the way around, you get the community support.

[The adventure continues behind the wheel for Tina Pic](#)

Posted on 21. Jan, 2010 by [lyne](#).

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