

# Manchester District Cycling Time Trials

## Newsletter September 2020



The season so far ..... What season many of you will comment? A low number of events to start the season, many months of no competition and at present a small number of Open Events and Club Events taking place. Nonetheless, plenty has been going on behind the scenes and the focus of this newsletter is to provide an update for these activities.

### National 50 TT 2021

Looking ahead, we can announce the RTTC National 50 mile Championship will take place next year in Cheshire on 29<sup>th</sup> August and will be run by Congleton CC.

### District Focus Group

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020, a Focus Group came together to discuss and put forward ideas to address some issues and help develop our sport in the Manchester area. The Group, comprising nine members from Manchester District affiliated Clubs and no committee members, met for approximately two hours with the meeting facilitated by an outside professional facilitator. Group attendees were:

- ✓ Holly Carter - Manchester Wheelers
- ✓ Emily Martin - Weaver Valley CC
- ✓ Ade Hughes - Seamons CC
- ✓ Peter Jackson - Macclesfield Wheelers
- ✓ Bob Norton - Congleton CC
- ✓ Paul Green - Westmead Team 88
- ✓ Joe Dobson - Manchester Bicycle club
- ✓ Billy Ackers - Innovation Racing
- ✓ Stefan Hopewell - JRC Shutt Ridley

The Group considered the following 6 Questions:

- 1) What are the reasons for a lack of young riders entering the sport?
- 2) What are the reasons for the falling number of riders in both Open and Club Events?
- 3) What is required to encourage new events and organisers?
- 4) What needs to be done to motivate riders and non-riders to get involved in the District infrastructure?
- 5) What needs to be done to recruit more marshals for events?
- 6) What are the reasons that Teams have a lack of involvement in organising and supporting events?

Clearly some issues and challenges require input from National CTT. So, what are the Key Actions we can get on with?

It was felt that at the time there was **a lack of social media activity**. To address this Billy Ackers was appointed to the District committee as Social Media Secretary. Billy has done a superb job in getting Facebook up and running. He put a lot of effort into establishing District Records and is constantly looking for new stories and information to post.

**Encouraging younger riders'** Juveniles, Juniors, Youths to ride TTs. The Group's observations and comments centred around busy public roads and the subsequent lack of parental interest and involvement. To address this, it is felt Closed Road circuits are the answer. This is particularly challenging, both in terms of locating circuits and hire costs. Darley Moor in Ashbourne is being investigated as an option.

**Attracting ladies to the TT sport.** The Group felt that more ladies are riding bikes however the numbers of ladies in events is not increasing. At present the District committee has no lady members. **We are very keen to appoint and welcome lady members so please come forward to join the committee.**

Another **Key area concerned type of Open Events**. A range of Group comments covered.... Too many flat courses, lack of course options, move away from fixed standard distances, make use of closed roads and circuits. So, to address these comments a new series will be launched in 2021, the Bioracer UK Manchester CTT Kudos Team Series which will be co-ordinated by Martin Harney - Manchester Bicycle club. The Series is complimentary to the current points Series, M&DTTA and MDLCA Championships and VTTA season long competitions. It is very inclusive, providing a platform for TT aero riders and road bike riders alike. See details below.

## Bioracer UK Manchester CTT Kudos Team Series 2021

The intention of the series is to increase the number of participants in Manchester CTT events that are not part of the Cheshire Series, most of which are rolling courses, Team Time Trials and hill climbs. It is anticipated the series will consist of around 15 events.

### **Overall Team Prize**

To Qualify for the Team Award, each qualifying rider must enter 60% of the qualifying races. There is NO MAXIMUM number of riders for the team, and NO MAXIMUM number of qualifying events.

### **Individual Competition**

Points will be awarded to the following categories and on the following basis, 40 for the win, down to 1 for 40<sup>th</sup> place in the category. The ten separate categories are:

Men TT bikes	Men road bikes	Prizes for top 3 Men overall with the most points
Ladies TT Bikes	Ladies road bikes	Prizes for top 3 Ladies overall with the most points
Junior TT bikes	Junior road bikes	Prizes for top 3 Juniors overall with the most points
MVets TT bikes	MVets road bikes	Prizes for top 3 Men Vets overall with the most points
LVets TT bikes	LVets road bikes	Prizes for top 3 Ladies Vets overall with the most points

There is NO MAXIMUM number of events for individual riders, all riders can gain points in each race on the calendar for the individual prizes.

Riders can use either a road bike or a TT bike in any event, their points will be awarded on the day in the relevant category.

### **General rules for road bike entries**

- No Tri bars, clip-on, or aero extensions to be used
- Hands must be on the handlebars/brake hoods at all times, i.e. no forearms resting on the bars
- Maximum wheel rim depth, 90mm.
- No visors, no ear covering crash hats, including the Aerohead.

Any queries, please contact Martin Harney, [martin.harney@outlook.com](mailto:martin.harney@outlook.com)

## Website Development

As part of the development of the main CTT website <https://www.cyclingtimetrials.org.uk/>, linked websites have recently been created for each District. The Manchester district website <https://manchester.ctt.org.uk/> will be developed in tandem with the Manchester District Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ManchesterDistrictCTT/> to provide local information, updates and promote time trialling in the district. **If you have any ideas or feedback on the type of information you would like to see on the website or Facebook please get in touch with our website editors Tony Millington and Matthew Last through <https://manchester.ctt.org.uk/enquiries/add>**

**Finally**, this year has undoubtedly brought its challenges to every one of us and will continue to do so. Let us hope that next season we are back to normality. In the meantime, enjoy your cycling and ride safe.

Ian Middleton  
Manchester District Secretary