

This year has seen the new club build and develop. For those of you new to the club this year, the club was formally formed on October 24th 2005 and became affiliated to the British Triathlon Association in November 2005. Over the past year we have established a solid club structure which continues to support growing number of new members. This report will cover the achievements made by the club as a whole, racing achievements by its members, plans for the coming year and finally to thank all those that have contributed to the success of the club over the past year.

Club Achievements

We now have 2 BTA level 1 coaches – Adrian Williamson and Alex Arrowsmith and 1 Level 3 coach – Brian Welsh. As the club continues to grow it is really important that we have numbers in the coaching team to assist with creating coaching sessions and helping administer the many training sessions we have on offer.

Myself and Alex will shortly be attending (as students) the coach mentoring programme which is currently being run by the West Midlands region under Chloe Morley. There are 23 BT affiliated clubs in the West Midlands Region half of which are smaller clubs than our own. The BTA along with other sports governing bodies have to implement a plan that will increase participation within the sport according to the following 6 criteria - increase clubs, increase members, increase events, increase coaches, increase volunteers and implement a talent ID programme. As a club we are meeting 5 of these.

The first club swim training session was held on Friday 6th Jan 2006 at John Port School, Etwall (with Etwall Eagles). The first club bike training session was held on Saturday 7 Jan 2006 in Burton-on-Trent (coach - Brian Welsh) and the first club run training session was held on Sunday 8 Jan 2006 in Burton-on-Trent (coach - Adrian Williamson).

A club kit was sourced and the first race under the new colours was at the Wombourne Sprint Triathlon on Sunday 23rd April 2006.

The open water training facility was opened on Saturday 8th July 2006 at Barton Turns Marina, Barton-under-Needwood.

The website has been set-up and is now in full flow and currently being administered by myself.

The first club honour and title was gained last week when we won the relay event at the Carsington Duathlon.

And to wrap up this calendar year will have a great Christmas party and Awards dinner which is currently being organised by my wife Clare Williamson.

Race Achievements

The size of this section is testimony to the huge amount of racing that our club members collectively have amassed over the year. I will list the achievements here rather than try to put words around it, but it makes impressive reading:

- 1 GBR representatives at European Age Group Champs in Autun, France:
Grant McKinlay
- 1 GBR representatives at World Age Group Champs in Lausanne: Stacy Eccles
- 2 Representatives at the National Age Group Sprint Championships
- 1 Race wins at:

- Carsington Duathlon

- Alex Arrowsmith – Rachel Hall – Adrian Williamson

Club Championship (prizes to be awarded at Christmas dinner): only 4 members met the race criteria and rules, and overall winners are:

Men:

1st: Alex Arrowsmith

Women:

1st: Clare Williamson

Plans for the Coming Year

In the near term we have to move swim sessions from the open water on Wednesday evenings to Meadowside Pool, Burton-non-Trent starting at 8:20pm, sharing with Burton swimming club. We would like to have our own session, however participants are very few so we only currently utilise one lane.

The open water will started again next April, hopefully with a new revised price for non-members, it is also hoped that we can arranged for organised training sessions to take place every Sunday morning at Barton.

We would like to have more coaches, however, this will be reviewed when club membership reaches 30 or more. It will be great to see more members taking on this very important role as we are always looking for willing coaches.

I would like to have an annual overseas triathlon event. As you are probably aware the 2007 events looks like the Switzerland Ironman, but for 2008 I hope to persuade everyone to participate on the New York Olympic Triathlon, however ideas are open for discussion.

The Christmas Dinner and Awards will be held in December, this is now set for Saturday 16th December 2006 at the Meynell Pub.

We will also ask for feedback from all of you before each of our committee meetings on any issues which you would like raised at these meetings. Due to low membership we have not always acted on the best interests of our members and we hope that this will give you all a voice in the running of the club and the issues which as you see it affect it.

Ideas

Funding

'In December we secured £5,000 of lottery funding through our Awards for All Grant which was spent on club turbo trainers and enabled us to set up a club turbo winter training session which kicked off in January.'

BBQ- In July ish.

Club Naked 'Tasteful' Calendar

'The idea to create the club naked calendar was spawned over dinner by a few club members back in August last year perhaps after a little too much wine. However, this idea did not get lost in a hangover the following morning. It was picked and very energetically driven by a fantastic team of helpers. The calendars went to press in November and I don't need to tell you all how it ended up, you know it was a great success for the club and in the process raised £2340 for Aspire, a charity for the spinally injured. It also generated £1690 for the club. Thanks to all involved right down the great models from within the club!!'

Aside from these plans, we will look to continue keeping the good club spirit alive and through each of us and our active participation in club training and social activities maintain the momentum that has taken the club to where it is today.

Credits

On behalf of the whole club I would like to thank the committee for all their hard work and dedication over the past year helping running all the important functions that are essential to the clubs existence. I would like to thank all our out going committee member, Di Arrowsmith who gave us the wisdom of her experience in setting up this club.

Thanks to Clare who has had to take care of a great many tasks surrounding the set up of the AGM this afternoon and I know she has been juggling these responsibilities with other heavy commitments. Thanks to Alex Arrowsmith for his work on the club open water swimming venue, Rachel for finding this opportunity for the club for which we will always be indebted, Pippa for supplying the much appreciated bacon butties each Saturday morning, Brian Welsh for his coaching advice and finally. Thanks to all the club members. Each and every one of us have contributed to the great inaugural year for the club, we have made it a fun club to be a member of. By

attending training sessions, racing, coming out to support others when not racing, and coming along to social events you are contributing to the existence of the club. We have been very patient with our small club whilst we all juggle our own busy private lives with the setting up of this club within its first year so well done to all.

I hope you have all enjoyed the past year and take some time out to rest up before getting stuck into that all important winter training.

Regards,

Adrian Williamson
Chairman, Meynell Valley Hunters Triathlon Club