

AGM MINUTES Saturday 16th March 2024 5:00pm Bradley Hall Golf Club, Halifax

Present: Andy Whitworth, Richard Fenn, Ted Sarmiento, Keith Finnett, Phil Ingham, Alison Kinloch, Tim Evans, Richard Lebeter, Nigel Middlehurst, Tony Jones, Darrell Bradbury, Peter Charlton, Breanda Charlton, Russ Gordon, Mandy Parker, Chris Parker, Lynn Bland, Adam Pridmore, John Graveling.

Apologies: Hayley Lomas, Chris Young, Matthew Gott, Ian Taylor, Ian Spencer, Paul Hughes, Andy Akers, George Holland

Welcome from the President

Ricard Fenn greeted the meeting and as well as being honoured to serve as President of YCCA highlighted the good quality events that we have put on this season, and made a particular mention and welcome to the new organisers of Barnsley CC who were one of the biggest 'cross club back in the 1980's so have a steeped history in the sport. Also welcomed Bramley Wheelers to the organising fold who put on a great summer event this year.

Welcome from the Chair

It is with some sadness that Andy Whitworth has decided to step down from his role as Chair having been involved with racing and organising 'cross since the mid-80s starting as many of us do in the Vets category. However, life moves on, and Andy is not able to race anymore himself and the kids have all progressed so the family day out at the 'cross is no longer possible. The meeting recognised what a great contribution Andy had made to Yorkshire Cyclo Cross over his many years of racing, organising, commissairing, and generally helping out whenever the need arises. We all would like to thank him for his massive contribution.

Secretary's Report

YCCA Secretary's Report 2023-2024

YCCA Committee

At last year's AGM a new Committee was agreed with many key members continuing their current roles for 2023-24 season, a full list of Committee members and roles is set out below in the AGM Agenda.

We have held a series of eight regular 90-minute Committee meetings which throughout the year (mostly on the MS Teams virtual platform) to discuss and review all events and any other matters arising. We have benefited from fewer difficult or sudden designs needed this year (no water shortage or last-minute venue cancellations) and I would like to thank everyone on the Committee for their valuable contributions. Once again, the combination of a diversity of views and frequently held meetings seems to have resulted in thorough discussion and crisp, clear consensus led decision making. These aspects of the Committee are important to maintain and take forward into next year.

I would like to thank Andy Whitworth our Chair for keeping us focused and on time each meeting and Richard Fenn our President for his insightful observations. Andy has decided after many years to relinquish his role as Chair of YCCA so we do need to find a replacement this year.

Outside of the meetings we have also seen several Committee members putting in some great work supporting our race organisers before, during and after our events and to this end I'd like to recognize the fantastic support from Committee members Richard Lebeter, Russ Gordon, Nigel Middlehurst, George Holland, Tony Jones, Ian Spencer and Paul Hughes.

As with last year, this racing season would not have been possible without some big input from Treasurer Keith Finnett and Communications Officer Phil Ingham. You'll see that Keith has tracked all spending and income and his report reflects this forensic focus on the financial stability and some of the key decisions that make the series operate successfully. We have been confident with our entry fees and prizes largely due to Keith's detailed financial planning and he has paid race expenses, prize monies and organiser club bonuses at the end of the season. Keith also provides us with gridding and series standing information so we all know how well or badly we are racing and has been our main transporter of YCCA race day equipment such as the podium, winners 'champagne', feather flags, radios etc.

Meanwhile Phil sets up all the events on the BC website for online entry, ensuring we have all the Risk Assessments completed, insurance certificates etc. and liaising with Smartiming for race numbers and chips at each event and tidying up afterwards with BC for allocations of National Ranking points. Importantly, Phil also provides all the communications elements we regularly see to keep all our riders informed about the series and each event via email, social media etc.

On top of this both Keith and Phil have themselves organised an event each (Bradford and Wyke) and are ever present helping out before during and after most of our races. We all owe them a great deal of gratitude for keeping our racing calendar going so well.

Richard Fenn has marshalled the support from all our Commissaires again this season and I would like to thank everyone who has officiated at any of our events this year, without our BC Commissaries we cannot race. So, our thanks go to Commissaires Tim Evans, Darrell Bradbury, Andy Whitworth, Lynn Bland, Graham Parker, Peter Charlton and Mandy Parker. We have also benefitted from the assistance of four trainee commissaires Catherine Whiteside, David Scott, Trina Elkington and Paul Elkington who have all been exceptionally helpful and we look forward to their continued support to help them all become fully qualified.

Finally, our under 12 racing would not be the same without the thoughtful input from Mandy Parker in the form of rider rewards such as podium badges and sweets for all competitors, this is a really lovely aspect to our racing series.

A quick review of the season's racing:

In the summer we held six events in May, June and July at Wyke (Phil Ingham, Shibden), Bingley (Mark Barker, Bronte Tykes), Killinghall Moor Harrogate (Tim Evans, Harrogate Nova), YorkSport (Russ Gordon, Clifton CC), Bramley Woods Leeds (Doug Jopling, Bramley Wheelers) and Holmfirth High School (Andy Akers, Holmfirth CC). Massive thanks to all these organisers and clubs for hosting these events, and a warm welcome to Doug and the Bramley Wheelers who were first time event organisers with a brand-new venue.

This winter series we held eight events visiting Wyke (Phil Ingham, Shibden), Myrtle Park Bingley (Mark Barker, Bronte Tykes), Temple Newsam Leeds (Martin Clough, Seacroft Wheelers), Barnsley (Dominic McCall, Barnsley CC), Pontefract (Tony Jones/Tom Randall, Knottingley Velo), Thornes Park Wakefield (Richard Edwards, Huddersfield Star Wheelers), Sheffield Graves Park (James Hawkins Yomp Bonk Crew) and finally, once again, we rounded off our season at Peel Park Bradford (Keith Finett, YCCA).

After an unseasonal start at Wyke with temperatures almost hitting 30 C we had an unusually wet autumn and winter which resulted in some very tricky and testing racing and event/course management, and a deserved shout out to Ian Spencer who hosted a round of the National Trophy series at Tong in January under these exceptionally difficult conditions. A warm YCCA welcome to Dominic and the Barnsley CC crew who created a brand-new event for us this season, plugging an unexpected gap in the calendar, with a great attitude throughout a (very rainy) weekend.

We continue to benefit from the generous supply of course equipment last season from Andy Cook of Trek Sheffield Fox Valley and the Trek Bicycle Corporation who provided us with sufficient quantities of stakes make sure all events are well marked as well as the feather flags which feature behind all our winners' podiums. Thanks also to Russell Gordon at InSync Coaching who has provided us with all the racing arm numbers and Hope Technology who supplied us with many, many miles of course tape.

A note of thanks too for our timing system providers, Louise and Mark at Smartiming who ensure we all get our correct results, lap times etc. via their website.

Our Team Manager Chris Young organised a weekend racing trip to Belgium this year funded by the Mike Scott Memorial Fund and the British Cyclo Cross Trust to which all riders have thanked YCCA and BCCT for the amazing support.

Event Volunteers and Volunteer Sign Up

This season we have initiated a project to invite all YCCA racers/parents/guardians etc. regardless of club or team affiliation to sign up to help at an event or two with tasks such as course set up, marshalling and course take down. We intend to continue this project as it has helped our race organisers and clubs identify additional and much needed help on the day.

So, on that note, I would like to thank everyone who at some point in the season put a peg in the ground or pulled one up, or set out or taken down some course tape, or spent time marshalling to make sure our riders stay safe while racing. It is this collective effort that makes cyclo cross racing possible and fun.

Cyclo cross is a team sport where 'many hands make light work' is our best descriptor.

Ted Sarmiento
YCCA Secretary
March 2024

Treasurer's Report

At 11 March 2024, the YCCA bank account balance totalled £15,687.02 comprising: YCCA funds totalling £12,461.03 (considering known liabilities) and Mike Scott Fund totalling £3,225.99.

At 31 March 2023, the YCCA bank account balance totalled £14,254.86 (YCCA funds of £10,988.53 and Mike Scott fund of £3,266.33)

The fiscal goals of the organisation remain:

- To maintain YCCA funds of around £10,000 to support cashflow variations and exceptional spend.
- To aim for a Mike Scott Fund balance that allows one trip per year for young riders, of £2,500.
- To operate each series (Summer and Winter) and all other activities individually to at least break-even.

The Summer 2023 Series generated a healthy surplus of £1,247.21, in contrast to 2022 which made a loss. The Winter 2023-24 Series generated a strong surplus of £3,040.11, up from 2022-23, even after significant equipment costs and including numbers sponsorship from In Sync Coaching. A coach-led trip to Belgium in December 2023 cost £1,890.34 was funded partially by the British Cyclocross Fund (£1,000) and the remainder from the Mike Scott Fund.

Therefore, the fiscal goals of the organisation have been achieved.

Lessons learned:

Centralisation of cost items and fewer expensive venues aided better cost control, which supported the surplus.

Ceasing entry other than online via BC has dramatically simplified income collection and adjustments.

Centralised booking of portable toilet hire for all events requiring them will commence from summer 2024 to allow agreement with a single supplier of what will be provided (2 normal, 1 disabled by default) and allow negotiation of an agreed price per event. Only one supplier has provided a consistently strong service in 2023 and they will be used for summer events to test the principle.

Keith Finnett
YCCA Treasurer
March 2024

Formation of 2024-25 Committee

The Committee as formed in the meeting for 2024-25 are:

- President (Richard Fenn)
- Chair (Alison Kinloch)
- Secretary (Ted Sarmiento)
- Safeguarding (Haley Simmons) – **To be confirmed**
- Treasurer (Keith Finnett)
- Communications (Phil Ingham)
- Team Manager (Chris Young)
- Coaching Lead (Andy Akers)
- Social Secretary (**vacancy**)
- Rider Representatives (George Holland, Tony Jones) **New women's representative sought**

- Organiser Representative(s) (Ian Spencer)
- 'Limitless' Lead (Paul Hughes)
- British Cycling Representatives (Matt Gott)
- Other Committee members (Darrell Bradbury, Peter Charlton, Mandy Parker, Tim Evans, Richard Lebeter, Nigel Middlehurst, Russ Gordon, Adam Pridmore)

Any Other Business

It was agreed that we would bring the date of the AGM/Presentation evening forward next year and set the date early in the season.

Ian Spencer has offered to talk to Hope Technology about sponsoring course tape again next season.

Russ Gordon / Insync Coaching has agreed to sponsor arm numbers again this season.

Ted to liaise with NWCCA to talk to NW commissaires to share officiating load.

Finally there was support for bringing back the Fancy Dress 'Cross this year on Sunday December 22nd, it was agreed an organiser would be required and a request would go to the YCCA community to see if anyone wanted to take on this event. Agreed that the Organiser could select charity of their choice for support alongside the Mike Scott Fund. The obvious venue choice would be Wyke as stakes and tape likely to be there as well as parking, changing rooms and room for socialising afterwards.

YCCA Summer Cyclo Cross Season Dates:

MAY	Wednesday	08 May 2024	YCCA #1
	Wednesday	22 May 2024	YCCA #2
JUNE	Wednesday	05 June 2024	YCCA #3
	Wednesday	19 June 2024	YCCA #4
JULY	Wednesday	03 July 2024	YCCA #5
	Wednesday	17 July 2024	YCCA #6

Best 4 (four) races to count for the Summer Series assuming 6 (six) races.

BC and YCCA Winter Cyclo Cross Season Dates:

Nat Trophy	Day	Date	YCCA #
	Sunday	22 September 2024	YCCA #1
3 Peaks	Sunday	29 September 2024	
Derby	Sunday	06 October 2024	
	Sunday	13 October 2024	YCCA #2
	Sunday	20 October 2024	YCCA #3
South Shields	Sunday	27 October 2024	
	Sunday	03 November 2024	YCCA #4
	Sunday	10 November 2024	YCCA #5
Torbay	Sunday	17 November 2024	
	Sunday	24 November 2024	YCCA #6
	Sunday	01 December 2024	Regional Champs
Clanfield	Sunday	08 December 2024	
	Sunday	15 December 2024	YCCA #7
	Sunday	22 December 2024	
	Sunday	29 December 2024	YCCA #8
Tong	Sunday	05 January 2025	
Nat Champs	Sunday	12 January 2025	

Best 5 (five) races to count for the Winter Series (assuming 8 or even 7 races).

It may also be possible to host additional races (outside of the Championship series) on a National Trophy weekend.

The Chair closed the meeting at 6:30pm.