



## *The Presidents Occasional Newsletter*

### Members Update

After a rather tumultuous 2020 season, how the 2021 season will play out is still not very clear. Nationally, we are in lockdown, which clearly impacts on sporting activities and on meetings. This email seeks to clarify where we are as a club.

#### **Membership**

You may recall that in the light of Covid restrictions in 2020, the Committee decided to roll over everyone's membership for 2021 at no extra cost. We will not be requiring people to submit membership applications for 2021, but if you wish to leave the club, please let us know.

Contact Chris on [nbrc.secretary1@gmail.com](mailto:nbrc.secretary1@gmail.com)

#### **Meetings**

The Committee are keen to start holding meetings again. Obviously, we cannot meet face to face for the time being, so we are proposing to hold Club Meetings using Zoom. Zoom is available on most computing platforms including Windows, Mac, and various tablet devices.

We propose to restart our regular meeting schedule - the second Monday of each month at 8pm. Chris will circulate joining details to members. Note that we are using a free account which limits us to 40 minute meetings, and we may need to restart the meetings if they go on longer than this. The first online meeting will be Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 8pm. We'll circulate joining instructions.

#### **Club Rides**

We did have some level of club ride activity through last summer as Covid-19 rates were quite low and lockdown was eased. At the moment, we would encourage club members to avoid riding in groups and to observe national lockdown regulations.

#### **Time Trials**

Milton Keynes and surrounding counties went into Tier 4 just before Christmas. The Committee decided to abandon the 2021 New Year's Day '10', and communicated this via the NBRC Facebook Group page.

We submitted our draft club time trial calendar to CTT London North at the end of 2020 (it's available at the website and via the posting at the Facebook Group). We've yet to hear back from London North, and when we do, we will notify the Police of our planned events.

The UK has been in Lockdown since 4<sup>th</sup> January, and as a consequence, the CTT has indicated that no time trials may take place until further notice. Our first club event was scheduled for late March.

When and if we are able to resume our club events, we plan to make some administrative changes to reduce the likelihood of Covid-19 transmission. This will include pre-entry through an online events management system.

#### **Road Races (inc. Bowl events)**

Milton Keynes Cycling Association, together with British Cycling, British Masters and local clubs are in process of planning a return to racing so that we are able to start as soon as restrictions are lifted. NBRC have decided not to participate in the organisation of a Spring Series this year.

The Bowl is now being managed by MK Dons and we have good contacts with them. We do not expect much will change at the venue this season but their aim is to build a football training facility in the long term and so inevitably there will be changes at some point.

**Cyclocross**

We believe the 2020-2021 Central Cyclocross league was abandoned due to Covid-19.

**Online cycling activities**

We understand that members may be exploring one or more of the online cycling

systems that are out there, and would like to explore whether members would engage in online group rides or events, and if so which platform would be most suitable. This could be discussed at the online club meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> February.



**Thanks**

We are indebted to Jeff Hathaway for dealing with John Smith's bequest which comprised a number of racing bikes. Jeff has sold all of these and John's wish was that the club should benefit, therefore the club is now in an even more comfortable financial position.

A few years ago three NBRC stalwarts, Tony Farmborough, the late Bill Jenkins and Dick Selley decided to visit the Gosling Stadium for a private track session, looks like they enjoyed the experience.



The Mobil City Centre Criterium, organised by Wayne Maguire for the club in 1998, drew huge crowds as can be seen in this photo of the vets race.

Gordon Batcock leads Dave Atkinson over the line with Dick Selley a bit further back!



I believe this club dinner photo was 1990 when Aaron McCaffrey scooped three trophies receiving them from Eve Page.

**Take a look**

YouTube is worth a look these days. I found a good clip about Ian Stannard's career as well as epic footage of his two Omloop Het Nieuwsbald victories. We were sad to hear that his riding for Team INEOS had been cut short by illness. We wish him all the best for the future and perhaps we will see him at some future events.

