

## **Hon Secretary's Report 2017**

South Wales District is large and covers about 9000 square miles, an area only exceeded by the new Scotland District which is HUGE! This means that the officers have to travel extensively. All district officials on DC business are entitled to claim 25p per mile and I suggest that this figure is a reasonable amount for Open event organisers to offer timekeepers, observers and marshals. I can confirm that the levy will remain at £2 for 2018.

This year our District promoted the National Championship 25 on the weekend of 5/6 August. The intention had been to run the Women's event on the fast R25/3H course whilst the men would have a more challenging course on the Llandeilo to Carmarthen road. An announcement by the Welsh Assembly Government that long term upgrades were planned for this route with traffic management, road closure and diversions for up to 18 months meant that the District Committee was left with a big headache and needed to respond quickly. It was decided that both events would be held on the R25/3H. An extremely successful weekend of competition ensued with a large number of 'pb's' being done. Well done then to Martyn and Andrew who promoted the Women & Junior and Men respectively on behalf of South Wales DC and Bynea CC again respectively.

The CTT internet entry system celebrated its first anniversary in May: the system has proven to be successful after early teething problems were smoothed out. Martyn Heritage-Owen had been 'snagging' the new system last year and was formally approached by the CTT Board to continue work when it was realised that the scope of development needed a formal approach and thus Martyn has been contracted by CTT on a part time basis. Organisers and riders alike are seeing this as a great step forward in the development of the sport and the internet entry system.

There are 74 clubs affiliated this year, an increase in five over 2016 and there are two new applications for consideration at the first Committee Meeting of the 2017-8 season.

There have been ten accidents reported to the Committee in 2017 an increase in four over last year. Most of these were minor and were a result of rider inattention and/or error but at least three required medical treatment. A fuller picture of all such incidents will be shown in the National Report at the CTT AGM in December. There is one case which may involve disciplinary action. A formal complaint of a Breach of Regulation 20 (b) resulted in the promoting club disqualifying a rider. Until the Committee has a chance to examine these findings I can add nothing further.

A disturbing situation arose on our R25/3H course where riders in several events were deliberately close-passed by a car driver (known as Punishment Passing). Evidence was gathered and eventually an individual was issued with a Section 50 Notice by the South Wales Constabulary: this means that any vehicle driven by this individual in such a manner within the next 12 months will lead to seizure of the vehicle. No further reports of such punishment passing has been received.

Once again liaison with South Wales Trunk Road Agent (SWTRA) has greatly assisted the sport and not one Open event was lost to road works in 2017. No Open events were abandoned due to inclement weather but the Welsh CA 100 and the Port Talbot Whs 25 were held under particularly trying conditions.

The Port Talbot Whs 25 was attended by officials from UKAD and several riders both male and female were required to provide samples for dope control. It is too soon to report on findings yet. I am glad to report that the promoting club was pleased to see the UKAD presence in helping to keep the sport dope free.

One rider tested on the R25/3H in 2016 gave an ADRV hence Michael Ellerton of Team Swift received a 2 year ban (see the UKAD site for the full adjudication).

There have been 10 committee meetings held so far with one more to be held before this meeting, the attendances are as follows:

Mrs F Field 5, R Field (Secretary) 10, A Grist 10, Mrs P Harradine (Treasurer) 10, T Harradine 10, M Heritage-Owen 9, N James (Chairman) 10, I McDonald 4, P Robinson 5, J Shehan 10, T Thomas 10, A Williams (Asst. Secretary – Club Events) 8. Reasons for people being unable to attend meetings include work and family commitments along with hospital appointments and other health issues. I would like to give thanks to all the committee for their work throughout the year.

After the formalities of the AGM are over we will again be deciding the racing calendar for next year. Thank you in advance to all those who have offered themselves up for event promotion; the sport cannot exist without all volunteers.



Robin Field