

Club updates – January 2022



Andover BMX Club

In 2021 the Club Membership grew to 220 members in the year, with 150 members attending at least once a month or more. Membership grew by 80% over previous years and was fuelled by a weekly introduction session and monthly coach led racing session on Saturdays 900-1300

Coaching sessions offered by the club are often at capacity and supported by the clubs 2 L2 BMX coaches and assisted by 3 Lvl1 and 2 (CAYV Young Leaders). A good number of regular volunteers also assist in track work and setup of sessions. Club has offered in the year BMXercise/Tasters/Intros/U5s/Novice/Inters/Expert/ Holiday Club/Dev Centre Sessions and Inclusive Coach Led Racing for All, including the popular choice of "Papa Performance".

5 Young Volunteers started the BC Cycling Award for Young Volunteers and have worked through Bronze and Silver Levels and 2 Candidates have been accepted for Flying Start BC Level1 Coaching.

Club members are supporting the monthly club coach led racing session with 60-80 riders per session and 43 Club members experienced Regional Race Level or above in 2021, from age 4 through to 50+.

The Clubs Power and Floodlight Project was taken on by TVBC the local authority, with £75K funding from the Club/BC Places to Ride/TVBC CAF and to be combined with TVBC car park improvements. Tenders were issued in October and Project Plans are in progress with TVBC, but no firm dates as of yet, but sometime in 2022.

In Sept. we ordered a Mylaps decoder for the Club, which has now arrived and is currently under review for training sessions and club racing along with Sqorz. Club Admin has moved to RideHQ.com for Membership and Session Booking/ Registration and Masuri for Club Merchandise and an updated website is on its way.

With Monthly Coach Led Racing and the South Region BMX Regional/South Championships and the Wessex League Andover SuperCX, the track has seen real grassroots racers through World Champions on track from BMX & CX! Looking forward to more race action here in 2022!

Bournemouth BMX Club

After a slightly delayed start to the year, it was all systems go from April, hosting the first round of the South Region summer series in May, bumper club races throughout the summer with over 100 attending each round (on Thursday evenings – admin was on point!) and a fabulous end-of-series finale, including the return of the annual fundraiser for Mind.

Our year in stats:

- 1 – the club's finishing position in the South Region Summer Series
- 7 – number of club riders winning the 2021 South Region series
- 15 – qualifiers for the 2022 World Champs (get on boat, due south, turn right)
- 54 – number of riders racing at the 2021 British Champs
- 134 – number of riders at our summer series season finale
- 198 – club members, showing significant growth
- 200 – or more training, coaching and gates sessions run in 2021

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- 209 – number of riders registered for round two of our winter series
- 2,127 – number of £££s raised for Dorset Mind this year

The year rounded out with the announcement that Bournemouth will host the 2022 British BMX Championships, and we really can't wait!

It's also our 40th anniversary year this year, so there's even more reasons to celebrate like it's 1982... remember, at Club Tropicana the drinks are free.

See you soon sunny side up at the coast with the most – a great place for a race.

Bexhill BMX

The new Bexhill BMX track, Skate Park and Jump Park is mid build. Due for completion by April. Our focus is very much on that at the moment but we are leaning on 'neighbouring' clubs for training/racing and support.

Club numbers are growing all the time and we are looking forward to the upcoming racing season.

Brixton BMX Club Report 2022

The past year has been a time of positive change for Brixton BMX Club and we've seen membership continue to rise, while our track has been resurfaced. Clark & Kent carried out the resurfacing work in Autumn 2021 and the track has now bedded in nicely, having benefited from being used as well as having some additional compaction using the Wacker plate borrowed from Merton Saints.

The track is much improved and the finish area has also been surfaced, which means racing will be much safer.

Our Crowdfunding campaign has been highly successful and closed on 17th November 2021. During the time it was running we beat our target. This means we have the funds necessary to start with the next phase of our facility upgrade. Phase II of the work will involve the installation of a new lock up next to the start hill, which will also house our compressor and feature power and water. The back of the start hill will be resurfaced with asphalt while improved drainage will address the flooding issues that occur on the fourth straight after heavy rains. New fencing will be installed around the track also, with the plans having been approved by the various groups in the park and now being sent for official planning approval.

The work can't start until we have the approval but we are hoping this will be gained during 2022. The club has extended its equipment range and is benefiting from closer partnerships with the neighbouring Merton and Peckham clubs. This was particularly evident while our track was being resurfaced, with our riders taking sessions at Merton and Peckham instead.

Another step ahead for the club has been the qualification of a number of our riders for the Worlds in France this year.

T-i D-S	Brixton (11 years old)
Kai Bowen	Brixton (11 years old)
Lukah McKenzie	Brixton (15 years old)

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Alex Taylor Brixton (15 -16 Cruiser)
Isla Radcliffe Brixton (13 years old)

Broomfield BMX Club

With minimal disruption from Covid this year and the inspiration of the Olympics, we've managed to grow our membership numbers significantly. We now have an established beginners session running every weekend and have new riders signing up weekly. This has been helped by the purchase of a small fleet of hire bikes, meaning we can now offer coaching up to those without bikes from children to adults.

We've also started running development sessions with the idea of encouraging more club riders to get in to regional racing. As part of this we have run several coach led races across the year and hope to have more riders representing Broomfield at regionals in 2022.

Gosport BMX Club

Like everyone, our year has been a bit of a rollercoaster. We successfully ran a Regional and National race event (both in the dry) as well as a 6 round Club series. Rider attendance at Club races average 70 riders, with approx 60 riders attending Saturday coaching sessions. Membership is just over 100.

Plans for flood lights, tarmac finish area and jump straight are well underway for 2022. The club will be implementing on a new membership and booking system in the new year.

Hackney BMX

Coaching

- Hackney continue to run 3 sessions each week on a Sunday, beginners, intermediates and expert
- We have 4 qualified coaches, but are always looking for new coaches
- All sessions are now booked and paid for online via our website so we can control numbers
- In 2021 we coached 770+ riders in sessions
- Hackney riders that do RSR's currently take part in East RSR's

Racing

- 40 Hackney riders took part in the South BMX Series 2021
- 20 Hackney riders qualified for the Brits, with 1 Brits champion
- 19 Hackney riders took part in nationals - Ranked 14th club at national level
- 7 riders qualified for the worlds
- Hope to have 8+ females racing in 2022
- We have been supporting riders with club equipment and a subsidised minibus for the BMX East Winter series, with 31 riders taking part

Track

- We still only have a very small pump track and therefore we never get a home race
- Many of our riders train elsewhere due to our track limitations
- Most of our high end riders do not attend club sessions due to the track
- We have tried to move the club to Lee Valley
- In the process of trying to approach the council to get a full size track

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Hawks BMX Club

Our BMX Club has seen a rise in participation over the last two years due to the various activities and promotions we run at the club.

Also post Covid lockdown the first time round earlier this year, we saw a huge uptake in participation like we have never seen before and that has continued with an increase in the amount of weekly enquiries. We have also sustained regular weekly numbers right up till we shut down for Xmas.

Our core activity is a weekly Sat Club Coaching session, where we run 4 x sessions for 4 different levels of riders. The continuity of these sessions, together with a team of great coaches, makes this a successful and appealing way for not only riders to improve their skills, but also for parents to have a local BMX club to take their Children too in a safe environment.

For the club to cope with the increased numbers and to adhere to covid restrictions, we had to buy 20 new helmets and gloves to add to the 30 we already had, to allow us to give riders fresh sanitised equipment at each session. This was made possible by the club getting a Sport England Covid Grant for £2,500.

The success of BMX at the Tokyo Olympics, created a real buzz and once again the club got loads of interest and new enquiries.

The club were running a Free BMX Summer Holiday Camps at the same time as the Olympics and we saw loads of new riders taking part each day over three sessions a day, which then fed into our club sessions for those riders that wanted to take it further.

The Schools Outreach Programme sees us work on a regular basis in 3 local schools and our BMX and Learn 2 Ride sessions have proved the most popular outside activities at these schools. This relationship also leads to students from the schools coming to the club for Holiday Camp and Club sessions.

For the past 3 months we have also been running a weekly Women's BMX Session and are planning to continue that this year after we have been promised a grant of £2,500 from Access Sport to facilitate more sessions.

The highlights of 2021 were the amazing effort made by the club and its volunteers to raise £30,000 through grants and fundraising to buy a new start gate and timing system. We plan to have the new gate installed by the end of Feb/Early March and an Open Day Race to follow.

The Club also won the 2021 London Youth Games for the second time, which was hosted at the Hawks Track.

2021 was the clubs 40th Anniversary, but due to Covid etc, the club put the celebration plans on hold and hope to tie in the Open Day with the 41st Anniversary in 2022.

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Knightwood BMX Club

Brief History

As you know we have now been at Knightwood for 8 years and have developed the track from the original design and would like to upgrade the doubles into the last corner and the last straight in 2022 and are working with the council etc to get agreement to be able to do this. We are firm believers on making changes to the track at least every 18 months to keep it fresh and as relevant as possible for our members.

Membership

We are currently seeing an influx of new riders both male and female of all ages which we believe is a legacy of both Covid Lockdowns and the success BMX and cycling at the Olympics in Tokyo. We now have 100+ members.

Coaching and Racing

At present we see ourselves as a real grass roots club and our focus at present is to get as many riders enjoying the sport as possible even if that is just training and never racing. Obviously we encourage and support our riders to race if they so choose to.

We currently run club races (a Summer and Winter series) where we have approximately 60 riders per event. We have 37 members that race regionally, 7 members that race nationally and 3 members that race internationally at European and World championship event.

We have coaching once a week where we have 3 groups and we have mid week gates all year. We also now have a couple of new coaches who have achieved level 1 including a junior level 1 coach. Our age range is 4 to 57 with 10 females.

We also have one club member who sleeps all the way home from every event even though she does not race.

Financial and Fundraising Status

We are in a good position financially and have recently started to get involved in fundraising outside of running events. We took part in the Wave 105 Cash for Kids Sports Challenge with other sports clubs in the area and we managed to raise the most & Wave matched upto £,5,000.

Club and Facilities/ Track Development

Our ambition is to improve the reach of the club encouraging more people to ride bikes and if they so choose to compete but our lack of space to develop our facilities (mainly the track) is holding us back somewhat. We have devised plans on what we wanted to do etc and whilst we are seeking support for some of our initiatives our ambition to increase our space and subsequently track length.

We have been in discussions with Test Valley Council to see if they can support us but at present that is not looking too encouraging but we will continue to rally and lobby for their support. The council have previously been supportive of the upgrades we have made.

We are also assisting Eastleigh Borough Council in their plans to replace and upgrade the site at Freespace (or alternatively move the sit to Fleming Park Leisure Centre) and I am due to have a second meeting on behalf of Knightwood to discuss the options that would best suit these locations.

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Merton Saints

As with everyone else the season had a slow start after lockdown, but we continued collectively working with Brixton and Peckham kicking off by holding a successful club race on 8th May, together with Hackney. This brought some much needed race practice and a chance for novice riders to get into racing, which was really lacking over lockdown.

The South London Clubs are continuing to work together closely. We are sharing joint Safeguarding and Code of Conduct policies; we are utilizing our pool of coaches; and we are continuing our successful development program for Expert Riders.

Merton had a good season, with 19 riders taking part in the South Regionals – with Iggy Lorek ranking 2nd overall at the end of the season; Noah Turner 4th, Finely Jackson 7th and Harvey Tomlinson and Jay Galloway 9th. We also had two South Champs finalists with Iggy winning male 9 and Harvey Tomlinson finishing 5th. Imogen Cockerell finished 9th at the Brits and Noah Turner 18th.

Both Imogen Cockerell and Noah Turner also qualified for the World Championships next year.

As a club we have been successfully growing, with our beginners and novice sessions selling out every week - and we now over 100 active members for the first time since I have been Chair.

We have had a very good year for funding applications, nothing from British Cycling of course; but we've received grants from Clarion Housing to fully house our start gate box and to fund our community sessions; and we've also been awarded a grant from Access Sport for a new set of Club bikes.

Peckham BMX

The euphoria, of Kye Whyte and Beth Shriever, is felt throughout the BMX family, especially in the South Region and Kye's home track Peckham BMX Club.

Peckham BMX Club has seen a 40% increase in participation to our Novices sessions, this has allowed the committee to introduce taster sessions at the club in addition to our current sessions. This has worked very well, with a waiting list of three weeks. We are considering, having additional novices training session after our expert session on a Saturday due to the significant increase.

We have specially enjoyed in kind sport from the head of Southwark Council, Kieron Williams and the senior management team that works closely with the head of the Council and Peckham BMX Club. This in-kind support has allowed us to sail through the formal planning permission to get another container on top of the existing container. This container will be teaching room to complement our coaching at the Club.

Working with the South London Clubs (SLC), Brixton, Merton and Hackney has allowed us to participate in club racing at Merton BMX Club. This has given our Novices riders valuable experiences of racing in preparation for Regionals, and it's sharpened many of our expert rider's skill in preparation for Nationals 2022.

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Peckham BMX Club did put in a successful bid to host the Nationals; this will be taking places in June 2022. The Nationals will give us welcome exposure locally and we look forward to show casing Peckham riders soon.

We had several riders qualified for the World's this year, this is truly exciting time for many of our riders experiencing this for the first time.

- Chrystiano Goodman
- Xander Mavolwane Wright
- Daniel Alvarez
- Oskar Alvarez
- Dean Reeves
- Nathaniel Campbell
- Skye Mavolwane Wright
- Lola Rose Thompson
- Jalilah Patel
- Nicola Sielawa
- Aaliyah Akerele
- Shani Harris – Shrewood

A significant amount of our intermediates is now training at expert level and the progression the riders have made is truly remarkable during this difficult time. Coaches are to be commended; they have contributed towards riders' progression. We have expanded our coaches' team we welcome Jeffrey Morales and Aaron Moore back to the team along with working closely with the SLC coaching team.

We have hosted BMX World Day at the local club, hiring of the BMX track and the Bouncy Castle and Bungie Run Hire, Music this tracked local interest in this event. We were able to raise money to run the Easter and Summer Camp at Peckham BMX Club.

Easter and Summer Camp is a full day of coaching and BMX games during the half-term. Finally, most of our riders are local we came second in the London Youth Games representing Southwark.

Runnymede Rockets

Ongoing from 2020, the club continues to grow with new members coming through constantly. The success of Team GB in Tokyo has generated interest at the local council and several club members have been engaged with them to see if there is any provision to add to and improve facilities at Runnymede as well as wider development in the local area, such as the new skatepark being built in Goldsworth Park, just down the road in Woking. Discussion remains ongoing at this time.

Although a slightly disjointed 2021, we held several successful club races and held a very well attended regional in September, with over 350 entries, despite this being post Brits and not a qualifying round.

We are very proud that Rockets rider Emily Hutt is now part of Team GB riding Junior Women and that we have, once again, multiple qualifiers for 2022 World Championships in Nantes despite being a relatively small club. Here's to further success this year!

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TNT

We managed to train from March after the post Xmas 2020 lockdown and ran online training classes during this period for all members to attend.

From March we have been running our weekly Tuesday night session on a pre book members only and then later in the year we have change to rock up and ride members only with new member joining throughout the year based on spaces available in either session.

Ran a successful regional in June and have been running a winter series this year again in conjunction with Club Cyclopark and Bexhill Bmx Club following a successful 2020-21 interclub races.

We are still running members only based on a risk assessment report and agreement with Cyclopark and looking forward to hosting a regional this year and supporting Cyclopark who are hosting the national.

We still have our coaching team of Mark, Kai and Keith and are looking to have a couple of members attend coaching training to add additional support to the team.