



Annual General Meeting

Saturday 4th November 2017

Quinn's Corner, Ballygawley

Cycling Ulster AGM 2017 : Quinn's Corner : Ballygawley : 12 Noon

Contents

1. Agenda
2. Standing Orders
3. Minutes of 2016 AGM
4. Certified financial statement to December 2016 and Income and Expenditure Statement for 9 months ended September 2017
5. Membership levy proposal
6. **Reports**
 - Chairman's report
 - Secretary's report
 - Safeguarding Officers report
 - Road Commission report
 - Track Commission report
 - Off-Road Commission report
 - BMX Report
 - Women's Commission report
 - Youth Academy report
 - Technical Officer's report
7. Elections
8. Motions

Close of business.

Following the AGM there will be two short presentations

1. Presentation by Gary Lavery Club Development Officer.

Gary's post has been fully funded by SportNI to help with the Development of Cycling Ulster Clubs.

2. Presentation by Cycling Ireland

Cycling Ulster AGM Saturday 4th November 2017 at 12 Noon

AGENDA

1. Chairman`s welcome.
2. To adopt the standing orders for the orderly conduct of the AGM.
3. To consider the Minutes of the AGM on 22nd October 2016.
4. To receive the certified Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2016 and to consider the Income and Expenditure Report for the 9 months to September 30th 2017.
5. To fix the Cycling Ulster levy for 2018.
6. To receive the following reports -
 - Chairman`s report
 - Secretary`s report
 - Safeguarding Officer`s report
 - Road Commission report
 - Track Commission report
 - Off-Road Commission report
 - BMX Report
 - Women`s Commission report
 - Youth Academy report
 - Technical Officer`s report
7. Election of Officers.
 - To elect the following officers to the Executive – Four Officers to the Executive. (These posts are each for one year.).
8. Motions.

Close of Business

Item 1. Chairman's Welcome**Item 2. To adopt the standing orders for the orderly conduct of the AGM.**

(Excerpts from the Cycling Ulster Constitution.)

ARTICLE 14 - STANDING ORDERS**Honorary Chairperson**

The Honorary Chairperson shall have the right to preside at all meetings and shall have power to decide points of order, priority of speakers and his decisions upon these matters and the rules of debate shall be final. In the absence of the Honorary Chairperson those present may elect one of their members to preside, such temporary Chairperson must, on the arrival of the Honorary Chairperson, vacate the Chair.

The Honorary Chairperson (or temporary Chairperson) shall be permitted to take part in discussions but shall only have a casting vote in the event of equal voting. He may vacate the chair for purposes of making a motion and for the period of the matter under discussions. The Chairperson shall not have power to adjourn any meeting without the consent of the meeting.

Quorum

No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum be present when the meeting proceeds to business. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum be not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or such other day in such other place and time as the Chairman may determine. If at such adjourned meeting a quorum as above defined be not present within fifteen minutes from the time appointed for holding a meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.

A Quorum shall consist of for –

- Council Meetings: 20% of Cycling Ulster Clubs
- Executive meeting: one-half of the total members eligible to be present
- Commissions: one-half of the total members eligible to be present.

Voting

Voting in general shall be by show of hands. For election of Officers, where there is more than one candidate, a secret ballot may be taken. A secret ballot shall also operate at the request of one-third of delegates present. Tellers may only count the votes of those present. When a two-thirds majority is required, it shall be deemed to be two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote when the vote is being taken.

Conduct of Debate and Competent Amendments

The mover and seconder may speak but any subsequent amendment must be moved, seconded before discussion is allowed. Members shall be permitted to speak only once. The right of reply shall be held by movers of motions and amendments following which the motion shall be put. Such replies shall be confined to answering previous speakers and shall not introduce new matter into the discussion. On points of order, the Honorary Chairperson's decision shall be final, but he shall not refuse to consider such same.

Competent amendments are :-

To amend the motion.

To adjourn the debate.

To put the question.

To move to the next business.

Item 3. To consider the Minutes of the AGM on 22nd October 2016.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Cycling Ulster 2016.

Quinn's Corner, Ballygawley, Co. Tyrone.

Saturday 22th October 2016 – 12 Noon

Executive members present: Maurice McAllister (Chairman), Anthony Mitchell (Secretary), Oliver Hunter (Treasurer), Aaron Wallace, Andrew Duncan.

Guests attending; Cycling Ireland president Ciaran McKenna and Frank Keenan (Cycling Ireland Operations Manager.)

Apologies. Jack Watson. Garth Young. Alison Young.

Clubs attending and Delegates.

AAA Cycling.1	Fintona CC.1.
Ards CC.1	Foyle CC.2.
Ballymena Road Club.1.	Harps CC.1.
Ballymoney CC.1.	Island Wheelers.2.
Banbridge CC.5.	Maryland Whs.1.
Bann Valley Road Club.2.	North Donegal CC.1.
Carn Wheelers.2.	Phoenix CC.3.
Castlereagh CC.1.	Smugglers CC.2.
CCT.1.	Steady CC.1.
Clann Eireann CC.2.	Strabane-Lifford CC.1.
Clogher Valley Wheelers.1.	Powerhouse Sport.1.
Emyvale CC.3.	Unattached.1.
Errigal CC.1.	24 Clubs. 39 Delegates.

A quorum had not been reached by 12 noon, so the meeting was re-scheduled for 12.15pm.

Chairman's welcome.

Maurice McAllister opened the meeting by welcoming the delegates, and also the Cycling Ireland President Ciaran McKenna, and previous Ulster Chairman and Secretary Tommy & Marian Lamb.

A short silence was observed for members lost during the past year.

The AGM booklet contained a full Chairman's Report, however Maurice praised and thanked the volunteers for their hard work during the year, and mentioned clubs who had delivered Ulster Championships and also those doing great work with young riders.

Standing Orders.

Standing Orders for the meeting were contained within the booklet. Acceptance was proposed by M Lamb; seconded by C-A Hunter; and approved.

Minutes from 2015 AGM & EGM.

Adoption for both proposed by P Field; seconded by C-A Hunter and accepted.

Certified Financial Statement to 31st December 2015.

In addition to the printed statement, Treasurer Oliver Hunter had prepared an interim statement covering January – September 2016, and thanked those who had assisted with financial matters during 2016.

Questions were raised as to the presentation of some figures, and it was explained that the layout would be altered going forward to more accurately reflect the expenditure of each Commission/initiative etc.

Acceptance was proposed by J Maguire; seconded by T McCague, and approved.

To fix the Cycling Ulster membership levy for 2017.

The Executive had proposed that the levy remain the same for 2017 (€10 per senior rider.)

Acceptance proposed by B McAllister; seconded by P Field, and approved.

Reports.

Chairman`s Report. Queries were raised as follows; The Executive`s decision not to enter Ulster teams in Ulster events was questioned, and MMcA agreed to take this back to the Executive for further discussion.

References to events not catering for Junior riders, however MMcA explained we could not dictate to clubs who they cater for, but agreed it would be looked in to with a view to bringing to Cycling Ireland AGM in 2017.

References were made to Safeguarding, as the previously elected officer stood down in June. MMcA and M Grimley had taken on some of the responsibilities throughout the year, and MMcA had met with the new CI staff member who will have responsibility for Safeguarding. There was discussion on previous arrangements for safeguarding training, what local Councils and Sport NI could deliver etc., and MMcA gave assurances that this would be given priority going forward.

The proposed Structure document mentioned in the report was questioned, however MMcA confirmed that this was very much work-in-progress and would be addressed by the new Executive.

A request for coaching structures and resources to be put in place was also taken on board.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by M Lamb; seconded by M McKenna, and approved.

Secretary`s report. Queries were raised as follows. The point on information given over by the previous administration was questioned, however it was confirmed that whilst some information was made available via certain media, a number of key information documents were not available. These included no historical Minutes; no asset register being available; no documented details as to the promotion of provincial championships being available; no documented details of Race Grants available, resulting in some of this information being documented throughout 2016.

The point re new Race Grants was made insofar as this was not publicised. This was noted, however the criteria written in 2016 identified the events which were eligible, and all were contacted and provided with the necessary application forms.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by C-A Hunter; seconded by B McAllister; and approved.

Road Commission Report. Queries were raised as to the make-up of the Commission, and the fact that more help was needed with this and other commissions. Some positive and negative points were made around Road Commission activities.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by A Wills; seconded by ??, and approved.

Off-Road Commission Report. M Lamb complimented M Grimley on the work he and his commission does with off-road initiatives. The absence of anyone from the off-road commission to deal with queries was questioned.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by M Mayne; seconded by M Lamb, and whilst there were some delegates unhappy to accept the report, it was approved by majority.

Track Commission Report. M Lamb complimented the coaches at Orangefield for the work they do, with J Maguire also commenting that it could be better supported.

Acceptance of the report proposed by J Maguire; seconded by P Dixon and approved.

Women`s Commission Report. There were no representatives from the Women`s Commission present, and acceptance of the report was proposed by B McAllister; seconded by M Lamb, and approved.

Youth Academy Report. P Holland criticised this report feeling that the mention of the Academy enjoying a better year was an unfair criticism of those previously involved. P Dixon confirmed that no criticism was intended, and explained that in 2016 the Academy had moved away from the idea that it was a road-only initiative. It was agreed that the report wording should have reflected a `more varied` programme, as opposed to a `better` one. The Dave McCall Foundation were thanked for their continued support of the Academy

Acceptance of the report was proposed by M Murray; seconded by ??, and approved.

Technical Officer`s Report. The technical Officer (A Wallace) was thanked on behalf of the Master`s League organisers for arranging Commissaire`s for their events in 2016.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by J Maguire; seconded by P Field, and approved.

Election of Officers.

Cycling Ireland President Ciaran McKenna was asked to carry out the election of officers, and he thanked the 2015-6 Executive members for their work and efforts throughout the year.

Posts for election were –

Secretary.

Carl Fullerton had been proposed by North Donegal CC. As the only nominee, he was duly elected.

In accepting, he gave a short speech of acceptance referring to the events of the previous AGM/EGM.

Lead Safeguarding Officer. No nominees.

Executive Officer. (1) Andrew Wills was proposed by Ballymena Road Club, and was duly elected.

Executive Officer (2) No nominees

Executive Officer (3) No nominees

Executive Officer (4) No nominees.

There was some unscheduled debate and discussion on the ability to nominate officers to the Executive from the body of the floor of the meeting. Various opinions were given, but it was generally accepted that the Constitution requires revision and clarification.

It was agreed that a notice be put out via the Cycling Ulster media regarding the vacancies, and that the Executive would co-opt officers to fill the gaps.

(One delegate present, T McCague was proposed, and this would be taken on board by the Executive going forward.)

Motions.

The proposal from North Donegal CC was discussed, with the Technical Officer reminding the meeting that there were points in the CI Tech Regs specific to Provincial Championships, and that this proposal was in contravention of these.

The motion was withdrawn, with the suggestion that the Road Commission review the current arrangements with a view to making representation to the 2017 CI AGM.

The meeting was closed at 3.50pm.

Item 4. Financial Statement 2016 and Balance Sheet to September 2017

CYCLING ULSTER

ACCOUNTS

31 December 2016

**Gordon Reilly Accountants
Cookstown**

CYCLING ULSTER

Cycling Ulster is the Provincial Federation and a sub-committee of
The Irish Cycling Federation trading as Cycling Ireland, an Irish registered company limited by guarantee.
Company Registration Number - 134567

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER**2016****Income**

£

Awards Night income	2650.00
Off Road Commission Participant Levy	1900.00
Radio Hire	850.00
Bank Fees ret'd	1.21
From Cycling Ireland	<u>71269.49</u>
Total Income	76670.70

Expenses

Accountant	775.00
Awards night expense	3509.50
Bank Fees	202.12
CUYA less Manager's	
Returns	10014.35
CU Event Equipment less Returns	1994.00
Equipment Upkeep	410.10
Events Grants	3400.00
Executive	
Expenses	5427.87
Marketing and Publicity	2834.40
Off Road Commission less Manager's Returns	10855.85
Prizes & Awards	1691.89
Road Commission less Manager's Returns	3109.13
Safeguarding	73.00
Technical Budget	304.75
Track commission	4943.59
Women's Commission	3697.51
Web and Social Media	1330.00

54573.06

Surplus/-Deficit **£22,097.64**

As Represented By Bank Current Accounts

Sterling

Opening Balance 1st January 2016	£47,806.30
Deficit for year	
Surplus for year	<u>£22,097.64</u>
Closing Bank Balances 31 December 2016	£69,903.94

**CYCLING ULSTER
BANK OF IRELAND- EURO ACCOUNT-31120443
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016**

Bank Balance as at 31 December 2015 82993.15

INCOME

Capitation	17040.00	
Cycling Ulster Levy	53380.00	
National Track Commission Contribution	<u>2835.00</u>	
		<u>73255.00</u>

156248.15

EXPENDITURE

Bank Charges	202.00	
CUYA	82.50	
Road Commission	9034.00	
Transfer of Funds	<u>80000.00</u>	<u>89318.50</u>

BALANCE BANK OF IRELAND EURO AC 31 DECEMBER 2016 66929.65

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

EUROS

INCOME

Capitation	€17,040.00
Cycling Ulster Levy	€53,380.00
National Track Commission Contribution	€2,835.00

€73,255.00

EXPENDITURE

Bank charges	€202.00	
CUYA	€82.50	
Road Commission	€9,034.00	
Money Transfer from Euro Acc to Stg Acc		€80,000.00
		<u>€89,318.50</u>

Surplus/-Deficit -€16,063.50

<u>CYCLING ULSTER</u>				
<u>BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016</u>				
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Fitting</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance as at 31.12.15	255.75	2925.00	450.00	3630.75
Additions				
Disposals				
Balance as at 31.12.16	255.75	2925.00	450.00	3630.75

CURRENT ASSETS

	BOI Ac 82776856 Current			
Cash at Bank	Ac	£	69903.94	
	BOI Euro Ac 31120443	€	<u>66929.25</u>	
Cash on Hands				136833.19

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accruals

Current Assets Less Liabilities	140463.94
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REPRESENTED BY
Capital Account

Balance at 31 December 2015	134484.20
Less Decrease in Fixed Assets due to Revaluation	
Surplus/-Deficit for Sterling acc	£22,097.64
	-€
Surplus/-Deficit for Euro Acc	<u>16,063.50</u>
Balance at 31 December 2016	140518.34
	=====

STERLING ACCOUNT No 82776856

Opening Balance	as at 1st January, 2017	£	69,903.94
INCOME			
Awards Night Income		£	2,300.00
Off Road Commission Forestry Fee Clubs			
Donation		£	970.00
Off Road Commission Participant Levy		£	1,850.00
Radio Hire		£	100.00
Sponsorship CU Kit (O'Reilly Stewart)		£	5,000.00
Sponsorship (Logos on CU Vehicles)		£	1,050.00
Money Transfer from Euro Acc		£	26,132.40
Total Income		£	37,402.40
EXPENDITURE			
Affiliation Fees NI sports Forum	£	110.00	
Asset Purchase and Fit-out	£	10,218.51	
Asset Expense	£	5,780.80	
Awards Night Expense	£	3,093.95	
Bank Fees	£	334.36	
CUYA	£	5494.07	
CUYA 2016	£	1296.90	
Commonwealth Games	£	1,519.20	
Donation (Belgian Project)	£	300.00	
Equipment Upkeep	£	409.20	
Event Grants (Road and BMX)	£	2,508.00	
Executive Members Expenses	£	5,709.00	
Off Road Comm Less Bond Return and Manager's Ret	£	6,703.32	
Prizes & Awards	£	863.23	
Road Commission	£	11,721.65	
Road Commission 2016 Budget	£	1,010.00	
Safeguarding	£	1,163.51	
Technical Budget (New Radios and Comm Course)	£	4,115.96	
Track Commission Less Manager's Returns	£	5,099.51	
Women's Commission	£	4,100.00	
Total Expenditure	£	71,551.17	
Represented By Bank Current Accounts	Sterling	£	-
Balance 31 December 2016	£	69,903.94	
Balance 30 September 2017	£	35,395.30	
Cash on Hands 30 Sept 2017	£	359.87	

£	35,755.17
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CYCLING ULSTER EURO ACCOUNT BALLYSHANNON**1ST JANUARY 2017 TO 31 SEPTEMBER
2017****INCOME**

Capitation 2017	€14,112.00
Capitation Balance of 2016	€102.00
Cycling Ulster Levy 2017	€45,874.00
Cycling Ulster Balance of 2016 Levy	€4,348.00
National Track Commission Contribution	€1,600.00

Total income	€66,036.00
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EXPENDITURE

Asset Expense	€984.00
Bank Fees	€142.50
Clothing (CU Kit)	€4,306.20
Road Commission	€11,676.99
Transfer From Euro Acc to Stg Acc	€30,000.00

Total Expenditure	€46,125.69
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REPRESENTD BY BANK ACCOUNT

Balance 1 January 2017	€66,929.25
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Balance 31 September 2017	€85,855.56
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Item 5. To fix the levy for 2018.

The Cycling Ulster Executive propose that the Ulster membership levy is set at £10 for all senior members.

Item 6. Reports.**Chairman`s Report.**

Cycling Ulster Chairman's Report 2017 I would like to from the beginning thank all our volunteers, our riders, our administrators, our commissions and our Cycling Ulster Executive for the efforts and the commitment shown again in 2017. Without all of you we would not be enjoying the success that we are having. Success that flourishes at provincial, national and international events. Cycling for the past years has experienced a growth never seen before and a popularity enjoyed in its disciplines and events. 2017 has however realised a plateau effect with a stability occurring and the growth trend slowing. Cycling Ulster have recognised this and have taken positive steps to address the consolidation of our membership.

The positioning of the brand “Cycling Ulster” is very much part of the short, medium and long term plans that have and are being implemented. I will set out the vision that I have had for our sport going forward.

2017 saw my own personal life turned upside down with the death of my father. The support that I received from members of the wide cycling family helped so much in this heartbreaking time and have carried me since. The Cycling Ulster executive took steps whereby we could support each other in our roles and Tommy McCague was elected as the Assistant Chair. Tommy along with the others I cannot thank enough in keeping our plans and objectives on track and focused on the future. Marian joined with Oliver as Assistant Treasurer and Patrick joined Carl in the Assistant secretarial role.

We felt that there was room for more female contribution on the Executive, an invitation was extended to top woman and National champion cyclist Eileen Burns to take a place on the Executive. I am pleased to announce that Eileen has done this and has very quickly got up to speed with the role and the expectations that go with it.

Safety as always weighs heavy on all our minds, we are always exploring ways to make our days on the roads safer. Cycling Ulster and the PSNI came together to launch the “Be Safe Be Seen” campaign. Using 1.5m as the recommended distance required when passing a cyclist safely. This was covered on national television, radio and news media. Susan Breen and Rosie Leech, Traffic PSNI, Cycling Ulster executive members myself, Tommy McCague and Marian Lamb along with road commission chair David McCann and local club members demonstrated the importance of giving the cyclist room on our heavily populated roads.

With this our CU Safeguarding has been entrusted to the experience and diligence of Marian Lamb. Travelling the nine counties and establishing sessions and briefings bringing you the member into line with AccessNI requirements. This will be ongoing and continue to liaise with the Cycling Ireland Safeguarding officer 2017 has seen our sports disciplines elect their commissions, Race, Youth, Off Road, Woman, BMX and Track. They have included their reports for the AGM.

Good governance and transparency remain key to the progress of our sport, the Cycling Ulster executive appointed a Finance Committee to oversee the accumulation and distribution of funds. This Committee included our Treasurer Oliver Hunter, executive members Tommy McCague, Marian Lamb and Carl Fullerton.

Success breeds success and it is vital in all areas that you the member can see progress and a willingness to grow and encourage others to do the same. This growth was very evident in the plans we set out for 2017. Cycling Ulster riders in 2017 and 2018 saw will be seen at the Junior Commonwealth Games in the Bahamas and the Gold Coast in Australia, interviews and selection was held and the roles filled by Anthony Mitchell and Gary McKeegan. We are enjoying continuing growth of CX and in numbers taking part. This area has to be built on and established as we go into 2018.

The Road discipline as a large part of the programme saw teams being selected from an established and published criteria. The 2017 An Post Ras saw a Cycling Ulster 5 man team entered, the Rutland, and racing in France, See the Road Commission report.

The “Brand of Cycling Ulster” was very much getting a facelift in line with the way ahead, tenders for a sponsor was sought and Belfast solicitors firm O’Reilly Stewart came on board. Biemme are the new Kit supplier from former Ulster cyclist Michael Smith at MDS Sports.

The Cycling Ulster image continued to grow with the executive agreeing to purchase a Logistics and sport vehicle. This van was used to support, road, off road, woman, youth and some our clubs made avail of its usage. This is something that we are keen to expand on and support our clubs in helping them and also gain positive exposure as a result.

The Cycling Ulster support vehicle/van you will have seen at many events in 2017 transporting not only riders and support staff but Cycling Ulster, banners, race/event flags and gazebos. All very much part of the image projection.

With the support van in place a Team Car was added to the growing livery, this inclusion presented an opportunity for local and national businesses to have their logo displayed as the teams travelled nationwide. Clubs interested in submitting an interest in booking the Cycling Ulster vehicles should contact Patrick Withers today.

The years of membership growth has created a very large organisation and and new clubs being formed, the next step was to look at a full time Club Development officer position. Cycling Ireland in partnership with Cycling Ulster applied to SportNI for the funding to secure this much needed position. The role was advertised and applications and interviews held, the successful applicant was Mr Gary Lavery.

2017 also hopes to see us introduce a “Compliance officer” position, this is to follow shortly.

Short Term Plans, 1 – 2 years

- Working and regular updated Cycling Ulster website
- Social Media – serviced Facebook page.
- High profile Safeguarding procedures and guidelines for members and clubs.
- Cycling Ulster Brand Sponsor
- New Ulster kit supplier
- Logistics and service van
- Race Team support car
- Working executive with representative on the Commissions, Road and Youth – Tommy McCague, Off Road – Marian Lamb, Track – Patrick Withers, Woman – Eileen Burns and Marian Lamb, Leisure – Mark Moroney, BMX – Maurice McAllister
- Published and visible selection Criteria
- Online Banking, Paypal, etc
- A dedicated Finance Committee and individual discipline accounting records

- Value for money Awards Presentation for members, and the setting up of an Awards Promotion group set in place to organise these types of events.
- Accountable discipline procedure and a zero tolerance policy in aggressive actions towards volunteers working in an official capacity

Medium to Long Term Plans, 3 – 5 years+

- The NEW high performance “Podium Programme” structured to encompass disciplines and streamline the selection, coaching and education of our riders.
- Clearly set out understanding of why we “Promote Races”, to develop talent, raise the standard of competition and not just to expand the finances of clubs.
- Robust encouragement and development of home grown talent, with early notification, selection and positioning of potential riders into squads and a clear competitive programme set out.
- A clear path from Youth to U23, using tried and tested, Australian, New Zealand and GB template structures.
- The Year Fixture Calendar looked at with a view to promote quality events instead of quantity.
- Forums and Educational Workshops by experienced tutors and presenters for Event organisers, team managers, cavalcade drivers and support staff.
- Structured and accountable Leisure event promotion.
- Season long Classic League with highly visible Cycling Ulster contribution. With a round in each of the 9 counties of Ulster.
- Best All Round Competitions, with consideration given to making this a “year long” series encompassing Road and Off road in the points and final results. Encouraging riders to take part in road and off road events and be rewarded for it.
- Active encouragement of club member and grass root contribution with invitations extended to clubs to send delegates to discuss plans with executive members.
- Established and a well grounded ongoing “Safety Campaign” with his viz exposure on media and in local press with dedicated officers and volunteers working with motoring groups, PSNI and Road Service.
- Active encouragement and promotion of Para Cycling and Tandem events, utilising the knowledge of competitors like Darrell Erwin and others in that growing field.
- A Cycling Ulster Headquarters (HQ) building, with the positioning of the brand it has to get away from the car boot, back bedroom image that we have to date. With 8000+ members we have to elevate the profile of the CU product accordingly.
- Vigorous ongoing recruitment in schools, community associations using published media and TV
- Leisure and Leisure Sportive type events given dedicated education in promotion and in safety and self policing of events.

- Ongoing active encouragement of Member Participation to help understand the grassroots feeling.
- Working with other sports, Rowing, GAA, Soccer, Athletics and other disciplines to develop cross sport participation and expand our talent pool.

Secretary`s report

Meetings.

During the year there were 10 meetings of the Executive. These were always well attended and the board representative from Cycling Ireland, Jack Watson was always in attendance. There were also a number of meetings with personnel from Cycling Ireland which mainly involved discussion and planning for the Junior Commonwealth Games in July 2017 and for the Commonwealth Games in April 2018 in Australia. The Finance Committee met on a regular basis while representatives from the Executive liaised with and attended meetings of the various commissions.

Cycling Ireland were supplied with minutes from all our monthly meetings and there also was an extensive amount of email correspondence with the full-time staff at Cycling Ireland in Dublin. There was a culture of mutual respect, cooperation and collaboration among the members of the Executive during the year. We took stock of the task we had in hand and the flexibility and sometimes constraints under which we operated. The creation of the posts of Vice Chair, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer were in my opinion crucial to the success we had as an executive. No matter what life challenges were thrown at you there was always someone there to help out at Executive level. All meetings were conducted in a friendly and supportive manner. I would like now to take the opportunity to thank my colleagues for this.

The Executive of Cycling Ulster in 2017 were;

Chairperson	Maurice McAllister
Secretary	Carl Fullerton
Treasurer	Oliver Hunter
Lead Safeguarding Officer	Marian Lamb
Vice Chairman	Tommy McCague
Assistant Secretary	Patrick Withers
Assistant Treasurer	Marian Lamb
Time Trials/Safety	Andrew Wills
Mary Peter's Trust	Mark Moroney
Women's Officer	Eileen Burns

Non Executive Roles

Technical Officer.	Aaron Wallace
Results Co-ordinator	Gordon Parker

Membership

Membership of Cycling Ulster for 2017 stands at 8590, a small decrease from 2016. This is the first decrease which we have had after years of growth. Much of this decrease is in the Youth and Junior categories and this will need to be looked at in 2018. The adult category is showing a decrease at Limited Competition level but this is more than made up for by the increase in Leisure licenses. We have 140 clubs in Cycling Ulster with an average membership of over 50 members in each. There also is an Ulster Unattached grouping of almost 1,300 members. However there are quite a large number of leisure cyclists in Ulster who do not take out licenses and one of our challenges in 2018 is to make them aware of the benefits of being a member of our organization.

Cycling Ulster membership figures.

Category	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Limited comp	1025	1043	1324	1674	1724	1549
Full Comp	1025	777	914	1019	1122	1138
Leisure members	1160	1382	1559	1709	4820	4975
Non Comp	1290	1579	2290	2720		
Youth U8		0	162	177	205	197
Youth U10		208	122	131	146	152
Youth U12		120	172	239	212	205
Youth U14		152	162	193	184	161
Youth U16		105	142	148	136	124
Junior				97	102	89
	4500	5366	6847	8107	8651	8590

The quality and quantity of cycling events is improving each year but we must be steadfast in our adherence to safety standards at these events. We have a policy of training more Commissaires and Event Assessors to assist our clubs in the safe running of events. Our new staff member Gary Lavery will be in touch with all of our clubs during the next few months in this regard.

Carl Fullerton – Secretary Cycling Ulster**Safeguarding Report 2017 : Marian Lamb**

The position of Lead Safeguarding Officer was one of a number of posts not filled at the 2016 AGM so these were subsequently re-advertised at the behest of Council. I was approached by a number of people and asked to take on the role. The Cycling Ulster Executive ratified my position as Lead Safeguarding Officer on 14th November 2016 for the following two years. On 16th November I was named as Lead Designated Signatory for AccessNI with Brigid O’Dea, the National Safeguarding Officer, as counter signatory.

AccessNI Vetting Checks

There was a backlog of Access NI applications to be cleared when I came back on board and this was my first task. The backlog was cleared in a timely fashion. I then updated all information on

the Cycling Ulster website regarding AccessNI and there is now a regular stream of applications with almost 200 people having been processed in the last year. I was in contact with many clubs regarding the AccessNI process and the ID verification. When an application is made through Cycling Ulster it cannot be moved forward on the system until the club verifies the ID of the applicant and forwards the ID Validation form to me. For those who are unsure of the process see www.cyclingulster.com/Safeguarding or contact me.

Cycling Ulster only accepts Enhanced Checks and we cannot accept Certificates which have been processed through a different organisation. Under Cycling Ireland policies all certificates should be renewed every three years. You will need either my pin number or that of Brigid O'Dea in order to proceed through a Registered Body. There is no charge for the check so long as you are in a volunteer role. Over 200 Access Checks have been processed this year.

Working with other Safeguarding Representatives

Brigid O'Dea is Cycling Ireland's National Safeguarding Officer and this is a paid full time role. I met with her several times throughout the year and liaised on matters relating to Safeguarding Policies, updates on legislation and Safeguarding complaints. I also met with Paul Stephenson of the Children in Sport Unit (CPSU) of the NSPCC. Paul led me through changes in the Child Protection Awareness Course and provided updated information. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul for his continued support over the years.

Sport Ireland in conjunction with SportNI held a multi sport conference in Dublin which I attended. The focus of the conference was the launch of a new app which will allow people to do a Safeguarding Awareness Refresher Course online. All those who have obtained a Safeguarding Awareness Course through attendance at a course should renew their certificate every three years by logging on to the app. Once you have completed the online course you can take a short test which consists of about 10 questions. If successful a certificate will then be emailed to you. In order to avail of this course you need to create a User Name and ID with SportNI. To do this go to the following link. <http://courses.sportni.net/login/index.php>. If you have never attended a Safeguarding Course before you must attend a face to face course.

I met with several people who had been elected as a Club's Designated Officer and I talked them through the process of what is required of the role. It is important that they attend a Designated Officer Course as soon as they can.

Delivery of Safeguarding Awareness Courses

A heartening aspect of my role has been the number of clubs who have requested Safeguarding Courses this year. To date I have delivered eleven courses which have been attended not only by members from the promoting club but also members of neighbouring clubs, Cycling Ireland Board members and members of the Ulster Youth Academy. I have listed the courses below and would like to thank the clubs involved in organising the courses

19th January - Killinchy CC

20th February - Dunloy CC

13th March - Ballymoney CC

4th April - Banbridge CC

6th April - Titanic Quarter CC - Belfast

11th April - BMX Clubs 1

12th April - BMX clubs 2
19th April - Finn Wheelers - Ballybofey
24th April - Causeway CC - Coleraine
14th June - Phoenix CC – Belfast
8th October – North Down CC – Bangor

The Executive agreed a budget of £3500 for Safeguarding and to provide the service free of charge to our members. Despite the number of courses delivered I am glad to say we came in well under budget. Cycling Ulster deliver these courses free of charge for our member clubs so if anyone is interested in hosting a course they can get in touch with me. All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation.

AccessNI Compliance Audit

In May Cycling Ulster were informed that AccessNI was going to carry out a Compliance Audit to see if we were fulfilling our role correctly as a Registered Body. The audit consisted of a four hour home visit with me where I was asked many questions about how we handled application to AccessNI and what information we supplied and in what form to the applicants. An audit report was issued approximately three weeks after the visit where some minor changes were recommended. I subsequently made changes to the ID Form, updated the website information and created some new documents which could be sent to applicants. A follow up check of these resources was made and AccessNI then issued Cycling Ulster with its Compliance Certificate.

Plans for 2018

Looking forward to 2018 I would like to see some more clubs availing of the Safeguarding Awareness Course. It is important to get club members to attend these courses if the club intends to carry out any youth work.

Certificates received from AccessNI prior to the new online system will be out of date and I will be contacting members and clubs asking them to renew their certificates.

Report by Marian Lamb

Cycling Ulster Lead Safeguarding Officer

Marian Lamb

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Ulster Road Commission Report 2017

The CU Road Commission began the year with its AGM. The Commission comprised of a four person committee; David McCann (Chairman), Patrick Withers (Secretary), Peter McBride (Treasurer) and Tommy McCague (CU Executive Rep).

The Commission's aim was to help raise the standard of racing in Ulster and it was decided for 2017 to focus on providing additional competitive opportunities for developing riders.

Senior and junior teams were entered in international and high level national events. These events included the Tour of the North, Tour of Ulster, Junior Tour of Ireland, Junior Tour of Wales, Rutland Cicle Classic, An Post Rás and L'Estivale Bretonne in France.

We entered the first Ulster federation team in the An Post Rás in over a decade. With 4 Ras first timers, including 2 teenagers, the team performed well and learnt a lot for the future. With more notice and planning and preparation in future years, the team can do even better. Securing an invitation including costs for accommodation and meals for the 4 day Estivale Breton stage race in France was another success for the Commission with the team again getting amongst the action and it would be hoped that similar events could be supported in the future for our developing young senior riders.

Our junior riders performed extremely well in both the Junior Tour of Ireland and Junior Tour of Wales. John Buller took two stage wins in the Irish Junior Tour as well as wearing the points jersey in the Welsh Junior Tour. Breandan Flanagan took a top 10 in GC on both races. Other riders such as PJ Doogan, Ethan Downey, Xeno Young, Harvey Barnes represented Ireland in international events. There is clearly a strength in depth of talent amongst the current crop of Ulster juniors. With a total of 20 riders participating in CU Junior and Senior teams in 2017, some of those riders achieved notable successes such as Ethan Downey's Irish Road Race Championship Victory, John Buller's two Junior Tour stage wins and Chris McGlinchey's Silver in the national Road Race Championships.

The Road Commission would like to thank the CU Executive for approving the purchase of the 2 vehicles, which proved a real asset and were put to good excellent use by road and other commissions alike.

We would like to say thanks to all the staff that helped out on all the various teams without whom it would be not be possible. We would also like to congratulate North Donegal Cycling Club for the promotion of an excellent Ulster Road Race Championships on a beautiful course.

While we feel there was progress made in the number of consistent high level events we sent teams to this year as opposed to some previous years, in order to continue to improve the standard of racing and to help our riders onto the next level we should be aiming to continue this progression to take part in further high level events. We recognise that funding is a constraint but we hope that the support of the members and the incoming Executive will be supportive of this. Finally, thank you to all who have been involved and supported the Cycling Ulster Road Commission in 2017.

CU Road Men's (Sen/Jun) Teams 2017

TON	TOU	JTI	JTW	Cicle Classic	Rás	Estivale
Liam Wilson	Lindsay Watson	John Buller	John Buller	Lindsay Watson	Chris McGlinchey	Cameron McIntyre
Adam Ward	Angus Fyffe	Breandan Flanagan	Ethan Downey	Angus Fyffe	Cameron McIntyre	James Curry
Lindsay Watson	Ryan Reilly	Liam Wilson	Breandan Flanagan	Craig Rea	Lindsay Watson	Angus Fyffe

Cameron McIntyre	Marc Potts	Conor Halvey	PJ Doogan.	Chris McGlinchey	James Curry	Craig Rea
Peter Hawkins	Chris McGlinchey	Robbie Doherty		Jake Gray	Cormac McGeough	Marc Potts
						Ryan Reilly

Report: David McCann, Patrick Withers, Peter McBride & Tommy McCague

Ulster Track Commission Report 2017.

2017 has been a relatively successful year for both Ulster's Track riders, and Ulster Track racing.

At Orangefield we hosted in excess of 20 sessions, with over 90 different riders participating in some form of Track riding, including club-specific sessions by arrangement. We also re-introduced an Ulster Track League and Ulster Championships across all categories, which have given us a solid base to build from going forward.

In terms of our riders we again dominated domestic competition at youth level, winning the National Inter-Provincial title for the fourth year in succession, and numerous National youth titles and medals. We also fielded a full squad of four boys and four girls at the UK Inter-Regional Youth Championships in Glasgow which is as high a level of youth track competition available anywhere. We have also availed of training opportunities at Glasgow and have some plans to repeat either here or in Derby.

The Junior category saw Harvey Barnes retain his Sprint title, but Xeno Young was perhaps the star of track racing at this level, taking medals at European and World level.

In the senior category, mention should be made of Tony Mairs who participates and helps at Orangefield, who took national titles at Keirin and Sprint in 2017.

It is gratifying for Ulster's volunteer coaches to see riders who have started their Track cycling pathway at Orangefield go on to international success including World Cups and World Championships, and in 2017 Mark Downey and Xeno Young were two such riders who continue to excel at track racing, and are on course for future Olympic participation.

Regarding the facility at Orangefield itself, it continues to be a constant source of concern, as the condition of a neglected 60 year-old national sports facility is only guaranteed to deteriorate if no action or is taken or upkeep maintained.

We have met with various City Council officials over the past months, and they continue to confirm that no funds are available either internally or via Sport NI and Lottery funding to enable any large-scale refurbishment programme.

We have also suggested a total relocation of a Velodrome, and have suggested Ormeau park as the best fit, however with this project likely to cost £1-£1.5m, there is little likelihood of this happening in the short term.

Our most recent meeting has highlighted the ongoing problem with tree root ingress, and the Council have undertaken to address the worst of this over the winter. We will keep on top of this over the coming months with continual engagement and follow up

We will continue to keep the membership updated on Track affairs through our social media platform at Ulster Track Cycling.

Anthony Mitchell, Nicola McKiverigan, Paul Dixon.

Off Road Commission Report 2017

Another year over and looking back it was another busy year for the off-road cyclists in Ulster.

Cyclo-cross (CX)

The 2016-2017 cyclo-cross season saw 10 rounds of the Ulster series plus 4 rounds of the Kinning Cycles series. The Ulster Cyclo-cross Championships was also held by Kinning Cycles at the Mallusk Playing fields on the outskirts of Belfast. A breakdown of the attendance figures for the Ulster series is shown below. Race reports and results can be found on www.ulstercyclocross.com.

Round	Location	Sen	Jnr(m)	U16	U14	U12	U10	U8/U6	TOTAL	Female
1	Lurgan Park	189	5	13	21	32	42	47	349	20%
2	Falls Park, Belfast	195	9	17	21	31	34	49	356	20%
3	Lady Dixon, Belfast	197	7	19	18	24	25	47	337	19%
4	St. Colomb's Park	168	4	19	16	23	24	34	288	17%
5	Windmill Pk,	190	5	17	22	33	33	39	339	23%
6	Seacourt, Larne	149	4	14	15	24	31	37	274	19%
7	Ormeau Park, Belfast	181	9	15	18	21	26	41	311	18%
8	JungleNI, Moneymore	165	6	17	14	24	26	30	282	18%
9	Donard Park,	169	2	12	12	22	26	33	276	20%
10	Castle Park, Bangor	139	4	13	13	21	22	36	248	18%

The 2016 Cycling Ulster Cyclo-cross Championships was held at Mallusk Playing Fields by Kinning Cycles on 18 December. 137 riders took part. The 2017 Irish National Cyclo-cross Championships took place in January at Tollymore Forest Park hosted by Dromara Cycling Club (164 took part).

2017/2018 season

Glenn Kinning along with Kinning Cycles hosted the Brian Kinning GP Cyclo-cross race at the end of August in memory of his father who had recently passed away. The race took place at Orangefield Park in Belfast with a memorial trophy presented to the winner, in this case it was Glenn.

The Ulster Cyclo-cross series has 9 rounds of which 4 have taken place already. This has included two new clubs and two new venues – Square Wheels hosting at Palace Demesne in Armagh and Killinchy CC hosting in Delamont Country Park near Killyleagh. There was also a separate race called the McConvey Cross Cup which took place at Lady Dixon Park and was hosted by Phoenix CC. Attendee figures below.

Round	Location	Sen	Jnr(m)	U16	U14	U12	U10	U8/U6	TOTAL	Female
1	Lurgan Park	198	5	18	17	23	34	61	356	17%
2	Musgrave Park, Belfast	189	2	18	15	23	31	55	333	19%
3	Palace Demense	180	5	14	14	25	36	53	327	20%
4	Delamont Park	166	8	18	10	22	31	50	305	20%

The Ulster Cyclo-cross championships are due to be held at Mallusk on 3 December 2017 by *Kinning Cycles*.

Cross-country (XC)

Xmtb series

As in previous years, Xmtb started off the season with a series of 3 races held at Ormeau Park in Belfast starting in February and finishing in April.

Round	Sen	Jnr(m)	U16	U14	U12	U10	U8/U6	TOTAL	Female
1	69	3	8	12	19	32	49	192	21%
2	48	2	6	8	16	27	47	154	25%
3	54	1	6	6	14	27	59	167	27%

Ulster series

The 2017 Ulster Cross-country Mountain Bike series had 5 rounds starting on 19 March and finishing on 2 July. Hosted by Dromara Cycling Club, Apollo CT, Carn Wheelers, Shimna Wheelers and finally by Island Wheelers. Attendance figures are shown below. For race report and results go to www.ulsterxc.com.

Round	Location	Sen	Jnr(m)	U16	U14	U12	U10	U8/U6	TOTAL	Female
1	Tollymore Forest	108	3	10	10	16	24	40	211	17%
2	Craigavon Lakes	98	3	10	7	16	25	52	211	18%
3	Davagh Forest	83	3	9	10	17	29	58	209	22%
4	Castlewellan Forest	82	3	6	6	18	30	62	207	24%
5	Drumcaine Forest	62	0	7	6	16	19	38	148	19%

Ulster XC Championships

Banbridge Cycling Club hosted the Ulster Cross-country Mountain Bike Championships at Castlewellan Forest Park on Sunday 30 July 2017 (150 riders attended).

British XC Series

As per previous years the Off-road Commission supported Junior and Under 23 riders to attend the British XC Series. There was 5 rounds spread between April and August. Expressions of interest were sought in January 2017 with training/testing days held in Tollymore Forest Park. Up to 4 riders were able to travel. Thanks to Simon Curry and Gareth McKee for looking after the team.

UEC MTB European Championships Cross-country (XCO)

The European Cross-country championships took place in Darfo Boario Terme Italy between 27-30 July 2017. There were two Ulster riders competing both of which suffered from a lack of UCI points to get them closer to the front of the action.

Category	Name	Finish
Junior men	Thomas Creighton	60/77
Elite men	Gareth McKee	40/51

Enduro

First Track / Vitus Series

Now in their third year, the First Track / Vitus Enduro series continues strongly. Held over 4 rounds riders could complete all stages or just try out some of them in the "Sports" category.

Round	Location	Enduro	Sports	TOTAL	Female
1	Bellurgan Park	234	12	246	3%
2	Donard Park	147	11	158	3%
3	Big Wood	187	17	204	4%
4	Castlewellan Forest	177	20	197	4%

Ulster Enduro Championships – 5/6 August 2017

The Ulster Enduro Championships were held at Narrow Water Castle near Warrenpoint by First Track/Vitus. This event doubled up as Round 3 of the First Track / Vitus Series.

Davagh Enduro

The annual Davagh Enduro took place over the weekend of 24-25 June 2017 with the slight alteration by having the adult event on the Saturday and the youth event on the Sunday.

Enduro World Series (EWS)

The EWS is an 8 round series taking place in 8 countries starting in New Zealand and finishing in Italy at the end of September. Round 4 was held in Ireland with many of the Ulster riders heading down and getting good results. Some of the riders also competed in the other rounds. Overall series ranking shown below.

2017 Enduro World Series - Series Ranking

Category	Name	Overall
Men Master	Joe Ward	13
Men U21	Jack Devlin	17
Pro men	Kelan Grant	83

Downhill

National Championships Rostrevor

The only Downhill event to take place in Ulster was the Irish National Downhill Championships which took place on 22-23 July 2017 at Kilbroney Park in Rostrevor hosted by Rostrevor MTB club. Ulster riders made it onto the podiums.

British Downhill Series

Riders from Ulster headed over to the HSBC British Downhill Series.

Category	Name	Club	Finish
Round1 - Nant Gwrtheyrn, Gwynedd - 1, 2 April 2017			
Juvenile	Niall Clerkin	Rostrevor MTB	11/14
Youth men	Chris Cumming	Rostrevor MTB	4/23
Junior male	Conor Bate	Un-attached Ulster	5/36
Junior male	Cathal Fitzpatrick	Rostrevor MTB	22/36
Junior male	Ben Davis	Team MoCo	36/36
Elite male	Jacob Dickson	Rostrevor MTB	12/33
Round 2 - Fortwilliam - 14, 15 May 2017			
Youth men	Chris Cumming	Rostrevor MTB	8/27
Youth men	Shea Rooney	Rostrevor MTB	23/27
Junior male	Conor Bate	Un-attached Ulster	5/34
Junior male	Cathal Fitzpatrick	Rostrevor MTB	22/34
Elite male	Jacob Dickson	Rostrevor MTB	13/42
Masters men	Colin Ross	Un-attached Ulster	2/28
Round 3 -- Rhyd-Y-Felin, Bala 17-18 June 2017			
Youth men	Chris Cumming	Rostrevor MTB	5/32
Round 4 - Llangollen – 29-30 July 2017			
Youth men	Chris Cumming	Rostrevor MTB	4/20
Junior male	Conor Bate	Un-attached Ulster	5/33
Junior male	Cathal Fitzpatrick	Rostrevor MTB	24/33
Junior male	Ben Davis	Team MoCo	25/33
Junior male	Bryce McDowell	Team MoCo	30/33
Round 5 – Hopton Castle – 16-17 September 2017			
Youth men	Chris Cumming	Rostrevor MTB	7/33
Junior male	Conor Bate	Un-attached Ulster	4/33
Junior male	Ben Davis	Team MoCo	22/33
Junior male	Cathal Fitzpatrick	Rostrevor MTB	23/33
Junior male	Bryce McDowell	Team MoCo	28/33
Elite male	Jacob Dickson	Rostrevor MTB	14/24

World Downhill Series - UCI DH World Cup

Category	Name	Finish
Round 2 Fortwilliam (UK) 3/4 June 2017		
Elite men	Jacob Dickson	22/125
Junior male	Conor Bate	13/20
Round 3 Leogang (Austria) 10/11 June 2017		
Elite men	Jacob Dickson	15/151
Junior male	Conor Bate	11/19
Round 6 Mont-Sainte-Anne (Canada) 5/6 August 2017		
Elite men	Jacob Dickson	15/151
Round 7 Val di Sole (Italy) 26/27 August 2017		
Elite men	Jacob Dickson	34/80

World Championships DH - Cairns

Jacob Dickson competed in the World Championships and came 42nd out of 66 finishers.

OTHER**Irish National Cross-country Marathon Championships**

Gareth McKee won the Senior men's category of the Marathon Championships which took place in Ballyhoura on 24 September 2017.

Red Bull Fox Hunt

The 6th edition of the Red Bull Fox Hunt took place at Rostrevor over the weekend of 7-8 October. A very popular event with the 450 entries being sold out in less than 1 hour. Riders play the part of 'the hounds' as they try to outride three 'foxes' down the 5.6 km course. This year's 'foxes' were former UCI Downhill Mountain Bike world champions Gee Atherton and Loïc Bruni, plus three times Foxhunt winner Colin Ross. Kelan Grant won the event.

Inter-regionals MTB Championships

The Inter-regionals took place over the weekend of the 23/24 September at Hadleigh Farm in Essex. The team consisted of...

Boys	Girls
Lee Harvey	Katie Neill
Drew Armstrong	Darcey Harkness
Ben Wilson	Erin Creighton
Ryan Skelly	

Team Manager: Lisa Millar, Coach: Graham Boyd, Assistant: Gareth Skelly. Events: Skills, Hill Climb, Dirt Crit, Team Relay and XCO race. Ulster finished 8th out of 14 teams.

Youth Camp

The Cycling Ulster Off-road Commission held 8 Youth Camps on Monday evenings over the summer months. These were held in various locations and attracted, on average, 23 young riders.

Report Martin Grimley CUORC

Cycling Ulster is the Provincial Federation and a sub-committee of The Irish Cycling Federation trading as Cycling Ireland, an Irish registered company limited by guarantee. Company Registration Number - 134567

Cycling Ulster BMX.

After its formation in March 2017, the Commission met 5 times. The Commission's main hopes were to help raise the numbers of riders racing and promote the sport of BMX racing in Ulster. With the 5 main Ulster clubs already having a majority of their members regularly competing in regional events, the best way of increasing the number of racers from Ulster was to concentrate in getting the existing non racing club members involved. A target was set to have 2 fully qualified BMX level 1 coaches per club, to assist riders with achieving the necessary skill level required. With some club committee members already having completed Sprocket Rocket and CU Foundation coaching courses, a Foundation course was run with 9 people attending, bringing the total number having achieved it up to 16. A Level 1 course for all was being planned for, but the BMX Ireland Commission then announced plans that they would be setting up coaching for all clubs in Ireland, by the Ireland BMX team coach, Jeremy Hayes. No further coaching has taken place at this time, BMX Ireland are still taking control of this matter.

Sport promotion was planned to be best achieved by creating an Ulster BMX team, to be used as the faces of BMX racing in the province. 6 of the most successful riders from the start of the 2017 National series races were selected by the commission panel, plans were to get them team jerseys, team coaching and enter them into a round of the British BMX Championship. Unfortunately, funding was not available until later in the year and it was decided to shelve 2017's plans, but to focus on a 2018 team for the same purpose.

BMX Ulster commission banners and leaflets were also decided upon to promote the sport, sourcing is ongoing at this time.

The commission also arranged a CU safeguarding course for new and existing club committee members to partake or update, 17 attended the course.

Lisburn BMX Club have the only functional BMX track in Ulster. In order for use of the track to continue through the winter, a generator upgrade was needed by the club, for floodlighting and gate power. After a request from the club, the BMX commission agreed to use funds from their budget to assist the club with this purchase. This process is still ongoing at the time of this report being written.

The BMX Commission AGM is provisionally booked for Tuesday 12th December, at 7pm at BHB Safety offices in Karl Business Park, Antrim.

Women's Commission – Annual Report 2017

Women's Cycling Ulster was formed in January 2014 and our mission is to encourage and promote women's cycling. We are delighted to have had another successful year.

The Commission members are: Maria O'Loan, Lisa Millar, Eileen Burns, Toni Armstrong, Petrina Doyle, Claire McIlwaine and Michelle Sloan.

Communications

Our Facebook page has almost 1,500 followers and our website is also attracting significant traffic. Both are excellent resources and the WCU committee works hard to ensure that relevant and interesting events, information, race reports and news stories are shared.

WCU Leagues

The Commission supported two leagues this year:

- **WCU Road Race League**
- **WCU Time Trial**

We are pleased to report that we continue to see new faces at the league events since they were re-introduced in 2014, emphasising the importance of continuing to run the leagues to encourage women either into the sport or to try the competitive side of the sport.

We encourage women to pre-register for events, as this assists organisers greatly however we acknowledge there are still issues here.

Rás Na mBan

We were delighted to be able to support and fund an Ulster team again this year. The team was chosen on ability and results during the start of the season rather than seeking expressions of interest. This meant that the most talented and capable riders who were committed to the event were selected.

Josh Murray (Maryland Wheelers) volunteered to manage the team and did an excellent job in doing so.

The team consisted of:

- Claire McIlwaine (Phoenix CC)
- Eileen Burns (Ballymena RC)
- Katherine Smyth (Team Madigan)
- Lisa Lamont (Team Madigan)
- Sharon Bird (Team Madigan)

The team retained its Best Irish Team title again this year.

The Commission would like to extend its sincere thanks to Josh who did a tremendous job as Team Manager. We would also like to thank Jason Burns, who gave up his time to act as team mechanic, Conor McIlwaine as soigneur, as well as Josh's parents Mickey and Nuala Murray who provided much needed support with cooking, laundry, etc.

Within our remit of promoting cycling to women and encouraging greater participation across the sport from women we felt that it was important that any team have a positive experience of the race and this in turn would act as an inspiration and encouragement to other women to try racing.

Off-Road

We continue to work with the Off-Road Commission to encourage and build on the successes of previous years to develop both Cross Country and Cyclocross. We have seen numbers of women racing XC grow steadily.

Ulsterwomen Ciara MacManus and Anne Duffy took the top two spots in the XC National Championships this year.

In September three girls attended the Inter-Regional MTB championships in Hadleigh Farm, Essex and performed admirably. There have been some informal requests for funding for girls attending XC and CX races in Britain and we are happy to consider these if a formal request is made.

Cyclocross season has just begun and continues to prove very popular among women.

Finance

The majority of our expenditure this year has been in respect of Rás na mBan, which was funded in full by the Commission through funds supplied by Cycling Ulster. We also pay a nominal fee for the website hosting and domain, and purchase trophies for the top 5 for each league.

Lisa Millar - Women's Commission Cycling Ulster

Cycling Ulster Youth Academy Report 2017.

Cycling Ulster Youth Academy Report 2017

The Cycling Ulster Youth Academy comprised of the following

Mickey McKenna (Chairman)
Paul Dixon (Secretary)
Gary Rafferty
Brian McComb
James Maguire
Phil Holland
Mickey Murray
Shenna McKiverigan

The CUYA set out this year to support a number of events. The road year was very busy early on for all our riders with the European Youth Olympic Qualifying races coming thick and fast. The first CUYA team picked was for the Youth Tour of Scotland, where we were able to send both a boys and girls team. Our girls team, in particular comprised of young riders who will have the potential to have at least one more go at this event. Thanks must go to Sean Kelly and Doreena White for managing the teams at this event.

Unfortunately we were unable to send a team to Ras Na Nog, which meant the next event for our team was the Errigal 3 day. This year we sent a boys U16 and U14 team and a composite girls team. It was a tough competition but our riders all rode very well throughout the event and again we had several young riders who will have another crack at the event potentially next year.

We also sent teams to the School Games at Loughborough University. This event had some quirky events, for instance a team time trial on turbo trainers using Zwift. We had some standout performances in both the Team Time Trial and the Street Sprint.

Selection remains a contentious area and is something that we must address going forward with whomever is on our committee next year.

We ran our league this year over 6 events and all went well, although some of the leagues didn't see great participation from riders. This is something to consider for next year and perhaps consider a revamp of the format.

Unfortunately, we didn't run the same training days as we had the previous year and this is something I would like us to address for next year.

We ended the season with a day out for the kids at the Crannagh Activity Centre in Coleraine which saw a large turnout of our riders, swapping their bikes for wetsuits and having a ball in the river Bann. We also held our league presentations at this event.

2017 has been a mixed year but hopefully it gives us something to build on for 2018.

Technical Officer Report – Cycling Ulster AGM 2017

Many have asked and enquired as to the tasks and responsibilities I undertake in the role of Cycling Ulster's Technical officer, so I thought it worthwhile giving a brief high-level overview of the activities carried out as part of the role as the introduction to this report.

Duties of the Technical Officer include, but are not limited to;

- Commissaire appointment scheduling for Ulster road events*
- Liaison / contact point for Ulster based Commissaires
- Management of Ulster Commissaire training as required
- Dissemination of communique from the CI College of Commissaires
- Collation of Ulster Commissaire race reports
- Technical point of escalation and advice for CU Members, Clubs and the CU Executive
- Management and bookings, payments, storage & maintenance of CU race radios*
- Monthly reporting to the CU Executive on technical issues.
- Provincial calendar co-ordination of Ulster road events.

*Taking the above tasks into consideration along with the other roles and duties I hold with Cycling Ireland/Cycling Ulster, my own club Banbridge CC, and even a bit of work and family life, I have requested from the Executive that the tasks of Commissaire appointment scheduling and management of the CU race radios be split from the role of Technical Officer going forward from 2018 to help ease the load.

Where Cycling Ulster members feel I may be of benefit, whether it be for assistance and advice on race promotions, technical regulations or any other related items please do feel free to contact me directly via aarwallace@gmail.com. I may not always have the answer directly at hand, but I will make an effort to source it and assist in resolving any queries or issues you may have.

2017 Road Calendar

One of the first activities ahead of the 2017 season was to review event requests and draft the 2017 road competition calendar along with the help of Patrick Withers and the Cycling Ireland Events Officer, Garry Nugent. This is always a fairly time-consuming activity, involving quite a bit of follow up with the event promoters trying to agree on suitable dates for all events.

In 2017 we did have a few instances of multiple events being held on the same day within Ulster and while not ideal we did aim to ensure the events catered for different category of riders where possible and that they were serving different parts of the province (North vs South). With more notice and time to plan for 2018 this is something we hope to avoid for next season.

Trainee Commissaire Course

A two-day Trainee Commissaire course was promoted by Cycling Ulster in February with the assistance of the Cycling Ireland College of Commissaires in Armagh City Hotel. A written examination waited for each of the attendees following the two days training before they could qualify as Trainee Commissaires.

We had a total of 15 attendees, with 14 passing the exam and going on as Trainees – 9 of which would be based in Ulster.

Following a season of shadowing and assisting some of our more experienced Comm's, and even managing some races of their own, we were delighted to confirm the successful promotion to National Grade B Commissaire for the below Cycling Ulster members;

- Mario Arranz
- Jonny Beers
- Francis Coyle
- Drew Murray
- Laura Wilson

This increased pool of available Grade B Comm's within the province will hopefully assist us in providing more coverage and support for an ever increasingly busy Ulster road racing calendar. Naturally there is still much to learn for the newly qualified Comm's, which will come from experience, but we wish them well in this step of their careers as Road Race Commissaires, and look forward to seeing them officiating early in the 2018 season.

Commissaire Event Coverage

With the road event calendar becoming increasingly congested, particularly in Ulster, it is becoming more difficult to assign an appropriate number of Commissaires to each event. Ulster Commissaires however were able to provide cover for all advertised and CI approved road races in the 2017 season. Additional coverage would have been preferred, and at times necessary, for a number of events where numerous races are hosted on the same day, but with a limit on volunteer numbers this is not always possible.

Continued thanks go to all Ulster based Commissaires and CI Commissaires who have supported and assisted Ulster events in 2017. Their voluntary time is invaluable to the local racing scene.

Unsanctioned Events

One of the escalations raised to myself and the Cycling Ulster Executive during the 2017 season related to clubs hosting or planning to host events outside of the Cycling Ireland Regulations regarding 'Non-Open' (Club & League) races.

The specific rule in relation to when non-open races are permitted can be seen below;

“Club and League races may only be run on Mondays through Thursdays. Notwithstanding League Races may be run at any time subject to these being promoted for a defined group of riders e.g. masters, women, time trialists etc. Such events must be authorised at the time of the annual calendar approval and be listed in the Annual Road Events Calendar.”

(CI General Administrative Regulations, Technical Regulations and Procedures v24.1, Page 71)

While we are here to encourage and support clubs in the promotion of events for our members, it is important they fall within the regulations of Cycling Ireland. Events which are organised outside of, or in contradiction to the regulations, are not sanctioned by Cycling Ireland or Cycling Ulster. Consequently, there is no Cycling Ireland insurance cover for the Event Promoter or Cycling Ireland members taking part in these events.

I would encourage members to be vigilant when hosting or even taking part in events, ensuring that they fall with the regulations to ensure you are covered by the insurance your Cycling Ireland membership affords you.

Race Radios

A number of additional radio units were purchased at the start of the 2017 season. These were both to replace any units that were unaccounted for from the previous season in 2016, and to bring stock numbers up to allow us to split the radios into 2 batches. We now have a healthy stock of working radios ready for the start of the 2018 season.

When hiring the radios, if a fault or issue is identified with a unit it should be reported with the details of the fault and the corresponding unit ID number upon their return. Often faults are reported with little or no information meaning it is almost impossible to rectify issues before they are assigned to the next event.

Total incomings from CU race radio hire for road events in 2017 was £1,162.00.

Aaron Wallace Technical Officer – Cycling Ulster : aarwallace@gmail.com

Item 7. Executive Officers. (Four 1-year positions.)

The following Members have been nominated to be elected at the 2017 AGM

Nominees in alphabetical order are as follows

- Tommy Lamb Nominated by North Donegal CC
- Jim Maguire Nominated by AAA Cycling
- Tommy McCague Nominated by Emyvale CC
- Mark Moroney Nominated by Foyle CC
- Andrew Wills Nominated by Ballymena RC
- Patrick Withers Nominated by West Tyrone Velo Fintona CC

Ballot cards will be distributed. Please place x against 4 of the 6 names on the ballot sheet.

Item 8. Motions.

Cycling Ulster Executive propose the following changes to the Constitution

ARTICLE 3 – COUNCIL

Change

6. A quorum at Council Meetings shall consist of not less than 20% of the appointed voting delegates or affiliated clubs present. When any financial business is to be transacted the treasurer or a member of the council deputed by the treasurer to represent his/her views must be present.

To

6. A quorum at Council Meetings shall consist of not less than 5% of the appointed voting delegates or affiliated clubs present. When any financial business is to be transacted the treasurer or a member of the council deputed by the treasurer to represent his/her views must be present.

And Under Quorum

Change

A Quorum shall consist of for –

- Council Meetings : 20% of Cycling Ulster Clubs

To

A Quorum shall consist of for –

- Council Meetings : 5% of Cycling Ulster Clubs

This will bring us in line with Cycling Ireland's Memos and Articles of Association

ARTICLE 8 - FINANCE

Change

b. The Honorary Chairperson and Honorary Treasurer are authorised to sign cheques on behalf of Cycling Ulster. An additional signatory may be added at the approval of the Executive. Two signatories are required on all cheques.

To

b. The Honorary Treasurer and two Executive Offices nominated by the Executive are authorised to sign cheques on behalf of Cycling Ulster. An additional signatory may be added at the approval of the Executive. Any two signatories are required on all cheques.

Remove the following clause

d. No member shall, except for professional services rendered at the request of the Council, on any pretence or in any manner, receive any profit, salary or emoluments from the funds or transactions of Cycling Ulster. (Members are permitted to request funds for administrative and/or incidental expenses such as postage, mileage to meetings)

Close of Business

Presentation by Gary Lavery Club Development Officer

Presentation by Cycling Ireland