



SPECIAL ISSUE NEWSLETTER

Coronavirus Update - July 2020

FROM THE EDITOR

Here we go again with another newsletter as the coronavirus pandemic continues, albeit with the very necessary restrictions on our movements and activities now slowly beginning to ease. I am sure that we are all looking forward to time trialling being able to recommence on 18th July, although organisers (and riders) will inevitably find the CTT social distancing guidelines another burden. However we must adhere to them in a responsible way.

The main purpose of this newsletter is to update all members on the project to link members' VTTA and CTT accounts and to automate the results of the season long competitions. Please read the Chairman's update and then follow the Guidance Note to link your VTTA and CTT accounts. All racing members now need to do this for their VTTA membership to be included on start sheets and for their results to be included in the season long competitions. This needs doing before you recommence racing but it is so easy that even if having a year out you may as well do it now then you do not need to remember in future. There is also an update of the current situation with our championships, season long competitions and standards awards process.

It is intended that The Veteran be published in full in September and for it to include the usual features. Hopefully the 50 mile, 12 hour and 100 mile VTTA championships will all have been successfully

completed and can be reported on. I would also hope to have a full set of Group Reports, so if you have any news please get in touch with your Group Correspondent, some of whom are still locked away and not currently receiving the bush telegraph - they need your help.

I also need a bit of help with the September edition. Below is what the front cover looks like just now as I do some preliminary work on it; I would very much like to replace the '?'s with a series of lockdown selfies to reflect what our members have been doing over the past few months and how frustrating it has all been. This is a chance for anyone to make it onto the cover of The Veteran - you do not have to win a championship - so please send your photos (jpg, jpeg, png or pdf preferred) to me at editor@vtta.org.uk.

VTTA events in particular rely on older, retired from racing, members for their success. In many cases the personal circumstances or health of these individuals means that they are still 'shielding' and so will be unable to get out as event helpers for the next few months. So if you are a younger member and not riding a particular event please pick up the phone and offer your services to the organiser. To maintain our sport we need volunteers and probably even a few more than in normal times.

On behalf of all our national officials I hope that you all remain safe and well. We look forward to seeing you soon and to the resumption of normal service.

Mike Penrice



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS (JOINING SINCE 24TH APRIL)

East Anglian - Paul Schofield (St Ives CC), Louise A Robinson (Essex Roads CC), Paul Hart (Hart Performance Coaching)

Kent - Roger T Wilson (Thornton RC)

London & Home Counties - Joel Stewart (Team Ohten Aves), Ian PC Lowe (Thames Velo)

Manchester & NW - Andy Cummings (Warrington Tri Club)

Merseyside - Chris Little (club unknown), John D Forbes (Birkenhead North End CC)

Midlands - Jon Stroud (NFTO CC), Andy Britton (club unknown), Kate McCaffrey (Stafford Tri Club), Andy D Cross (Velo One Cycling Team), Robert W Cotton (PlomesgateCC), Scott K Povey (MediaVelo)

North - Ben Harrison (Crimson Performance Orientation RT)

North Lancs & Lakes - Kath Finn (Kendal CC), Ray Flanagan (Rossendale RC), David M Tolson (club unknown), Martin Horrobin (Horwich CC)

North Midlands - David J Whiteside (VTTA N Mids)

Nottingham & E Mids - Carl Owen, Loz Staples, Rob Muzio (all Team Ohten Aves)

Scotland - Sarah Emslie (club unknown)

South Wales - Daniel Thorogood (Ystwyth CC)

Surrey/Sussex - Tom Houghton (South Downs Bikes CC), Ross J Vart (club unknown)

Wessex - Gavin Darke (Army CU), Paul Pallister (Utag RT), Robert Corry, Steve Orriss (both Fareham Whs)

West - John R Milkins (Kingswood Tri Club)

Yorkshire - Paul Howell (Yorkshire RC)

NEW MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO LINK THEIR VTTA AND CTT ACCOUNTS AS EXPLAINED IN THE ENCLOSED GUIDANCE NOTE.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Important News - Linking your VTTA and CTT Accounts and Automating the Season Long Competitions

We have now implemented a major new feature on our website which allows our members to link their VTTA and CTT accounts. This has two major benefits:

- 1) In the past you had to enter your VTTA details to the CTT system, but this process became unreliable and meant event organisers still had to check membership on the VTTA database. By linking your accounts your VTTA membership on the CTT system and on CTT startsheets will be taken directly from your VTTA membership record (i.e. your VTTA number and Group).
- 2) Once you have registered permission and linked your accounts, we can download your results and automatically display regular updates of in-season and end of season results for all three season long competitions (see further below).

You can now register and link your VTTA and CTT accounts. See the **Guidance Note** opposite. **Please do this** so that:

- 3) Event organisers, especially for VTTA events and championships, know you are a VTTA member and can assign you priority entry. If you previously had VTTA details on the CTT site these have been removed, so you need to set them up using the new linking facility which will ensure their ongoing accuracy.
- 4) You must register to be included in the season long competitions; with the benefit that you will be able to view and track in-season performances and no longer have to complete and submit an end of season claim form.

New Automated Results Service for Season Long Competitions

As explained above, we have developed a new service on the national website to automate the results of the season long competitions, as agreed at the AGM and funded by the Groups and NEC. Once you have linked your VTTA and CTT accounts, and selected which competitions you wish to enter, your results will be regularly and automatically downloaded to our website from the CTT system. On our website you will be able to view your own and other members' positions and results throughout the season. You will no longer have to submit an end of season claim form for the competitions. We hope that this will encourage greater participation in the competitions and provide greater motivation as you can see how you are doing alongside your peers during the season. The new system will also provide in-season and end of season club and group results.

(Some time trials in Scotland are run by the Scottish Cycling Union not CTT. There is a facility for Group Recorders to capture these results by 'manual entry'. This facility will also cover any pre-lockdown events this year).

Season Long Competitions – No Awards in 2020

Given the shortened season, and the cancellation of many remaining events, it is clearly problematic to run our national season long competitions this year i.e. the Short Distance, Three Distance and Four Distance (BAR) competitions. We will not have a reasonable spread of counting events around the country and there are members who feel it is inappropriate for them to compete in the circumstances. Therefore, the NEC has decided not to award any trophies or medals for the season long competitions this year as we expect participation and performances to be severely limited.

Even though we are not making awards we will provide a 'results listing' for the Short Distance, Three Distance and Four Distance Competitions using the new automated results service described above. So if you are competing this year please register and you will be included in these results listings.

VTTA National Championships – Revised Dates

Most of our national championship organisers are still planning to hold their events, subject of course to further changes in government regulations and guidance from CTT and their Districts. The current championship events and dates are as follows:

- 50 miles on 26th July (Notts & East Midlands)
- 100 miles on 30th August (Tyneside Vagabonds)
- 10 miles on 12th September (London & Home Counties)
- 15 miles on 20th September (Merseyside)
- The RTTC 12 hour championship is still planned to be held on 23rd August
- 25 miles (Wessex) – The event on 11th July had to be cancelled. It may be possible to arrange this for later in the season but that is yet to be determined.

The 30 mile championship and the RTTC 24 hour championship have been cancelled.

We are grateful to the organisers for their continued willingness to run these championships. They will plan to run these events in a safe and responsible manner and we trust that all competitors will be conscientious in following the safety conditions.

Standards

Following consultations with Groups, the NEC recommends that if members do achieve qualifying rides this year they can claim for standard medals in the normal way. But any member who has paid for standards this year and does not claim should have their standards fee carried forward to next season.

Andrew Simpkins

GUIDANCE NOTE

REGISTER NOW TO LINK YOUR CTT AND VTTA ACCOUNTS

Very Important: Please complete the registration process below **prior to** your first qualifying open event of the season post the suspension of events.

Following agreement with the CTT Legal Secretary you need to give permission on **both** the CTT and VTTA websites to link your CTT and VTTA member accounts. To guarantee the security of this process your CTT account will give you a unique verification code to enter on your VTTA account. Please follow the instructions below – in practice it only takes about **two to three minutes**.

Step 1 CTT Account – Obtain Verification Code

Login to your CTT account (at www.ctt.org.uk). (If you have not logged in before you will need to register. Click ‘register here’ and complete the form, ticking the box to say you are already a member.)

From the Home page click on ‘My Dashboard’. Then on the Dashboard screen, click on the **far right tab ‘VTTA’**. You will see the following text.

- Tick the box if you agree to 1) your date of birth, VTTA membership number and VTTA group details being shared between the VTTA and CTT, and (2) for the VTTA to download your results in CTT events from the CTT website for the purpose of the VTTA season long competitions. (This consent is required and will generate your CTT Verification Code.)*

Please tick the box and click Submit. Then make a note of the **CTT Verification Code** you are given and **your CTT number** (shown top right of screen). You can now log out from the CTT site.

Step 2 VTTA Account – Link Accounts

Now go to the VTTA website (www.vtta.org.uk) and login. (If you have not logged in before you will need to register. Click ‘Register here’ and complete the form, ticking the box to say you are already a member.)

From the Home Page click on your name (top right) and then My Profile in the dropdown box. You will see the following text:

Account Not Linked To CTT

Your VTTA account is not linked to the CTT. Please go to your CTT member page (www.cyclingtimetrials.org.uk), and in the VTTA tab obtain your verification code and note your CTT number. Then follow the link below. This will securely link your accounts so your results can be automatically included in our competitions.

[Link My Account Now](#)

You have already obtained your CTT code and number so you can just click on ‘Link My Account Now’. You will see the following text:

I intend to take part in time trials held under the rules and regulations of Cycling Time Trials (CTT) and want CTT to have accurate information regarding my VTTA membership. I therefore agree for the VTTA to inform CTT that I am a current member and to provide CTT with my VTTA number, and group. I notify this agreement by entering my CTT ID and the CTT Verification Code in the boxes below.

Enter the two numbers and click ‘Link’. You will then see the message on your Profile page ‘Your account is linked to CTT account with id: (your id number). Now please click on the ‘Competitions’ tab to select which competitions you wish to participate in.’

Step 3 VTTA Account - Enrol for Competitions

Click the ‘Competitions’ tab on the far right of the page. Tick those competitions for which you want to be included. This will be shown for 2020 but your selection will be automatically carried forward to following years unless you choose to amend them.

Notes:

Note 1: Trike Riders – If you want to enter the season long competitions on a trike then on your ‘My Profile’ page set your Competition Machine to ‘Trike’ (the default is ‘Bike’).

Note 2: CTT Code - You do not need to keep your CTT verification code but do not pass it to others.

Note 3: Your Personal Details - While accessing your membership record please ensure your personal information is up to date - ie contact numbers, club name etc.

Note 4 : Non-Internet Members – We are aware of a small number of members without an email address or internet access. These members should all have received a manual consent form with this letter. If intending riding time trials in 2020 or beyond please complete and return this form so that your CTT and VTTA accounts can be linked.

If you have any queries, please do NOT contact CTT but email itmanager@vtta.org.uk

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