

# Manchester Triathlon Club Annual General Meeting

6<sup>th</sup> December 2010

7.00pm

Longford Park

Minutes taken by: Kieran O' Donovan.

## 1. Apologies

Mike Spencer, Cathy Atkinson, John Murray, Shaun Walsh, Paul Skipper, Ilyr Hughes, Bethan Habron-Jones.

## 2. Chairman's report

**Andy Fardon**

Andy started off by acknowledging in this the Club's 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary year, the work done by hundreds of dedicated volunteers since the club started in the late 1980's. Without these volunteers there would be no framework to celebrate the clubs ongoing athletic achievements.

Following on from this Andy outlined some of the activities and events that the club has engaged in over the last 12 months, none of which would have been possible without the work of volunteers.

The winter training camp at club La Santa – Nick Thomas and Paul Skipper

The winter training duathlons- Paul Skipper

The velodrome training sessions

The winter cross country series – Sonia Harris

The Pennine Bridleway – Tony Jolly

The London Marathon Places- Sonia Harris

The Postal Swim Tony Jolly

The club training weekend Sarah Kenny

The Thursday evening aquathlons

Our 1<sup>st</sup> junior triathlon – Martin Webb

Our 10<sup>th</sup> Boundary Breeze Triathlon – Rich Hyder

Our 1<sup>st</sup> British Aquathlon Championships

21 teams competing in the national team relays – Nick Thomas

The end of season party – Jeff McGinty

The Sunday Bike rides – Alan Sheldon.

Andy also acknowledged the work that goes on behind the scenes by the clubs committees.

Andy informed the members that sadly he is stepping down from the role of club chairman this year. He thanked everyone for their warm wishes and his fellow committee members who have been a pleasure to work with. He wished the new committee continued success in

taking the club forward to even greater heights.

### **3. Election of executive and non executive committee members.**

#### **Executive committee for 2010**

Chairman	Howard Mead
Vice-chairman	Rob Harper
Secretary	Sarah Kenny
Treasurer	Ian Jones
Membership Secretary	Mark Hanna
Welfare Officer	Cathy Atkinson
Junior Chair	Martin Webb
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Andy Chalmers
Events Co-ordinator	Rich Hyder

The roles of the non executive committee will continue as of last year with the exception of Andy Adkin who takes over the role of voucher co-ordinator from Mike Spencer.

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

**Ian Jones**

Ian Jones reported on the accounts of Manchester Triathlon club for the year 2009/2010.

The financial year of Manchester Triathlon club runs from November 15th – November 14<sup>th</sup> the following year. The club's main income comes from Memberships, Vouchers and club events. The Club's main out-goings include coaching and facilities. The intention of the club is to roughly breakeven year on year while keeping a safety factor of cash in the bank equivalent to four months expenditure.

#### **2009/2010 Income and Expenditure**

The Overall Income - £62465

- Memberships - £51438
- Vouchers - £5340
- Boundary Breeze – £2824

The Overall Outgoings - £63179

- Coaching - £32643
- Facilities - £23105

Overall - £713 loss for the financial year.

Cash in accounts

- Cash in the bank at start of this financial year was £35728

- Cash in the bank at the end of the financial year - £35015
- Club needs - £4500 a month to run
- Minimum amount allowable in bank at end of calendar year £19000-£20000.

Ian indicated that there are always risks to the club's financial health that need to be monitored such as increases in facility prices, a drop off in members numbers, an increase in the number of members who train regularly.

All things being equal the club should post a loss of £5,000 next year compared to £714 this year. With this £5000 deficit we will end up with at £30000 by the end of the next financial year and £21000 by the end of December 2011. Ian summarised that the club is a sound financial position at present with significant cash in the bank. With the potential risks taken into account Ian outlined the plans for next year including

- Keeping the membership subs static
- A modest increase in the number of sessions including one extra swim and possibly one velodrome session.

Ian Jones Proposed the motion that this year's subs stay the same.

Howard Mead seconded this proposal.

All in Favour 32

All against 0.

The motion was carried to maintain membership subs at their current level.

- Q. Dave Perry asked about the potential risks involved in Boundary Breeze making a loss in any financial year.
- A. Andy Chalmers, Andy Fardon and Ian Jones replied by explaining that the majority of the costs are covered by sponsorship and the race sells out in advance every year. All in all at present Boundary Breeze does not appear to be at much of a risk in making any loss.
- Q. Paul Barrett asked if there is a risk of membership numbers dropping should we be advertising more?
- A. Brian Mullan answered by explaining in general the club can see by February of each year whether we need to advertise for more members or not. If members were significantly down in February then this would be an option.

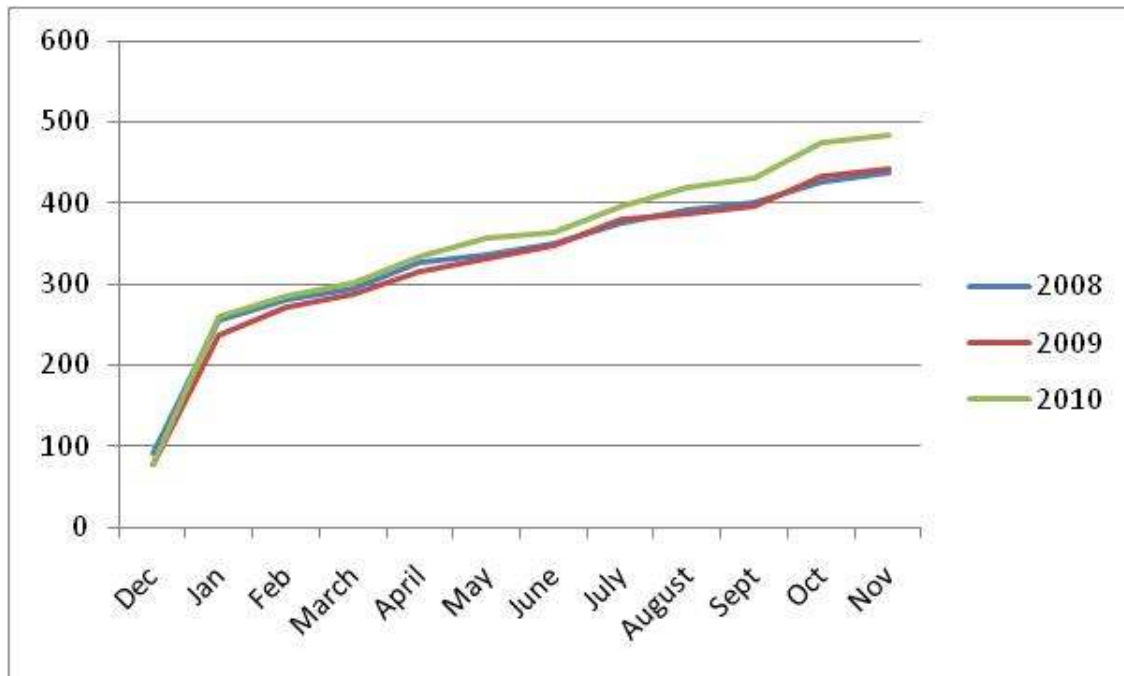
## 5. Membership secretary Report

Brian Mullan

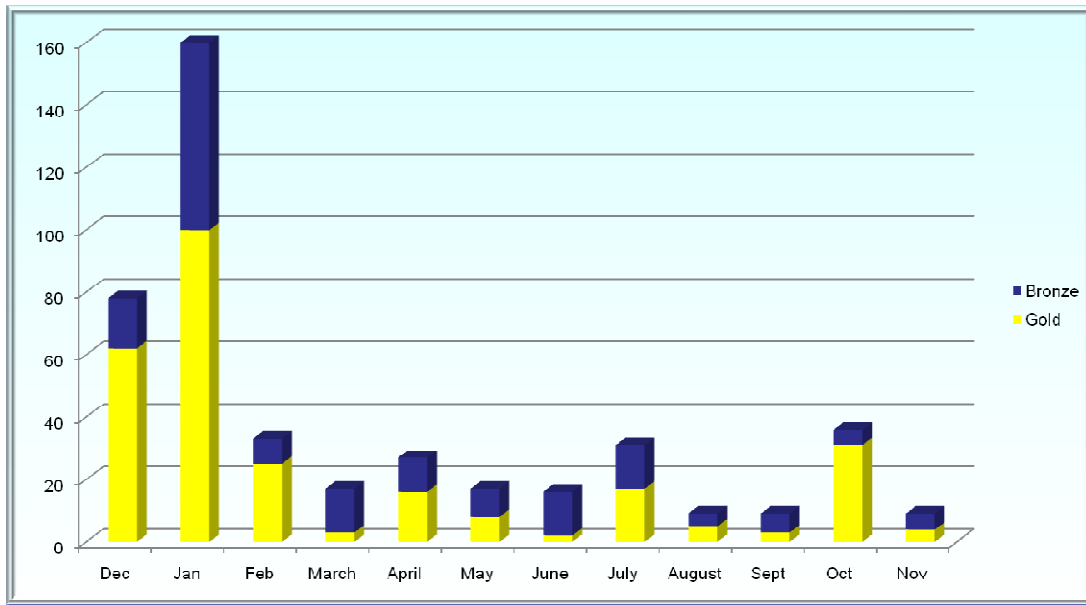
Brian highlighted that at end of year the club's membership numbers correlated closely with last years and the years before. The membership year continues to run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Brian outlined how membership numbers were in spite of worries about the effect of increasing membership subscriptions last year similar to the previous year's numbers.

Gold and bronze membership will continue in 2009/2010. Membership cards will continue to be Gold and White and the same format and style of card used.

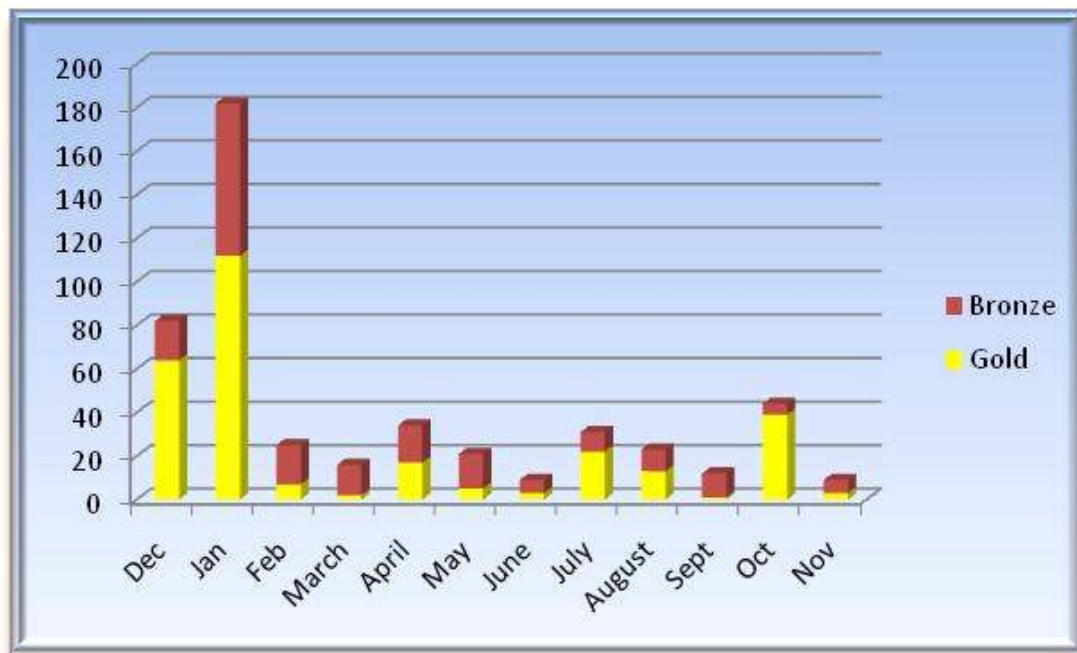
**Figure 1. Total members 2008-2010**



**Figure II. 2009 Gold and Bronze Split**



**Figure III 2010 Gold and Bronze Split**



- Rob Arnold asked if the club follows up members who leave to investigate their reasons for leaving? Would this be useful if we are trying to attract new members?

Brian answered by saying that members are continuously moving on and our 25-30% turnover of members each year is about average in triathlon. In the past the club e-mailed members that had not rejoined but we no longer do this as we are operating at capacity. It is something that we could do again if membership numbers started to drop.

- Sarah Kenny asked if we know how often Bronze members train?

Brian answered by saying we don't have those figures but with the new sign in sheets it is information we could access if we needed to.

- Mark Coley asked do we know the percentage turnover of members year on year.

Brian Mullan answered by saying that the general turnover is about 25-30% each year.

- Howard Mead asked whether dropping gold membership prices is something we could look at in the future to help recruit new members.

Ian Jones answered that this is something that could be looked at in the future.

- Dave Perry asked whether he could pay for his membership in any way other than using PayPal.

Ian Jones answered that at present to minimise administration that there were no other options other than PayPal.

- A question was asked whether it was possible to have membership for sections of a year, ie college terms, or monthly?

Brian Mullan explained that the finances of the club were planned around full year membership and that the administration involved in allowing different types of memberships was not at present an option due to the extra workload involved.

## **6. Junior Chair Report**

**Martin Webb**

Martin outlined how the Manchester Triathlon Junior section was set up in April 2009 with the help of the senior club. The aim of the junior section is to

- allow children to learn the skills and rules of triathlon whilst emphasising fun, safety and participation but still providing the opportunities for those who want to race
- To provide training sessions in the swim, bike and run disciplines

- To develop a sustainable club

Martin Summarized the achievements of the Junior Club to date.

- 60 members
- 20-25 regularly attending the weekly run session at Longford Park
- 12-15 regularly attending the weekly swim session at Moss Side
- 10-15 attending the weekly bike session at Wythenshawe Park
- All sessions are normally delivered by three coaches including three parents who qualified as coaches this year
- Massive thanks to Rob Harvey and the senior coaches for putting a structured training plan in place which everyone is enjoying
- Nice mixture of fun + competitive spirit
- Club members regularly took part in the NW Winter and Summer series
- Club members part of NW Junior Academy
- Man Tri Juniors have dominated the Manchester Go-Ride bike race series run in conjunction with British Cycling and Manchester City Council
- A number of riders then stepped up and rode really well in a NW Regional race
- BIGGEST success of the year was hosting our first Junior Triathlon in Knutsford
  - 130 kids racing - lots for the first time
  - All other North West Clubs represented
  - Organisation, event timing on the day was excellent
  - Great race experience for all
  - Excellent support from sponsors, club members who helped out
  - Fantastic feedback from parents and other clubs

Martin highlighted the plans for next season as follows

- Build on partnerships with British Cycling, Manchester City Council, Triathlon England
- Additional bike sessions at Tameside track and Manchester Health Academy (Wythenshawe)
- Swimming galas in conjunction with Trafford Metros (to be confirmed)
- Organise another junior triathlon, plus duathlon and aquathlon
- Explore further funding raising opportunities
  - If we do nothing then expected budget shortfall in 2012
  - Parents meeting / junior AGM Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

## 7. Head Coaches Report

### Tony Jolly in Rob Harvey's absence

Tony Jolly outlined the clubs achievements this year from a coaching perspective

- **Swim Section**
  - First members affiliated to ASA and competed in National Masters

- **Bike Section**
  - Another successful winter of Sunday rides thanks to Alan Sheldon and Tim Johns.
  - An increasing number of members competed in the TLI road race series at Oulton Park.
- **Run Section**
  - Another successful England Athletics affiliation and cross country season – thanks to Sonia Harris
  - 2 London marathon places applied for, received and used.
- **Website**
  - Significant content development with written, photo and video resources for swimming, strength and conditioning, stretching.
  - Coaching website now up and running.

- 1 x Club La Santa Camp Jan 2010 (Nick Thomas and Paul Skipper)
- 1 x Novice Training Day
- 4 x Bike maintenance workshops delivered (Steve Clayton)
- 1 x Bike Fit Workshop delivered (Paul Savage)
- 1 x Training Weekend in the Peak District (Sarah Kenny)
- 6 x Training Duathlons planned, 3 cancelled due to weather (Paul Skipper and Andy Fardon)
- 1 x 1<sup>st</sup> aid course delivered for coaches and members

**Tony outlined the continued growth of the weekly training programme which now consists of:**

- Swim: 500 (10 weekly pool swims)
- Bike: 100 (2 weekly winter turbos, 2 weekly group rides)
- Run: 120 (2 weekly track, 20 hill/off-road)
- Brick: 8 (Weekly for 2 months)
- S&C: 120 (2 weekly poolside injury prevention, 1 weekly winter circuit)
- Total: 848 sessions

**After the significant investment in purchasing last year not too much was bought this year**

- 8 x Drag towels put together for Moss Side
- Repaired 15 sets of paddles at Moss Side
- 10 sets of fins ordered for the Juniors

### **Tony outlined what was new in 2009/2010**

- First members affiliated to ASA and competed in National Masters
- EA London marathon places received and used by members
- Quarterly Maintenance workshops
- Bike fit workshop
- Circuit training sessions established
- Weekly swim programme reached 10 sessions with permanent establishment of Monday PM Swim at Moss Side

### **Tony outlined what is t new for the 2010/2011 season**

- Saturday Bike Skills Sessions at Wythenshawe Park – these are already underway and being coached by Neil O’Brien
- Monthly Tameside Circuit Sessions to practice bike racing skills – First session planned for Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December
- S&C Programme for members – this is already underway with 14 people signed up.
- 16 weeks of Watt Bike Session at the Manchester Velodrome due to begin in the New Year
- Potential additional swim session through tie in with Trafford Swim Club beginning in the New Year

## **9) Any Other Business**

**Andy Fardon**

- Dave Perry asked the question should the fees for cross country races be absorbed by the club.

Ian Jones and Sonia Harris explained that the club is a multi sport club and to start paying for the cross country races would mean they should also pay for bike races and swimming races and these are expenses the club does not want to and cannot take on board. Sonia also explained that each runner has to be individually affiliated to race and that the administration of affiliating all members was much too large a task to be taken on.

Dave Perry proposed the motion that Manchester Triathlon Club should cover the costs of Cross Country races.

The Proposal was seconded by Paul Barrett.

Votes in favour 2

Votes Against 31.

The motion was defeated.

- Sonia Harris gave a brief outline of the cross country teams success's in the last year. She also in accordance with the rules of selection picked three names out of a hat to receive the club's 3 allocated London Marathon places. The winners were Ian Jones, Richard Hyder and Dan Ling.

## **10) Words from the New Chair.**

**Howard Mead**

Howard Mead was welcomed as the new chairman of Manchester Triathlon Club. Howard briefly outlined some of his plans for 2011 including

- Increasing the social; activities of the club
- Investigating of current membership levels can be raised
- To bring his accountancy background to the clubs finances
- To increase the profile of the club in the media
- To start a recruitment drive for more volunteers
- To look at staging another club event possibly an Olympic triathlon.

Meeting closed 8.30pm.