



Jersey Cycling Association

Youth Academy

Officials

Ashley Hillier – Chairman
Paul Le Gros – Treasurer
Joanne Bridson – Secretary
Alison Hart – Media Secretary

Committee Members

Ivor Clarke
Amanda Wright
Martin Orpin
John Pallot Brown
Rachel Mauger
Rachael Huelin
Paul Mauger
Rhys Pilley – Youth Representative
Indi Malzard – Youth Representative

2017 has been another great year for the Youth Academy which has continued to thrive and develop. On the track, we have seen some terrific results from our riders across the age groups and off the track significant progress continues to be made ensuring the foundations remain strong with future growth and development, firmly at the forefront.

As with many similar clubs, our continued success depends upon dedicated volunteers who contribute to the club in so many ways whether it is coaching the riders, organising the events or any of the other myriad of behind the scenes tasks. I would just like to take a moment to thank all of them for the work they have put in over the past year for the benefit of the club, thank you.

As our growth continues, it is so important that we constantly build our team to make sure our future remains strong and sustainable. I would urge any of you to think about how you can help. There are numerous opportunities and you certainly don't need to be cycling expert!! Come and find me or speak to any of the committee, we would welcome any support you can give.



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Membership

Our membership last year reached 120 with a further 40 plus riders participating in one or more events throughout the season. We fully expect that number to rise again this year and we will be working hard to further develop our Coaching team to support increased numbers.

Governance

The club is managed on a day to day basis through a committee chaired by myself as Chairman. The Committee have met monthly throughout the year. All meetings have been quorate and have been minuted with actions tracked by our Secretary, Jo. Our club finances have been managed by Paul as Treasurer with a monthly report supplied to the Committee for review. We have a further sub-Committee for the Coaching team which has met periodically throughout the year to develop our coaching plans.

During the year, we had a change in our Welfare and Safeguarding Officer with Jaron Le Mottee stepping down and Rachel Mauger taking on the role. This is a critical function and I would like to thank Jaron for his work and also thank Rachel for taking on such an important task. As you may have noted in the Agenda, one of our other major roles will see a change with Ali Hart having decided to step down from the role of Media Secretary. I would like to thank Ali for her work, this isn't an easy function to take on and Ali has worked hard to get the club the publicity that it has received. Ali won't be resting for long though as she has kindly agreed to take responsibility for managing our Membership. Thankyou Ali.

Sponsorship

We have been delighted to welcome HSBC as our new sponsor, it is a relationship that is far more than just money. We will be working closely with HSBC to develop some exciting programmes that will be both great for the club and cycling in general. Rachael Huelin will be working closely with HSBC over the next couple of years to make sure both of us get the maximum benefit from the partnership. Watch this space!!

Activities On Island

We have run a significant range of events and programmes for our members last year. These include:

- Wednesday evening coaching and racing sessions running weekly from May to September for our u12's and under
- Evening road rides for our u14's and above



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- Winter MtB series over 9 rounds at different venues around the Island for our u14's and under
- Supporting our u14's and above riding in Senior events on track in time trials and in the annual hillclimb. Additionally, supporting our Juniors' riding in Senior Road Races.
- Supporting our u14's and above riding in the Senior MtB series with coaching sessions preceding each event
- Winter weekly rollers for our u12's and above

A special mention too for Ivor, who runs the school holiday club which continues to be well received with a variety of different riding and coaching opportunities all year round. Thankyou Ivor.

Activities Off Island:

We have had a large number of riders who have participated in a variety of different events off island last year. These have included Cyclocross, MtB and Road events.

We have run club trips to two rounds of the Southern MtB series as well as taking different age group riders to two road events in France. Those who have participated will no doubt tell you how much fun these have been.

Our riders continue to perform at a high level with some notable successes. Without naming them all, we can point to Rhys Pilley who had fantastic results at the Youth Commonwealth Games as well as Luc Mon Petit Le Brun and Indi Malzard who both performed well at the Island Games. All of our senior riders are an inspiration to our younger riders as they clearly demonstrate what can be achieved with hard work and the support of a great team.

We have also had riders competing at regional and national events in all disciplines as well as internationally. Emily Bridson is currently riding in the National Cyclocross series and has achieved some amazing results against the Elite senior riders.

A number of our riders have participated in the regional Regional Schools of Racing (RSR) programmes once again, great for their development.

Riding off island is an important objective for our older riders in particular and year on year their results get stronger and stronger. What will our u6's be achieving in a few years' time?



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Looking forward

Whilst we have had a very good 2017 we will continue to look at how we can develop the Youth Academy to both grow the membership and participation but also to give greater opportunities for more of our riders to develop to their full potential.

At the heart of this will be our Coaching team. Being able to support our riders with a dedicated group of qualified coaches and helpers is paramount. We are discussing with British Cycling about running further on Island Level 1 and Level 2 courses and indeed dates for these have now been confirmed. This will benefit existing coaches by developing their skills but will also give us the opportunity to bring in new qualified coaches. In December, we ran a Coach the Coaches course with Ric Jamieson. The feedback from the Coaching team was very positive and we intend to run further courses later this year. These are great opportunities for our Coaches but are also very useful as it keeps our riders on the BC radar. Very important for their future development.

Making sure our governance is up to date and fit for purpose is a real background task but vitally important if we are to continue to be a strong well governed organisation. We will review all processes and procedures to make sure that these meet with current needs and are relevant to us as an organisation. We will also be working closely with the JCA and Jersey Sport to ensure that our governance is the best it can be.

We are now a well established club but we don't have a place we can call home. It's no coincidence that we are holding our AGM in the old Croquet Club clubhouse. We are working hard to negotiate a deal where we can take on the Clubhouse to be our very first fixed home. This will be a major milestone as it will give us a firm community base and allow us to put on activities that previously we would have found very difficult. We hope to conclude this process very shortly.

We are working hard with our sponsor HSBC to develop our relationship. We both have a desire to take cycling to a wider audience and are working on a plan that will include an event later this year that promises to be very exciting.

We ran four club trips last year. These were great fun and gave many riders the opportunity to challenge themselves off island. There were some great performances and we believe the importance of such events cannot be underestimated. Whilst the racing itself is fun, the team building that comes with it is equally important. We have already earmarked 5 events next year that we will run club trips for, with potentially others. Our Coaching team meet next week and we hope to confirm events soon after so that you can get them into your diaries.



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British Cycling will be updating their current RSR programme although at this stage we do not know their exact format. These are super development opportunities for our developing Youth B and above riders and we will be watching how the replacement events develop with a view to having our riders participate in these events.

Over the past few years we have developed a very good relationship with our friends at VC Dinannais. We continue to support their events and are hoping to invite them to bring a team of their riders over to one of our events later this year.

Whilst our road bike season centres around Les Quennevais with it's great facilities, we are looking beyond to try and bring some new challenges at other suitable venues. One of these is likely to be the new Kart track at Sorel which offers some great variety in a closed environment.

Our development programmes take our riders up to Junior level at which time, they will hopefully join one of the five senior clubs. The JCA, of which we are a member, recognise the structured development programmes and want to make sure that this continues as the riders move from Junior to u23 level. Working with the JCA, we are looking to put in place a programme for these riders to make sure that they continue their development with the senior clubs.

Ultimately though, this is your club. It's really important to let us know what you think could be done better or to share any concerns that you may have. Please feel free to come and discuss any thoughts with myself or any other members of the Committee.

As you can see, we don't intend to sit still next year as we continue to strive to be a bigger and better club. None of this will work however if, first and foremost this doesn't continue to be fun for all of our riders. Fun, is what we intend to be.

Ashley Hillier
Chairman