**NYPTRI XMAS NEWSLETTER AND YEARLY SUMMARY**

Dear Members

Thank you to you all for your continued support of NYPTri club during 2018

Our club is going from strength to strength and I hope you all enjoyed some of the NYP Tri organised sessions that were run.

Below is a summary of developments in 2018 and future for 2019.

**Key developments / improvements in 2018:**

Ripon Triathlon Festival weekend proved to be a huge success with new race organisers Trihard events. New layout and cycle route along with excellent entertainment and Friday Q&A with some high-profile names proved to be popular. The Tristars Junior event on Sunday afternoon won ‘Youth race of the year’ at the BTF awards. We managed to get a full page write up in Triathlon 220 magazine by columnist, Martin Brunt – who attended the Friday Q & A and competed in the Saturday’s race. He left a glowing report. The drone footage of the event is incredible. If you missed both, see our website!

Wednesday evening Duathlons ran in April / May / June / July with an improved cycle route. We saw numbers increased over the previous year and having the event midweek seems to suit more people.

Saturday morning ‘Tri Taster’ sessions were run leading up to Ripon Triathlon which included transition skills and some open water swimming. We had excellent feedback from these and gained new members as a result.

The regular Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday open water swimming at the racecourse continue to grow in popularity and the club has seen a rise in membership. Thanks to Kamilla Gordon for organising and running the Saturday morning timed swims with the new inaugural 3.8k being the final one. It was a cold one! Other club run sessions, Watt bike, Yoga and Pilate continue to be popular and run and bike sessions were organised during the summer months.

A new look website went live this year and we think it gives a more modern look to our club along with easier navigation and a better booking system. Anyone new to the website will hopefully be impressed with our club!

Tim Broomfield continues to update ‘whowhere’ on our website with members results at events nationwide and abroad. If you haven’t seen it, take a look, there have been some very impressive performances! We also now have a regular column in the Ripon Gazette – thanks to Alec Le Bec for writing these.

Tim Tribe stepped down as club chairman in July and we expressed our gratitude to all the work that was carried out by him during a 2-year period. Tim spent a great deal of time developing Ripon Triathlon after a change in race organisers and with the help of the committee managed to create a much-improved event.

We also teamed up with Hatric Tri club, based in Thirsk, allowing them to join our club as a second claim membership, and use Ripon Racecourse alongside NYPTri members for open water swimming. NYP members were also welcomed to join their Saturday coached swim sessions which several of our members have taken advantage of.

We welcomed new head coach Donna James whose vast experience will help lead and develop our coaching team further and help run the club run events. Donnas Tuesday night swim sessions have gone from strength to strength and we are now into our 3rd block of sessions. Donna’s first swim analysis session took place early in December at Thirsk pool and is invaluable for swim development.

Huge thanks to Dewi Winkle who preceded Donna and created the club sessions we see now.

We also welcome to our coaching team, Mark Ryder who has just completed level 1 and James McCormack and Rob Lyons who are currently undertaking their level 2 qualification.

Well done to James Turner who won ‘Volunteer of the year’ at the BTF awards. James suffered a broken back in a road traffic accident and unable to train he turned his attention to helping at virtually all the club run events. Incredible commitment with the injuries he sustained.

And finally, a huge thanks to Cath Lyons without which the club wouldn’t run as smoothly as it does. Her enthusiasm and dedication as club secretary is quite staggering!

**Plans for 2019**

Plans for the Ripon Triathlon Festival Weekend on 29th / 30th June 2019 are going well and entries are open. A new ‘Timed Swim’ on Saturday morning before the standard distance race, has been created with the choice of a 750 / 1500 / 3000m swim. Entries are coming in for all races! As well as securing our main sponsor ‘The Black Sheep Brewery’ for another year we also have some exiting proposals for further sponsorship of the weekend events. More to follow….

The club is currently undergoing the BTF bronze accreditation which will give NYPTri the status to welcome junior members from our NYP Tristars into a safe coaching environment.

We will be looking at creating a group / committee to lead the development of the cycle / run track round the lake at the racecourse. The plans include lighting and possibly a clubhouse. It’s an exciting prospect of being able to organise run and bike sessions away from traffic year-round.

We are in the process of drawing up a contract between Ripon Racecourse and NYPTri club. This will secure the use of the lake and the Ripon Triathlon along with club run sessions for years to come. This is due to be completed January 2019.

Pontoons at the lakeside will be constructed to allow easy access for swimmers. These should be in place before open water swimming begins in 2019. Being built by NYPTri member and ever-present racecourse swimmer, Tim Benson and his company.

Continuation of Wed night Duathlon series and Tri taster sessions. Also, we plan to run some open water swim sessions lead by head coach Donna.

If you have any suggestions of other improvements / developments that you think we should make, please let me know.

On behalf of me and the rest of the committee, have a fantastic Xmas and New Year and we hope to see you all at the annual club presentation on 9th March. Bookings now being taken via the website.

Thanks

Dave

 