

San Fairy Ann AGM
Agenda
Saturday 12 October
13:30
The Unicorn, High Street, Marden,
Kent. TN12 9DR
01622 831426

Apologies:

Mark Vowels
Bernie Nichols
Chris Bishop
Lorna Stafford
Brian Williams

1. Election of Chairman for the meeting
2. Welcome and apologies
3. Minutes of the previous years AGM
4. Election Results
5. Rules changes
6. Directors' and officials Reports and Accounts
7. Affiliations for 2025
8. Open discussion

Item 3 Minutes of the Previous AGM 2023

[Link to minutes of the 2023 meeting.](#)

Item 4 Election Results

President and Directors

Director/ President	Richard Valentine	Lorna Stafford	Jonathan Engwell	Philip Thorpe	Stephen Harmer	Jonathan Leeson	Duncan Edwards
Votes For	124	123	124	122	124	122	123
Votes Against	0	1	0	2	0	2	1

Comments:

No

Thank you all for your continuing hard work to keep this club running as successfully as it is well done team!

keep on doing what you are doing, It works.

The Board could consider the annual AGM via zoom.

Thank you! Everything much appreciated, including all existing members. SFA CC Fab bunch.

Keep up the good work

Well done for all your hard work.

Item 5 Proposed Rule Changes

Third Party Insurance

The current rule mandates British Cycling or Cycling UK membership to give third party insurance cover to members. This rule change allows the option of using another commercial source so long as it gives similar cover to BC or CUK.

To replace existing rule 7b:-

All active members must have individual third-party liability insurance with British Cycling or Cycling UK (formerly Cyclists Touring Club) or British Masters Cycle Racing (BMCR). Their membership number should be included in the Membership Application.

With:

‘The Club’s liability insurance does not cover claims made against individual members for accidental loss or damage to third party property or accidental bodily injury or death to third party persons. The Club requires that all participants in club activities, including group rides, obtain adequate third party liability insurance. The club recommends cover from a national cycling organisation by becoming a member of [British Cycling](#) or [Cycling UK](#). Alternatively cover may be through a commercial source which must have similar third party cover to British Cycling or Cycling UK. Their membership number should be included in the Membership Application’.

Proposed by: Philip Thorpe, Director, September 2024

Results of Online Vote: 87 for, 6 against.

Comments

- Nicely worded
- I am happy that the insurance issue is going to revert to being voluntary as it allows flexibility to the member.
- this is a sensible requirement in order to encourage more members and occasionally guest riders
- I fully support the rule change
- I agree, no further comment.
- Already have British Cycling Membership
- I agree with the above
- Sensible change.

- I agree with the rule change
- I agree
- Sounds reasonable
- Totally agree that 3rd party insurance should be a condition of membership. Personally I would expand the wording to include (after ".....third party insurance" "and that cover is maintained throughout club membership".
- BC and Cycling UK have specialist staff used to dealing in cycling related matters. Other insurance providers seem to have no such specialised expertise from what I have seen when friends have had problems with their insurance providers of supposedly equivalent services.
- No brainer!
- Agree with above info.
- I agree and have no further comments.
- Cycling club membership shouldn't require insurance. I have my BC insurance because I believe it's important but shouldn't be a something that is needed for membership application.
- Explanation for the rule change and how it impacts members.
- Is there any club insurance available to members who have accidents, resulting in injury or damage to equipment?
- Or any subsidised insurances available?
- Membership number field on online application form ought to be question who insured with and membership number (s) of BC and/ Cycling UK
- The change sounds very sensible.
- Member should have there own insurance even when they ride on there own
- Too hard to police.
- Just in favour of personal cycle insurance
- It looks like a logical idea that has been missed so far.
- I am not sure about the alternative cover. I think " alternative source" and "similar" are too vague and that this alternative should be deleted.
- BMCR should also be included as before.
- The above resolution does not clearly state that it is the proposed new text.
- Completely agree
- I do not agree with the recommendation of only two organisations
- What are you going to replace it with?

Proposed Rule Change (Version 2)

Third Party Insurance

The current rule mandates British Cycling or Cycling UK membership to give third party insurance cover to members. This rule change allows the option of using alternative sources so long as it gives similar cover to BC or CUK.

To replace existing rule 7b:-

'The Club's liability insurance does not cover claims made against individual members for accidental loss or damage to third party property or accidental bodily injury or death to third party persons. The Club requires that all participants in club activities, including group rides, obtain adequate third party liability insurance. The club recommends cover from a national cycling organisation by becoming a member of British Cycling (BC), Cycling UK (CUK) or British Masters Cycle Racing (BMCR).

Alternatively cover may be through another commercially available source which must have similar third party cover to BC / CUK / BMCR. Their membership number should be included in the Membership Application'.

Item 7 Directors' and officials Reports and Accounts

Presidents	Kate and John Bossley
Chair	Duncan Edwards
Finance	Jonathan Engwell
Club Runs	Philip Thorpe
Events	Stephen Harmer
Time Trial	John Longbottom
Racing	Mark Cain
Track	Barbara Wiles
Off Road	Shaun Williams
Sportive	Bob Watts
Audax	Bob Watts
Membership	Lorna Stafford (Duncan)
Media	Lise Taylor-Vebel
IT and Technical	Johnathan Leeson
Safeguarding	Jenny Burton
Rights	Russell Chidwick
Clothing	Philip Gerry
Coaching	Kevin Charlton, Geoff Wiles, Tony Richardson
Cycle Training	Tony Palmer

Presidents

Kate and I have decided not to stand as presidents of San Fairy Ann for the 2024/5 season due to ongoing plans and commitments (cycling round Britain next year and our son getting married in Mexico amongst them!) that would have limited our participation and the support we could offer to the directors.

The role of president is very different to that of the directors and is a non-voting position. It stands alongside the directors to cast a critical though supportive eye. It has been a privilege to be involved over the last 3 years and be able to see the fantastic job that this group of volunteers do for our benefit, continually improving and refining how things work and responding professionally to events as they occur. Each of the directors brings their own skills and interests to the team and that enables them to bring new ideas for the benefit of the rest of us.

Things like:

- improved communication via the website, social media and where pertinent endeavouring to communicate with individuals through snail mail or via word of mouth.
- Reintroducing the social side of the club with get-togethers and annual trips abroad.
- Making club membership comparatively cheaper and easier to do. Maintaining the incredible breadth of the club runs.
- Organising and improving the Sportive, audaxes, reliability trial, track cycling and time trials.

When I retired, almost 3 years ago, we wondered how we would fill our time. The opposite is true. Our family has grown and continues to do so and we help out as much as we can. We also support a number of charities, RBLI; KAB and Guide Dogs. But we have found time to make our cycling tours happen. The 'Snails around France' tour was unbelievable last year (and I've even managed to write a book about cycling and get it published!). Next year we'll be overdue another tour, this time round mainland Britain (will there be another book?).

We thank the directors for all they do and continue to do for our amazing club.

Kate and John, presidents.

Chair

The 2025 plans I would have for the club would continue to build on the events programme and to offer events that can involve all members. Steven Harmer and Bob Watts have continued to develop, innovate and improve on events and we can therefore look forward to next year with positive expectations of the events programme.

Racing has been 'in the blood' of the club for decades but unfortunately there is a decline nationally, in riders and events, however Mark Cain and John Longbottom have shown the value of enthusiasm, drive and dedication from club leaders in promoting and delivering successful events. We have had an excellent racing 2024 with a successful time trial programme and our new Roly Crayford Memorial Race at the Cyclopark this year. With Mark Cain focusing on his own racing next year we have a significant gap to fill in our racing team leadership for 2025. The time trialling programme can look forward to continued progress in 2025 with John Longbottom being joined by Tom Gordon. Thank you Tom for stepping up. As I write this we do not have a race team director nomination but we do hope that someone is able to step forward to do this important role.

The main activity for most members of the club is the club run programme and this therefore forms the bedrock of the club activity. Your board has supported the club run programme by thinking about all the enabling factors for club runs including communication, coordination, safety and insurance. Philip Thorp's dedication and that of all the ride coordinators is crucial in ensuring the club run programme maintains its success. Philip has recently refreshed the ride leader list and we have 105! Fantastic, that says a lot about the strength of our club run team. Thank you to all those who have led rides during the year.

SFA is a very large club and this means we have the capacity to offer a broad range of cycling to our members. The aim of the board is to maintain and ideally expand membership each year by maintaining the club's friendly nature. Recently Lorna Stafford has taken on the club membership role and is now standing as a board member. Already Lorna's innovation and enthusiasm is clear to see in the initiation of new opportunities for members like the maintenance workshops.

Steve Harmer is famous in the club for our San Fairy Ann club holidays and more recently other events and he is now extending his portfolio to take on the SFA Sportive, working with a number of other club members. This transition of responsibility which enables us to grow our offering and refresh our existing events is crucial to the club.

The board believes it's main role is to administer the club in line with the club rules in a way that provides the opportunity for all members to better achieve their cycling objectives. We want all members to be supported and encouraged to contribute to the club in order to maintain the club's vitality and success. There is always space on the board for new enthusiasm and ideas, particularly club secretary which has been a gap now for many years and means extra work for the existing members of the board. Everybody would get an even better service from us, if someone would join us to be club secretary.

Kate and John are standing down as presidents this year after a 2 year stint. They have brought their infectious cycling enthusiasm into their time as presidents and we look forward to continuing to follow their cycling exploits in future years.

Overall, I hope each and every member of the club has got cycling enjoyment from their membership of the club and is looking forward to continued involvement and contribution to the in 2025. The AGM is our main yearly opportunity to take stock of what we are doing and to prepare for the next season so please feedback to us, help support those standing for the board by voting and continue contributing to the club in whichever way you can.

Duncan Edwards (Chair)

Finance

SAN FAIRY ANN CYCLING CLUB LIMITED DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023

The total assets of the club are £27,726 at the year end, with general reserves at £19,516 (£16,384 in 2022) after segregating £3,210 of Racing Team funds and £5,000 for the two plots of land at Hoads Wood.

The Accounts show a surplus for the year of £2,974, despite setting a neutral budget, following the deficit in centenary year in 2022.

Some headlines for 2023:-

- Subs income down c. 9% reflecting reduced members.
- Much of the surplus can be attributed to 'The Milestone' stopping.
- Investment in the website to improve the experience.
- Hoads Wood plots unsold.

Update on 2024:-

- The budget set suggested a modest surplus for the year.
- Some initiatives have fallen away and it is expected there will now be a larger surplus than forecast at the year end.
- Membership has held steady at around 360.
- Hoads Wood site remains closed, awaiting news from the Environment Agency.

The club's finances remain in a healthy position. Recognising the current level of Reserves it is proposed that some Subs are reduced in 2025.

Jonathan Engwell
SFACC Ltd, Director of Finance
31st August 2024

Company No: 13033225

San Fairy Ann Cycling Club Limited

(A company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 20 November 2020)

Financial Accounts for the 12 months ended 31 December 2023

SAN FAIRY ANN CYCLING CLUB LIMITED
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

ASSETS	31.12.2023	31.12.2022	Notes
	£	£	
Land and Property			
Land at Hoads Wood, Nr Bethersden	5,000.00	5,000.00	BS1
Cash			
Current Account	567.83	891.46	
Cash in Hand	4.10	0.10	
Deposit Account	18,689.37	14,394.56	
Racing Team Deposit Account	3,210.41	3,368.87	BS2
Stock			
Club Clothing	160.00	230.00	
Prepaid Expenses	1,076.40	1,101.40	BS3
Accounts Receivable	0.00	110.39	
Sub Total	<u>28,708.11</u>	<u>25,096.78</u>	
LESS LIABILITIES			
Invoices due	322.85	30.00	
Prepaid Subs Received	658.38	314.00	
Assets Total	<u>27,726.88</u>	<u>24,752.78</u>	
REPRESENTED BY			
Reserves	24,752.78	26,377.53	
Surplus/deficit for the period	2,974.10	-1,624.75	
	<u>27,726.88</u>	<u>24,752.78</u>	

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirement of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Prepared by Director of Finance



Mr Jonathan Engwell
31st March 2024

SAN FAIRY ANN CYCLING CLUB LIMITED

NOTES TO BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

BS1 Land at Hoad's Wood, Nr Bethersden, gifted to the club and previously held in trust, transferred SFACC Ltd and registered at HMLR on 12th August 2021

	31.12.2023 £	31.12.2022 £
BS2 Racing Team Deposit Account		
Balance of Racing funds start year	3,368.87	4,016.47
Income kit purchase by team & interest	48.49	4.95
	<u>3,417.36</u>	<u>4,021.42</u>
Kit subsidy payments	0.00	-300.00
Expenses	-206.95	-352.55
Abellio new kit purchase	0.00	0.00
	<u>3,210.41</u>	<u>3,368.87</u>
BS3 Prepaid Expenses		
Cycling UK Affiliation for SFACC	88.00	0.00
Cycling Time Trials Affiliation for SFACC	60.00	30.00
Cycling Time Trials Affiliation for Racing Team	60.00	80.00
Cycling Time Trials Sponsor fee for Racing Team	100.00	0.00
British Cycling Affiliation for Racing Team	145.00	145.00
British Cycling Affiliation for SFACC	74.00	74.00
Grammarly subscription re website	54.00	0.00
Elemental corporate services	385.00	338.25
Website	110.40	370.56
Membership cards	0.00	63.59
	<u>1,076.40</u>	<u>1,101.40</u>

STOCK RECONCILIATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Club clothing		
Sales to members	72.10	
Subsidy by club	0.00	
Stock revaluation	-2.10	
	<u>70.00</u>	70.00
Less cost of goods sold		
Opening Stock	230.00	
Purchases for stock	0.00	
	<u>230.00</u>	
Less Closing Stock	160.00	70.00
Net Profit/(-Loss)		<u>0.00</u>

Engwell
 Prepared by Director of Finance
 Mr Jonathan Engwell
 31st March 2024

SAN FAIRY ANN CYCLING CLUB LIMITED

INCOME and EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Some items below show the net balance for the category

	2023		2022		2023 Notes
	Income £	Expenditure £	Income £	Expenditure £	
Subscriptions	9,686.17		10,650.78		
Joining Fees	140.00		190.00		
Donations	0.00		100.00	50.00	
Bank Interest/Charges	343.30	64.40	29.56	68.36	
Miscellaneous	0.00		138.78		
Magazine related:					
Printing & other costs		2,715.81		4,272.94	
Postage incl. Envelopes		263.77		690.16	
Adverts & sales	247.03		788.31		
Insurance & Admin:					
Secretarial & AGM		238.58		423.71	
Insurance & compliance for LtdCo		594.90		569.70	
Corporation Tax		0.00		546.77	
Website – Domain, hosting etc.		999.80		893.66	
Clubroom Hire		258.80		527.75	
Storage		1,000.00		500.00	
Affiliations		354.00		438.00	
Road Race/Time Trials/KCA	9.59		37.08		
Cyclo Sportive	3,612.76		4,896.55		IE1
Kent Air Ambulance from CS proceeds		3,612.76		4,896.55	IE1
Audax: SFACC Promotions	137.39		690.86		
Advertising		0.00		0.00	
Medals, Engraving & Certs		625.34		316.61	
Club Equipment:					
Purchases & Maintenance		0.00		210.00	
Repairs		0.00		199.39	
Clothing subsidy for Club kit		0.00		0.00	
Stock sales/expenditure	2.10			5.70	
Centenary event expenses		0.00		1,066.24	
Members social events	197.71		0.00		
Drink bottles		0.00		1,542.00	
Herne Hill Velodrome hire		0.00		308.00	
Additional Items		66.84		335.99	
SFA Racing Team		206.95		652.55	
Training - First Aid/Coaching etc		400.00		632.19	
SURPLUS/DEFICIT		2,974.10	1,624.35		
	14,376.05	14,376.05	19,146.27	19,146.27	

Engwell

Prepared by Director of Finance
Mr Jonathan Engwell
31st March 2024

SAN FAIRY ANN CYCLING CLUB LIMITED
NOTES TO INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

IE1 Entries for the annual Club Sportive event are shown for illustrative purposes only. This is a fundraising exercise by members for the benefit of the Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance Charity.

<u>Ongoing Racing Account Status</u>		<u>Income less Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2018	Opening Balance		£5,010.75
	Net Increase/(<i>-decrease</i>) for 2018	-£819.75	£4,191.00
2019			£4,191.00
	Net Increase/(<i>-decrease</i>) for 2019	£1,163.93	£5,354.93
2020			£5,354.93
	Net Increase/(<i>-decrease</i>) for 2020	-£1,004.57	£4,350.36
2021			£4,350.36
	Net Increase /(<i>-decrease</i>) for 2021	-£333.89	£4,016.47
2022			£4,016.47
	Net Increase /(<i>-decrease</i>) for 2022	-£647.60	£3,368.87
2023			£3,368.87
	Net Increase /(<i>-decrease</i>) for 2023	-£158.46	£3,210.41

Prepared by Director of Finance
Mr Jonathan Engwell
31st March 2024

Racing Acct

SFA Racing Account Balance 2023

Date	Ref	Description	Expense	Income	Balance
01/01/23		Opening Balance from 2022 Financial Year			3368.87
08/01/23		Interest		2.43	3371.30
08/02/23		Interest		2.84	3374.14
08/03/23		Interest		2.74	3376.88
30/03/23		Davey Abellio costs	58.75		3318.13
08/04/23		Interest		3.70	3321.83
08/05/23		Interest		3.68	3325.51
26/05/23		Davey Abellio costs	73.00		3252.51
08/06/23		Interest		3.99	3256.50
08/07/23		Interest		4.10	3260.60
08/08/23		Interest		4.63	3265.23
08/08/23		Davey Abellio costs	75.20		3190.03
08/09/23		Interest		4.91	3194.94
08/10/23		Interest		5.09	3200.03
08/11/23		Interest		5.27	3205.30
08/12/23		Interest		5.11	3210.41
Year to date totals			<u>206.95</u>	<u>48.49</u>	<u>3,210.41</u>

Club Runs

Club Runs AGM 2024 Report - Philip Thorpe

- The club has had 14 club run groups running over the last 12 months, covering speeds from 10 mph to 20 mph with distance 25 to 65 miles.
- We typically get 110 riders out on our club rides each week, peaking higher in summer, with around 200 different riders taking part across our rides.
- Our group structure has continued to allow for small increments between groups making it easy for members to move up or down to match their fitness. This makes it easy to place new riders into an appropriate group. Our club runs have operated successfully thanks to our group coordinator and ride leaders.
- The Midweekers have continued to grow in numbers, often getting 30 riders and is now effectively 3 sub-groups to suit the pace of the riders out.
- As well as our regular riders, there are a lot of members who ride less often. The B-group has had 31 different riders do at least 1 ride and the D/D+ group has had 78.
- Some group highlights:-
 - o A group did their annual trip to Flanders as well as a trip to the Pyrenees.
 - o 11 Fast Inters enjoyed a trip to the Vosges. Sam & Richard represented the UK in the UCI gravel & road events. Some A riders often join the group rides too.
 - o Sunday Inters take advantage of their smaller group by fitting into any café in Sussex and Kent.
 - o B+ group had 9 members ride the Ardres Sportive (near Calais) in May.
 - o B group enjoyed two full day rides covering 60 & 80 miles both to Romney Marsh.
 - o The Midweekers had an away-day – Calais to Ardres with 21 members participating in the ride organised with the help of Jean-Michel Condette, our French member and his Les Galopins club members
 - o The D/D+ groups had an away-day – Calais to Audruicq with 15 members participating in the ride organised also with the help of Jean-Michel Condette.
 - o C group have enjoyed a series of seaside ice cream rides all around the Kent coast.
 - o Easyriders+ enjoyed an away day riding Woolwich to the Lee Valley and have done rides across the whole of Kent.
- The Zwift group will need a new coordinator for this winter as Natalie has stood down. Thanks for starting the successful Zwift group rides Natalie.
- We haven't been able to run the monthly Try Out rides this year since Natalie stood down and no new coordinator could be found. However we offer prospective members 2 try out rides within our existing group structure. This has proved successful.
- I email every new member when they join the club and offer them help in finding the most appropriate group. I hope that new members having a point of contact will allow them to settle in quickly.
- I have established a list of ride leaders for each group for club insurance purposes. These have been recommended by the respective group ride coordinators. We have 105 ride leaders across all our groups.
- Sincere thanks to all our group coordinators and ride leaders; without you we wouldn't have our club runs for us all to enjoy.
- So, ride safely, keep healthy and enjoy your group rides with friends.

Philip Thorpe

Club Run Group	Day	Typical rider numbers	Peak number	Coordinator
A	Saturday	6-8		Mark Cain
Fast Inters	Saturday	10	20	Dudley Curtis
Sat Inters	Saturday	8		Paul Ward
Sunday Inters	Sunday	4		Eric Watts
Inbetweeners	Saturday	8		Patrick O'Donnell-Bourke
B+	Saturday	8-12	16	Tony Palmer
B	Saturday	8-16	20	Philip Thorpe
Midweekers	Wednesday	21	32	Russell Chidwick
D+	Saturday	16		Richard Valentine
D	Saturday	16	32	Richard Valentine
C	Saturday	6	10	Sandy Ray
Easyriders Plus	Saturday	10-12	16	Gail Crutchfield
Mountain Bike	Monthly	-	-	Martyn Peal
Virtual Zwift Group	Thursday & Sunday	-	-	No coordinator (was Natalie Ceeney)

Events, Stephen Harmer

The annual club holidays are increasing in popularity each year. The trip to Tuscany in 2025 sold out in just a matter of days. It is still a learning curve with the organisation but I hope to continue them as long as members want to come along.

Last year's Christmas party was a success and this years at the Unicorn pub in Marden is on Thursday 12th December.

We have put together a small team to revamp the annual sportive for 2025. There are two new routes, a new feed station, breakfast and finishers medals to name just a few new features.

I am looking at a possible cycling lecture series with famous people of the cycling world.

Stephen Harmer

Time Trial Secretary - John Longbottom

In 2024 our 6.5 mile Novice riders time trial was held on the 13 & 20 April. Disappointingly no riders entered the first event and the following week only 2 entered. These were held on a Saturday morning so that they could fit in with the various club rides; the sign-on was in the Marden Station car park. I am disappointed that we had so few riders this year and will discuss with the Board if we will again run them in 2025.

The regular Wednesday evening events were affected by extensive emergency and temporary roadworks on the A20; only one event could be run out of the seven planned. The 10 mile course based on the East Peckham bypass was a good backup and quite a number of PBs were recorded. Hopefully the A20 won't suffer quite so many temporary traffic lights in 2025 and we can have our usual mix of events back. Two of the events had to be cancelled outright, one through lack of riders and the other because of a certain football match final England were involved in. Our Tandem Championship 25 mile event was moved to the VTTA(Kent) in September.

I must thank the timekeepers, on-the-day organisers and marshals who turned out each week, because without them these events would not be able to be run. All in all, there were 20 members who offered their help to run these events - 3 individual organisers, 3 timekeepers and some 14 individual marshals; special thanks to those who did multiple jobs throughout the series and to the non-racing members who helped with the marshal duties.

The Rye and Back this year event was held nearer its original early season slot, on the 10 March. Three brave riders entered on a day that was forecast to not have the best of weather and it only got worse when the riders were on the road. One rider was DNF due to a broken chain, one punctured to finish second and Dave Richards finished to take both the scratch and vets cups.

Awards for the 2023 season were presented at the club birthday lunch on the 16 March this year. The same is planned for our 2025 birthday lunch.

I have informed the Board that I wish to gradually step away from the Time Trial Secretaries role over the next couple of years. I took it on (for the umpteenth time) following Martin Foord stepping down and have not had the benefit of an assistant to spread the workload. I have said that I am only willing to continue in 2025 if an assistant to run the club event series on Wednesday's comes forward. Luckily Tom Gordon has offered to take on the behind-the-scenes administration side of the assistant role but there still needs to be someone else to manage the day to day running of the weekly events. If you want to know more about what this entails, then please contact me for more information.

If the support is there I am willing to continue as Time Trial Secretary for next year and to mentor Tom and anyone else on the intricacies of the role over the next couple of years.

For more information on the Rye and Back event follow this link to the club [Google Drive folder](#).

For more information on the Wednesday club events follow this link to the club [Google Drive folder](#).

For more information on the Club Time Trial Championships for 2012/2/3/4 following this link to the [club Google Drive folder](#).

A selection of Archive Time Trial results can be found by following this link to the [club Google Drive folder](#).

John Longbottom

August 2024

Racing - Mark Cain

Abellio SFA RT Annual Racing Report 2024

This year has come and gone but it was clear that the team is making waves with some brilliant results, not only at club level but at regional level too. The team have had more club riders racing this season than for a good number of years. How did we achieve this? What was the change?

Well, this came down to a couple of reasons. The A Group ride has targeted a higher level of riding with bigger rides and multiple efforts during it. We also made it clear to all that Abellio SFA were back in the limelight using Social Media posts, as well as forging friendships across the region. And lastly we made great use of the funding which has in the past sat there without much direction on how to use it and what for. A WhatsApp group was used to gel the team, with notifications on up and coming races, post-race reports, highlighting "Lessons Learnt", as well as successes.

When it came to successes, the early season race events sounded promising. With Wins in TTs and on the Road, people were already looking at the Abellio jersey as one to watch.

Results kept up after the team travelled to Belgium for the Tour of Flanders on their annual pilgrimage. With Great results for Ed Cox winning his first race at Cyclopark and top 5 results for Mark Cain in the BMCR Region 9 league. These results were boosted by wins for Martin Kober and Mark Cain again in the KCA TT events and podiums for Matt Lacey and Dave Richards. Tom Walden-Smith started his season with a great supporting role as Ed Cox went up the road any managed to points and a podium too. Mark Cain continued to perform in the BMCR races with top 10's in every race entered but his TT goals were on target as he finished top of the Kent Cycling Association League Ladder for the Time Trials.

All together the Abellio SFA RT (both TT and Road) achieved:

1st Place x 4 (3 – TTs, 1 – Road)

2nd Place x 12 (10 – TTs, 2 Road)

3rd Place x 6 (5 – TTs, 1 Road)

The Team are in a good position going into the winter and have already put in place a plan for "Hill Climbs" and the 2025 season, but they will have to do this without me as I am moving on to another team.

Back in August 2024, SFA ran it's first road race for a number of years. Over 50 riders turned up for the "Roly Crayford" Memorial Race. This was held at Cyclopark on a hot a sticky day but that didn't dampen the support from SFA with over a dozen club members volunteering their time to make this race happen. "Thank you and for all your support". All 5 categories raced from the world of BMCR and we hope this race will continue in 2025. The highlight of the day was having Rols' lovely wife Ann come to watch and give out the prizes.

If you want to know about the task of Racing Lead for (Abellio SFA & SFA), Please contact Duncan for more information.

As the Racing Lead for SFA, I have been brilliantly supported by both the riders of SFA and more importantly, the board. I had a plan, which I couldn't of achieved without your support. It is vitally important that this continues as we need to bring in more riders who have this passion of pinning a number on and racing.

Thank you.

Mark Cain

Track

We had a successful club track training session with 24 riders at the Lee Valley velodrome in January. We had 2 coaches so could split into 2 groups, with the more confident riders in one group, and the novices and not so confident in the other. Feedback was generally very positive though, for most club members, track riding is seen as something different to try once a year, rather than commit to. I will apply for another session during the Autumn and Winter.

2 riders from the club session did however commit to joining me on a training camp at the Alkmaar velodrome in the Netherlands in March. We enjoyed 4 days of coaching and training, including sprint drills, bunch drills, start gates and motor paced training and racing. Tom and Kevin were new to track riding, but in just four days they excelled themselves and were training with World Champions and even riding “no hands” on the track!

David Prom raced at Lee Valley in the Good Friday event. I competed at the World Masters Championships in Manchester last October and was delighted to win a silver medal in the points race. I also raced at the BMCR Omnium in February, and at the BMCR National Track Championships in September. I won 2 gold National Championships and 1 silver medal. I have entered the BC National Masters Track Championships at the end of September. (results to follow).

Barbara Wiles 10/9/24

Off Road

Sportive

For the 2024 Sportive on 19 May, 134 riders enjoyed the Kent sunshine – 59 of them Club members. The hilly Epic 160km event was the most popular followed by the Classic 115km and the Scenic 85km. In ideal conditions nearly all the entrants started and all but three of the starters finished. The Club is indebted to the 19 who turned out to help on the day as well as the D and D+ groups who put out the signs, and our sponsors: Sedlescombe Parish Council, Rhokett, Cranbrook Farm Shop, and Hartley Coffee House and Farm Shop.

After 10 years – in the earlier years with Duncan Edwards – Bob Watts is to hand over the reins to Steve Harmer to organise the 2025 Sportive with his small posse of helpers. New routes are planned as well as new features such as King and Queen of the Mountains prizes.

We raised £3,329 for the Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex this year, bringing the total raised by the Club through this event since the first running in 2006 to £61,030. AAKSS are as delighted as we are and will be printing the club's name on their new state of the art helicopter when it is launched shortly.

Audax – Fairies 5

The Fairies 5 Summer Series took place on 16 June. As always starting from Bethersden, the 75 riders across the five routes (300, 200, 150, 100 and 50km) enjoyed a trip to many parts of Kent, including the seaside at Dungeness and Hythe, the Greensand ridge, the Low Weald and, for some, the North Downs. On minor roads where possible, and in good weather, everyone seemed to come back smiling, perhaps anticipating the legendary home-made soup and cakes.

We plan to run these again, on 15 June 2025 which will mark 20 years of the club organising Audax events, but with some changes. The 300km will be discontinued as it has become less popular over the years and is difficult to find nighttime helpers. The trend to use commercial rather than manned controls will continue. The feasibility of including a gravel route is also being investigated.

Audax – Fairies Autumn Rides

This year the FAR was much changed: moved from October to 1 September to allow for longer days and better weather. Using completely new routes and a new start/arrivee, a 150km route option was added in addition to the usual 100 and 200km.

Of the 89 entrants 71 started out in glorious weather which was, if anything, a bit too hot, especially for those doing the 150 and 200km routes which explore the sharp hills and descents of East Sussex. The longest route took riders to the seaside at Pevensey Bay while all routes used the helpful Hub Café in Wye before returning to Linton village hall.

There were no incidents or accidents on any Sportive or Audax rides this year, perhaps blessed by the dry weather for each.

Ultra distance events

Tom Humphrey entered the Transcontinental Race this year – only the second Club member to attempt this 4000km event, the big daddy of ultra races, requiring complete self sufficiency including in route selection. Over two weeks, riders battled soaring passes and high temperatures from Belgium to Istanbul. Tom dropped out in the Balkans but sees it as a very positive experience. More than 50% of these elite riders on the start sheet failed to make the finish, showing just how tough this race really is.

August 2025 sees the running of the 1500km London-Edinburgh-London which we expect some Club members will again be enjoying.

Membership

Numbers of Members	2024	2023
Club Members	352	395
Of which:		
Club officials	16	17
Life members	21	24
Friends of SFA and Social Members	4	6
Under 18s	2	3

Ethnicity	2024	2023
Asian or Asian British	5	5
Black, Black British, Caribbean or African	1	0
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	1	2
Prefer not to say	11	16
White	320	355
Field not populated	13	17

Gender	2024	2023
Femail	86	94
Male	260	294
Not disclosed	5	7

Location of Members	2024	2023
Maidstone	128	151
Tonbridge	27	26
Aylesford	18	16
West Malling	16	15
Ashford	13	14
Chatham	9	11
Cranbrook	8	8
Marden	8	8
Paddock Wood	7	6
Staplehurst	7	7
Gillingham	6	4
Horsmonden	6	6
Rochester	6	7
Sevenoaks	6	7
Tunbridge Wells	5	4
EAST MALLING	4	4
Charing	3	2
East Peckham	3	3
Headcorn	3	4
Tenterden	3	5
Watlingbury	3	3
Flimwell	2	2
Goudhurst	2	3
Herne Bay	2	2
Sittingbourne	2	3
Snodland	2	3
Boughton Monchelsea	1	2
Brenchley	1	2
Faversham	1	2
Gravesend	1	2
Sheerness	1	2
Sissinghurst	1	2
Yarhill	1	2
Other	47	57

San Fairy Ann Media Officers Report 2024

By: Lise Taylor-Vebel

Website

Since taking over the Club website at last year's AGM, I have been working on improvements and updating.

Navigation

My first task was to improve the navigation, as finding what you were looking for was tricky.

Squarespace doesn't support drop-down menus but uses folders to create them, so the drop-down header cannot have a link. However, all the drop-down pages work as expected. I still think it is better than having the many links at the bottom.

For sections with many "under-pages," such as the group rides pages, I have made sidebars that allow you to click directly through to the group you seek. I had to cheat and code them separately because Squarespace also does not support sidebars.

Previous Handbook Content

The Club decided not to print the Club Handbook but instead make the content available on the website:

Summary of the club's first 102 years

John Longbottom and Mark Vowells have been updating the facts, which are now available on the "Club History" page: <https://www.sanfairynncc.co.uk/club-history>

Past Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers

As well as Life Members has not yet been put online but will later be available at the bottom of the "Who We Are" page: <https://www.sanfairynncc.co.uk/whoweare>

Current Members Who First Joined the Club Over 50 Years Ago

Are now available at the bottom of the "Club History" page: <https://www.sanfairynncc.co.uk/club-history>

Club Rules

Are available online under the Members tab: <https://membermojo.co.uk/sfacc/membershome>

Racing Regulations

Are in the process of updating and will later be available on the main "Racing" page: <https://www.sanfairynncc.co.uk/racing>

Club Trophies and Trophy Winners Over the Years

I have made a new section called "The Trophy Cabinet" and given each trophy its page. There are photos and descriptions, how to compete for -the history and who have won the trophy over the years. There are, at the point of writing, 30 trophy pages online, a good handful still to come, but I expect to be finished with the trophy cabinet before the end of the season so that our racers can have a good read and choose what to compete for in the next season. You can find the "Trophy Cabinet" under Recourses: <https://www.sanfairynncc.co.uk/the-trophy-cabinet>

Club Records

The last section of the old Handbook contains our Club Records. We have been discussing making the Club records available on the website. If you have a good idea of how best to present this and how to make it attractive to browse through, please get in touch. If possible, I would like to avoid tables, as Squarespace does not support them, and I have to hand-code everything if we want tables.

The Front Page

Members Top Stories, as they were previously the main features in the Milestone, I have tried to implement Members ride reports, stories and photos as **Fairy Tales** on the home page of the website: <https://www.sanfairynncc.co.uk/>, with links from Facebook to try and generate some interaction. These will stay there until the next story arrives and becomes more urgent, and then the previous stories move onto the side-bar and are also available from the "Club updates" page: <https://www.sanfairynncc.co.uk/club-updates>

The sidebar will also contain links to the Board of Directors' "Latest News."

The Plan Forward

I have recently had a meeting with Jonathan Leeson to discuss how to improve the Club website, and we have agreed to the following plan:

Main Layout

We decided to adjust the main layout for each landing page (section of the club) to have the main Intro/description and a photo at the top and then four boxes/buttons to go with the four most crucial information for each area. All other links (if any) will be in a sidebar. These four boxes should also be accessible from the mobile phone view.

The right sidebar works well on landing pages with many "under-pages," such as the Front page, Club Runs page, Trophy Cabinet, etc.

We have had suggestions for making the website more straightforward and more "Business-like." Still, after lengthy discussions, we agreed that we would like the site to be the place to find ANY information, both old and new, for new, existing, and even previous members. It should be saturated with our vibrant history and the place to go for up-to-date rules and regulations.

SEO

Search Engine Optimization has not been at the forefront of our priorities over the years, but we have decided to make an effort to rectify this. I will chip away at it over the next year, giving each photo an ALT tag and optimising our headlines and search words to make it easier for people to find what they are searching for.

The Route to Take for New Members

We decided to improve the guidance for potential new members and the route to take in order to find the right information for Brand new cyclists, Experienced cyclists searching for rides, New riders wanting to race, Try-out rides, etc., including who to contact and where to meet.

The try-out rides are to be resumed at the end of March/beginning of April and be organised in conjunction with the new club Sunday, "All-Groups-Rides". These are to start in Marden and be divided into several groups according to speed and length, but all have the same coffee stop, which should be the same as for the try-out rides. This way, the try-out riders can get a feel for our excellent club spirit. We also want to encourage our existing members to move from one group to another more freely.

In coordination with Jonathan Leeson and Philip Thorpe, I will change the New Riders pages and update the main Club Runs landing page accordingly.

IT and Technical

On the IT front very little has been needed over the last year. Mainly a result of all the good work in the past on member mojo and the website refresh.

We did get some comments on the look and feel of the website and we continue to make the content more focused. Elise and I met to review the structure in 4Q and there will be a number of refreshes as part of continuous improvement.

If you have articles these are always appreciated and help to keep the website live and interesting.

We also welcome any feedback on all matters digital to understand how we can improve our overall offer.

Safeguarding

Rights

Clothing

I'm Phil Gerry who took up the post of SFA Clothing Officer in April 2022. Then towards the end of April 2024 of this year we received the shock news that Primal had pulled their business out of Europe and moved to the USA. This meant we could no longer use their online web shop for club orders.

As a club we decided to end our association with Primal and seek a new clothing supplier. I have been engaged in this process and after weighing up the pros and cons of the three suppliers I approached, the Board have to go with Velotec.

The present situation is that Velotec can offer our club a custom online ordering system for bulk and individual orders at a suitable cost. I have also requested some samples of their Pro and Elite kits for our members to gauge sizing at our forthcoming AGM.

Coaching - Kevin Charlton

I have very little to report in respect of the last 12 months because other than one session at Cyclopark which Tony Richardson had planned to run in summer, the coaches have not hosted any others.

In Feb 2024 , I did in conjunction with Tony and Geoff, complete an article for the club web site which covered various aspects of coaching, the rider's pathway and how members can benefit from coaching. This article has not been published. The web site currently includes a few short lines in respect of coaching (which were not penned by me) and has not generated any interest from members in respect of either receiving coaching or wanting to obtain qualifications. Due largely to my training programme, I personally do not ride with the club and therefore do not raise the profile of coaching with riders

With no ill feeling on my part, If the club/committee would like to find a new lead coach that would be fine by me . Equally, I am very happy to continue to stand in the role of club lead coach for another year .

Geoff, Tony and I have discussed whether the club with its current membership and profile has the need for coaches/coaching and if so, what coaching team would meet those needs. This is a question that perhaps could be addressed by the committee in the next few months.

Cycle Training

7. Affiliations for 2024

Proposed:

British Cycling (BC)
Cycling UK (Previously CTC)
Cycling Time Trials (CTT)
Kent Cycling Association (KCA)
South East Road Race League (SERRL)
Veterans Time Trial Association (VTTA)
Audax UK

8. Open Discussion/AOB