

REO Annual Report 2017

Road:

The number of road events is slightly up on 2016, even with some organisers from last year not running this time round the number of events was increased due to returning events and new clubs running races. Chevin Evening Series handicap races returned this spring after not running in 2016; while 3RT, FTR Milltag, Moonglu and Holmfirth CC all ran (or are due to run before the season closes) races for the first time this season. The North Yorkshire Road Race League ran again this year on Thursday evenings and again proved to be a popular series. We also have two stage races events with Ilkley running their two day event and Holme Valley Wheelers running both a men's and women's stage races

On the elite level the region once again hosted the Tour de Yorkshire to continue the legacy from the 2014 Tour de France and drew in some of the world's best riders. Ryedale GP ran again this year at a later date in August this year with a women's and men's race that both attracted elite fields of national riders.

The Accredited Marshal Scheme was extended to cover all of West Yorkshire instead of only the Wakefield area in 2016, with five races using the scheme this year. We ran a training course this year at Leeds Middleton Park and the majority the marshal appointments have come from this group of dedicated marshals. We had hoped to gain agreement for the scheme from South Yorkshire, Humber and North Yorkshire Police but disappointingly this has not happened. In particular agreement for the scheme would save our organisers in the North Yorkshire and those who run on certain courses in South Yorkshire area the cost of traffic management and make their events more financially viable.

Circuit:

Overall number of events and races are down due to the WRYL cutting back on the number of events that make up the league. The number of events for adults along with the number of TC events has slightly increased. The WRYL is again proving to produce a good quality of riders and giving youth riders in the region an ideal pathway into junior and ultimately adults racing. With events spread across the regions circuits to provide riders from all parts of the region racing opportunities.

Two new closed road circuits have opened this year with Leeds and Hull, meaning the region now more closed road facilities than any of the other regions. Leeds is proving to be popular and has already hosted a number of events delivered by Harrogate Nova, Otley CC, Ilkley CC, Albarosa and Le Col. Likewise Hull is already up and running with racing with City RC running races on the opening day and Petuaria RC delivering an end of season league. Yorksport continues to host regular races with 3RT, YH Training, Clifton CC delivering events there. Pedal Sport continue to deliver regular racing on the Brookbanks circuit. Forge Valley circuits and Wakefield circuits are currently under used for racing and providing more racing opportunities at those facilities will be a priority for 2018.

The region has had another great year with town centre races, with the usual races of Otley, Skipton and Beverley GP's forming half of the National Circuit Series. For the second time in three years the region hosted the National Circuit Championships with Sheffrec CC running Sheffield GP as the championships this year. Doncaster and Barnsley also hosted very successful events this year. Scarborough Festival of Racing was again a great event that finished off the national Youth Circuit Series while hosting the penultimate round of the Junior Road Series.

MTB

We have had a good year with slightly more MTB XC events this year than in 2016, with Nutcracker running a round of the regional level series at Dalby while also host a round of the HSBC National XC Series at the same venue. Midlands MTB ran two rounds of their XC series in the region at Parkwood Springs and Rother Valley. Rother Valley Riders are due to run a Dirt Omnium at the end of August with a DH, XC and trails race forming the overall event. This is the first time we have had this type of event in the region.

DH & 4X events will have increased from one to three, with The Howard Street Dual Slalom 4X and Rother Valley Riders DH events joining the well-established Peaty's Steel City DH on the calendar.

The Middleton Park facility is due to be ready for the 2018 season so this should open up more opportunities for both 4X and XC racing.

Cyclo Cross:

Cross continues to be the most popular discipline in the region in terms of rider numbers with a large increase in the number of events and races from last season. The summer series is still going strong as is the winter series with Seacroft Wheelers, Skipton CC, Bronte Tykes CC, Huddersfield RC, Albarosa CC, RST Racing Team, Peak RC, Shibden CC, Paul Milnes – Bradford Olympic CC, Ilkley CC, Bronte Wheelers and Team Cystic Fibrosis delivering rounds of the winter and summer leagues. City RC have continued to run their Viva la Velo Spring and Autumn Nocturne Series at the Costello Stadium. Huddersfield Star Wheelers hosted the Yorkshire U12 Championships at Newsome High School in Huddersfield and Clifton CC delivered the North of England Championships at Yorksport.

The Nova Cross event ran again this January and provided the calendar with a UCI ranking event and the region hosted the National Cyclo Cross Championships this year at Peel Park with the Yorkshire Cyclo Cross Association delivering a great event. The 3 Peaks Cyclo Cross event ran again last year and continues to be a huge and unique event drawing in 535 riders last year.

BMX

BMX has continued similar to last year with four events on the calendar. Leeds BMX Club and Bradford Bandits hosted rounds of the North Region BMX Summer Series, Doncaster BMX Racing running a round of the Midlands BMX Summer Series. Sheffield Dirt Society also ran their club event as they did in 2016.

Again, once the Middleton Park site is open this should again provide a new venue for BMX racing in the region.

Cycle Speedway

Hull Cycle Speedway and Sheffield Stars are still very active and have been running multiple rounds of the North & Scotland League, Northern Fours series and Supertrax Battle of Britain series. Unfortunately the number of events has dropped from 2016 as Heckmondwick CSC are not running events this year due to a lack of riders to form a team.

Track

Although we lost the Yorksport Track League the Velodrome there is being utilised with InPursuit Coaching running regular open track events there on Tuesday evenings with races for youth riders and two ability level groups of racing for adults. The venue was host to the National Youth Omnium event run by Clifton CC. The West Riding Track league is still going strong running their Monday evening events at Roundhay Park.

Sportives

The number of sportives in the region is down slightly from 2016 most likely due to the market being saturated at the moment. That said, the region still hosts more sportives than any of the other nine regions and can count some of the more established and iconic rides among that number, with the White Rose Classic & The Struggle drawing in just under a 1000 riders and the Etape du Dales running with around 700 riders this year.

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