31<sup>st</sup> October 2021



Dear Member

## Chairs Report 2021

Welcome to 2021 East Midlands Regional AGM and on behalf of the regional committee I would like to thank you for taking the time out to attend this evening.

After the major disruption seen to our sport seen during the height of the pandemic and which lasted well in to this year, it has been encouraging to have seen activity pick up during the year, with your clubs returning to training and excellent events being delivered right across the region.

Whilst there are still a number of challenges faced by clubs in the region, not least the availability of pool space for swim sessions, it has also been pleasing to hear through the regional chair forums we hold, that many of your clubs are seeing an increase in membership again and that there has been a real enthusiasm to get back training and participating with our fellow athletes once more.

Whilst a full series was not possible in 2021, it was also fantastic to see race organisers delivering events as part of a 'Mini' Junior series for this year. The members of the committee involved in putting the series on are already looking ahead to next year, with a return to a full series of events.

As a Regional Committee, we have continued to be busy keeping you up to date with the ever changing rules and regulations, helping and supporting our clubs and members, and making sure that we have the resources available to increase support in 2022.

As you are aware, membership of the committee is open to anyone who lives within the region and who is a full paid up member of Triathlon England. We rely on volunteers who can give freely of their time and who are committed to helping the regions triathletes have the best experiences, to help develop the best coaches and above all to safeguard our sport for future generations. There are a number of posts available on the committee for the coming year and which are pivotal for the region to increase the support mentioned above.

In the East Midlands region, we continued to offer a wide range of coaching courses to those club and Triathlon England members involved coaching their members. In the coming months we will see more of these events being delivered along with activator courses for those interested in volunteering etc.

Financially, we are in good shape to be able to continue funding and supporting our Triathlon England affiliated clubs and Triathlon England members in our region. You will see from the financial report by our treasurer we have a health set of accounts. During the year, the region has supported clubs with contributions towards safeguarding courses and will also be offering clubs a contribution towards any new kit needed to support the delivery of coached sessions.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all of my fellow committee members for their continued support. As with so many volunteers, the work they do is often not visible, but is vital for the region to support you as members.



I would also like to thank your Regional Manager, Sarah Williams, for her support throughout the Sarah has worked tirelessly supporting your clubs and other partners within the region to help improve and increase the participation in swim, bike and run.

At the virtual AGM, and before moving on to the formal election of the regional committee, your Committee and I, will be happy to take any questions you may have.

Yours in sport

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Lee Wallhead Chair of the East Midlands Regional Committee