



Eastern Region AGM Report – 7th November 2011

Counties: Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Bedfordshire

It's been a great year for triathlon in the Eastern Region with participation increasing at club and events for all ages and abilities involved. Below are highlights from the counties I cover, If you would like discuss anything related to Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Bedfordshire please feel free to contact me.

Cambridgeshire:

Coaching/CPD

- An Open water coaching CPD course and novice training day were ran at Milton Country Park in June.
- 3 new coaches gained qualifications through the Triathlon England bursary scheme, with 2 more currently enrolled on courses over the current season.

Clubs

- There are now 7 clubs affiliated to Triathlon England in Cambridgeshire, which more than double the number of last year.
- I have been working with Ely Tri over the past 12 months to support club development including coach structure support and novice training leading up to their event.
- I have started a new project with Tri BRJ Huntingdon to develop their triathlon section. We will be increasing the number of coaches and sessions within the club and creating a new novice event in Huntingdon, due to take place in June 2012.
- Triathlon England continued to fund the successful Cambridge Sport Lakes programme that is tied in with Cambridge Triathlon Club giving schools children access to the sport in the area. This also gave access to Milton Country Park for the regional academy and support at the Tata Kids of Steel event in Cambridge.

Events

- 2011 saw the first ever Tata Kids of Steel event take place at Impington College, Cambridge. Over 700 children took part in the event and it was a big success, there was press coverage and attendance from Sarah Springman the President of the BTF. The event is due to take place in April next year and we plan to make it even bigger for the Olympic year.

- Cambridgeshire was home to a range of events for all ages and abilities for the 2011 season including a world qualifying event ran by Cambridge Tri. There have also been new events from other clubs and new race organisers in the county showing the demand for triathlon.

Norfolk:

Coaching/CPD

- 2 new coaches gained qualifications through the Triathlon England bursary scheme
- A Paratriathlon coaching CPD course is planned for Spring 2012 at Easton College, Norwich which will give participants the opportunity to expand their knowledge and learn how to coach disabled athletes.

Clubs

- There are now 3 clubs affiliated to Triathlon England in Norfolk, with one of the largest clubs in the region situated in Norwich
- I will be working with clubs and event organisers in the county to form a race organisers forum over the next 12 months, this was an outcome of the County Triathlon meeting organised this month which gave some positive feedback and potential areas of growth for the sport in Norfolk.

Events

- There have been some new events in Norfolk this season as well as the established races taking place. A new relay format was seen at the Norwich sportspark triathlon which has received very good feedback from competitors. There was also a new triathlon at Leziate Park in Kings Lynn, a venue that will become prominent in the 2012 season.
- I have been working with Easton college to provide triathlon activity for students and will roll out a programme for 2012.
- There will be novice training opportunities at Leziate Park next season preparation for the event taking place there, and we aim to promote the venue for regular open water swimming opportunities.
- I will be working with Simon edwards to accredit 4 of the events he runs during the season to recognise the quality of races in the area.
- Active Norfolk, the County Sports Partnership will be running the County Schools Aquathlon at UEA sportspark in preparation for the national competition in June 2012.

Bedfordshire:

Coaching/CPD

- 2 new coaches gained qualifications through the Triathlon England bursary scheme
- Novice training and Open water CPD is planned for Boxend in the summer of 2012

Clubs

- There are now 5 clubs affiliated to Triathlon England in Bedfordshire.
- I have been working with a group of volunteers in Leighton Buzzard to form a new triathlon club in the area which has strong links with Swim/Bike/Run clubs. The club has already attracted a core membership and I am working with the club to create a novice event at the existing facility as a goal for new members and also to fill a gap in the county for events.

Events

- Bedfordshire has several high quality events attracting athletes from around the region to compete. The county also has smaller events offering competition for all ages and abilities. There will be new events for 2012 including a new event for Boxend Park and a novice event in Leighton Buzzard.

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