**REGIONAL OFFICIALS’ COORDINATOR REPORT 20-21**

From Oct 2020 and to the end of Oct 2021 we have had 43 permitted events. This is around 50% of pre-pandemic levels, with many well-known and well-established events being cancelled.

Unfortunately, 3 Kids events and 2 Club events had to proceed without an appointed TO, and there were 3 events where no TO was requested.

I’d like to personally thank all those TOs who helped deliver this excellent number of events and to continue to promote safety and enjoyment for all competitors. Well done everybody.

At the start of 2020, there were 28 TOs registered to the TESE region. 2 have resigned and 4 have simply “disappeared”. 3 new LTOs have successfully completed their shadows so we are currently running at 25 fully qualified and raring to go! I can also report that there is a Local Technical Officials course booked for December 12th at the K2 in Crawley and it’s encouraging to see that there are already at least 12 people registered for this course. Please spread the word to any other possibly interested people – the more the merrier!

Many of the region’s qualified TOs completed an on-line “refresher” course at the start of the 2021 season to give them confidence to return to the field of play. This refresher will be followed by on-going CPD which is currently in development by the BTF.

A few BTF rule changes are expected in the new year in line with World Triathlon, and I hope to be able to communicate these and other CPD information at our annual TO meeting (face to face or by Zoom) in February or March 2022.

It is disappointing to report that at least 2 established Event Organisers have either decided to quit or to reduce their offering for the future. New events in planning for 2020 have still not been finalised and I hope we will see them in 2022. It is also sad to report that a couple of EOs are being hit by increases in costs for venues and thus reconsidering their position.

However, TESE region hosted the following major events in 2021:

* Eastbourne Triathlon: WT Sprint Championships and ETU Standard Championships
* Hever Festival of Endurance: TE Middle Distance Championship
* Worthing Aquathlon: TE Aquathlon Championship
* Hever Castle: WT Standard Duathlon qualifier.

At the time of writing I am pleased to be able to report that Ironbourne Triathlon has been awarded the honour of hosting the TE Middle Distance Championship in July; we are awaiting information about WT and ETU Qualifiers.

With the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in the summer – Triathlon on 29th and 31st July – we should see a resurgence of interest in our sport. I hope so, and hope to see many of our regional members at one or two events throughout the season.