

MINUTES – RACE DEBRIEF

Dartford and Whiteoak Triathlon Club

Meeting Date: Wednesday 12th June 2019

Attended: Alison, Craig, Mark, Danny, Paul, Melody, Ralph, Heather, Karin

Apologies: James

There were 45 standard entries with 5 no shows and 169 sprint entries with 32 no shows.
1 standard entry on the day and 7 sprint entries on the day.
10 Go Tri entrants took part and the club has gained 1 new member so far.

The income from the race was £4,700 up from £3,230 last year and the Go Tri made £330.
Heather managed to save the club £200 on the race numbers.

We had 54 marshals on the day, which was 6 more than last year but the extra help was definitely appreciated.

Registration

Heather said the atmosphere at registration was very calm, although Darren had expressed concern at @7.45am that they were running out of space in transition and could only accommodate another 12 bikes. Stuweb were at fault here as they had not bought the amount of fittings that had been ordered.

Registration open and close times were strictly adhered to.

Pool

The pool seemed very chaotic and times and needs some rethinking for next year. Dave had suggested that only one person is needed to count the laps but Danny said he couldn't agree to that. A snake swim would be considered in the event of there not being enough marshals at a future event.

It was also suggested that the swim start times could be condensed a little to help stop the lull in people getting into the pool.

No problems were noted from the briefing.

Transition

Mark said that transition went ok although racking was tight as previously mentioned. He felt that the run out was not particularly clear and appreciated Andy Webb staying in position to show competitors the way.

The run route did cut off the entrance to registration but if next year's race is back in the park this will not be a problem in future.

The bag drop area seemed to be appreciated as no bags in transition is pretty standard with triathlon these days.

Thoughts were that maybe transition could be moved next year either into the school field opposite or at the back of the pool where the Go Tri transition took place as there is a lot more room there.

Craig felt that although there was a lot going on where he was positioned it all went ok and no competitors were hindered.

Bike

Ralph encountered problems delivering coffees to the marshals on the bike route as no insulated cups with lids were provided and the coffees were cold by the time he got them to them. Flasks are needed.

Ralph did not think there were any problems with the signage although he felt it would be useful to have an arrow along Hawley Road just to assure the cyclists they were on the right route.

A marshal at Bexley did not turn up so one marshal had to be moved.

Ralph did a sweep in a car but felt 2 people were needed to do this and take down signs and collect the hi viz jackets from the marshals.

It was suggested that maybe we could have a cyclist as a sweeper who could keep everyone up to date with the location of the last rider.

Run

Karin thought it went fine considering the route had to be changed at very little notice, although she felt a 'turnaround coming soon' notice would be useful if that route was to be used in the future.

A competitor had been allowed to start the standard race some time after his allotted time and this led to marshals being in place longer than necessary. In future strict cut off times will be adhered to.

Martin thought there was a lot going on with the bikes coming in at the same time.

The crossing of Birchwood Road didn't seem to cause anyone any problems.

There was a lack of coffee and roll in this position.

Overview

The race went very well despite the last minute changes, with lots of positive feedback from the competitors. Even the chap who had initially emailed his upset with regard to the run route being changed apologised!

Karin has suggested we use Racecheck for reviews and will look into this.

It was felt that we could push the familiarisation day a little more and be prepared to answer lots of questions.

Paul is going to look and see if there are any cheaper options than Stuweb.

The sale of race/club name specific items could be sold but not kit which should be for members only.

Craig's Notes which we ran out of time to discuss

It would be good to have marshals in the same roles for next year's race although John Setford and Dave Poland will be given roaming roles as they are difficult to keep in place.

Craig would like to see the whole race pre programmed with possibly a pre race meeting between experienced members where it can be agreed that only **ONE** person has a voice on the setting up day and race day to try and avoid the conflicting opinions of how things should be done.

Scencio need to be spoken to about the lack of communication between the management and the staff with regard to what is actually going on at Whiteoak

Any Other Business

Lara expressed an interest in coming back to coach at the club. Mel agreed to sort out the next 3 months of coaching and see what could be offered to her.

Next committee Wednesday 17th July 2019