

President's Report 2015

Twenty seven AGMs now; we're still pedalling...

Membership

ATTA trundles on, its membership settled around 300.

Racing

Event participation hasn't changed overall with the main focus remaining on the Early-birds, the Good Friday 16 and the 40km Championships, all with capacity fields in the lead-in; the *Hillies* seemed less popular with a drop of about 12% in rider numbers but more importantly perhaps, the number qualifying for the series awards. BAR qualifiers were also reduced in number. Events at Champion Lakes are always well-filled.

The problem of urban expansion and a consequent loss of courses will almost certainly have an impact next year with Bibra Lake lost to 'Rowe-8'; Wandi is already lost for mass-start events but ITTs — ?; Neerabup is uncertain for several reasons. At least the need to identify and develop a few new courses is underway.

The perennial problem of securing sufficient race-day volunteer assistance remains. We are considering a few strategies that may ameliorate the process but it's unlikely ever to be entirely stress-free.

But are we making the best use of our resources? Are we over-stretching? Do we need to refocus? What options are there to the sort of events we currently promote? Despite Strava et al there still seems to be a demand for structured events.

Again we were asked to assist in a few extra-curricular events: WAT; the UWCT Perth qualifier round earlier this year, timing the ITT; we timed at the AVCC Championships last year and we ran an ITT in association with Brad Hall's Women's Cycling Initiative and assisted with the CycleSport Junior ITT Championships. We also provided the timing for last year's Dardanup Tour.

The association with Brad Hall's group appears to have boosted the participation rate (up to 30%) for women: quite impressive.

Tech-bits

Timing and Software

No major hardware or software changes have been implemented in the past twelve months; maintenance and a few minor fixes only. The system still functions well but there are aspects that could be improved. Some plans are still just plans.

The long-lived but for a long time seldom-used, Forum was archived recently. *Facebook* had taken over; *Twitter* has a supplementary role.

Administration

We have made some progress in our overdue succession (contingency) planning. The tasks essential to ATTA's functions have been defined and at least in some areas, back-up/ sharing responsibilities have been implemented. We are, however, still very vulnerable in several key areas.

A new 'Associations' Act is currently travelling through the State parliamentary processes and when enacted will again require a few changes in our Rules. It's apparently designed to simplify governance - at least for smaller groups (like ATTA). We understand there will be a reasonable time (3 years) allowed to manage whatever changes will be necessary.

Acknowledgments

Helen Watkins retired and Sue Challen was co-opted onto the committee. She has taken over the responsibility for ATTA race clothing from Peter Vaughan following his severe crash injuries early in the year. Pete will continue to take a break while he rehabilitates. Lorraine and Jeff have continued to share a huge load of responsibility for what ATTA achieves within race management and at Committee level; and then there's Troy, continually managing course signage (and the contents of the ATTA trailer). There's some relief in sight for that. Thanks again to Steve McKiernan and Frank for looking after the race day refreshments through the season. Indeed thanks to ALL committee members for their support through the past year.