

Dear Member,

Chairman's Report 2020

Hi there and welcome to what I believe is the first *Virtual* AGM that the Eastern Region has ever held. I am sure that we are used to attending online meetings by now so hopefully this will run smoothly and thank you for joining us.

We have a few reasons for holding this meeting (apart from sticking to the rules of the constitution!); to report on the year just gone, to elect and re-elect the 2020/21 Committee, and this year to vote on our new Constitution which hopefully everyone has had a chance to read.

This is my first year of being the committee Chairman. I was hoping it would be a relatively easy one as I am fairly new to the role, so some time to become accustomed to the procedures and requirements was the plan. Then the pandemic happened, and all of our lives were turned upside down.

I am sure that everyone was just starting to ramp up their training at the start of the year, with a view to racing and enjoying a good year of triathlon, when lockdown was imposed. Races were cancelled one after the other and I for 1 had to shelve all plans 2020 and revert back to base training. I hope everyone managed to cope with what has become "The New Normal" and that at some point we can return to something resembling our previous lives.

As a committee we have tried to keep everyone up to date with what the rules around training are at any given time and looking forward I had hoped that I could say things were getting better. This week however has seen some more setbacks, but I am sure we will all be resilient and continue to support each other. The race calendar for 2021 is already starting to fill up, so we do at least have something to look forward to, even if the format is different to usual.

As a region we have always supported our younger athletes and it was a hard decision that we made to cancel the series. On that note I would like to thank Simon Howlett for his hard work over the last few years organising the series and say that he will be sorely missed as he is stepping down.

I would also like to thank Elisabeth and Mark for their work as respectively Treasurer and Adult League Coordinator, the work that everyone puts in is always greatly appreciated and giving up your time for free is always a great help, if anyone would like to put themselves forward for these or any other committee roles then please email the secretary at secretary@triathlonenglandeast.org and your help will be greatly received.

A final thank-you for all the work that the Clubs and their coaches have done to keep everyone engaged and hopefully in good shape for when we can all start racing again. I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM for further reports, information, and where the winners of the Regional 2020 awards will be announced.

Yours

Ali Henson