**Senior League report**

Year two of the London Senior League, since introducing a new system based on easy to understand, inclusive and all-encompassing scoring system is nearing a very exciting conclusion. Events all of a very high standard and all have surpassed expectations.

This year I introduced, for the first time, an Olympic Distance open water event at Thorpe Park Triathlon which was a resounding success with Clapham chasers making the event really special and turning out in large numbers.

Another innovative addition for those going “ long” was The Midnight Man half and long distance champs, again a success. The “one off” winner’s prizes will be awarded at our awards evening.

Non London Region Clubs have asked if they can be included in our league and other regional committees have contacted me asking for help and assistance to copy and set up a league like ours. The significant of time and effort to administer the league has been a stumbling block for some of them but clearly we are the model that others want to follow.

I am already getting a batch of notices of interest for the 2017 season showing the interest generated and it is really rewarding. I have attached a notice of interest list which I stress has not been discussed or agreed as yet.

I was told when I took over the league that we didn’t have enough events or interest to be selective but that has all changed and we certainly have now.

Tooting Bec Lido Aquathlon, jointly organised between a commercial organiser and with help from South London Swimming club has asked for inclusion. As a cold, wetsuit compulsory swim in huge open water unheated swim area it maybe a chance for early season wetsuit use and familiarisation.

The Jetstream Triathlon will not take place in 2017, which is a pity as competitors need to do at least one Triathlon or they don’t score for prizes but as a possible replacement – London Tri have asked for  inclusion in the Senior League which needs consideration. I saw quite a few of our London people participating there this year. It’s obviously a popular event for many.

The new Triathlon England web site had some issues with easily locating the league and results but there are discussions and improvements in place to rectify the situation. If all else fails try :- <https://www.britishtriathlon.org/london/london-leagues/senior-series/race-report/2016-slr>

The new league structure during 2015 went exceptionally well and so far 2016 has surpassed it comfortably. Some “clubs” in London are internet based facilities and do not have members or teams and still, to date, thirty seven London clubs participated in the league events and many of them in large numbers and at several events.

We are well placed to comfortably increase London athlete’s participation and from all feedback, we have increased numbers, supported individuals and club team groups targeting league events.

  Alan Spelling        London  -  Senior League Coordinator