

# RIVERLAND TRIATHLON CLUB

2 August 2015

## 2015 Riverland Triathlon Club Presidents AGM Report

The Riverland Triathlon Club is now a year old.

The Riverland Triathlon Club (RTC) formed at the first AGM on 27<sup>th</sup> of July 2014 at the Renmark Club, the committee began with President - Ruth Strout, Vice President - Nadia Mills, Secretary - Sarah Kuchel, and Treasurer - Anthony Pickering. The committee comprised of: Andrew Coombs, Mike Allder (later becoming Treasurer), Sue George, Monique Stirling, Tyrone George, and Laura Strout.

Our RTC Constitution was developed and adopted. We opened a bank account, became incorporated, and affiliated with Triathlon Australia. We are indebted to The Renmark Club for providing us with our initial startup money for incorporation and the affiliation fee to Triathlon Australia – without this our club would not have started.

I would like to recognise and applaud the Riverland Triathlon Clubs success and member achievements. Together we have encouraged participation in triathlons and the life of the club, it has been wonderful that such enthusiastic members have contributed to the establishment and running of the club in its first year. I'd particularly like to thank those that have helped on the committee; it's been great to work together. I'd also like to acknowledge Nadene Gillet for the weekly running sessions, as well as Tyrone George when he was providing this previously.

We are very happy with our first year membership reaching 38. Our Riverland Triathlon Club has an age range from 5 to 65, with beginners to experienced triathletes participating.

The development of our RTC logo has given us our own 'identity' that we use on polo shirts, new tear drop banners, facebook and our website. We are grateful for the design abilities of Courtney Proud who developed our logo, and our thanks to Monique Stirling for organising this.

We have in the past year provided four very successful Come N Tri events in the Riverland to our members and to the Riverland community meaning that approximately 100 children and adults have been given the opportunity to do their first triathlon. I think that this has been a highlight of the clubs activities and something to be very proud of. It has been a real joy to see so many people accomplish something significant to them, in a supportive environment and to enjoy it so much. Any event that we organise and offer to our RTC members and the public often means sanctioning with Triathlon Australia, and post event reporting; as well as council event permission and road closures where applicable. We had a RTC member's duathlon in July at Waikerie, and a RTC run prior to today's AGM.

We have applied for a grant from the Berri Barmera Council and they generously provided us with the ability to purchase some basic equipment to help us with the Come N Tri's – and they approved the road closures. The Renmark Paringa Council recently granted us money to buy 2 tear drop banners to help promote our club.

We have organised and supported the Murray Man Come N Tri in November of last year – and we are planning to do all of this again in this 2015/2016 season. Many of our members competed in the Renmark Triathlon, and other triathlon competitions around the state and interstate.

### Email

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In promoting the Riverland Triathlon Club we appreciate the support of the Murray Pioneer, Loxton News, and River News; as well as ABC radio and 5RM radio – particular mention to Graham Charlton (5RM) and Nick Dillon (Murray Pioneer). We've also used our facebook page to advantage; and would like to thank Grant Schwartzkopff for the use of his wonderful photographs of so many smiling triathletes.

We are a StarClub with the Department of Sport and Recreation, and have developed several key policies including a Child Safe policy, Code of Conduct and a Strategic Plan for 2015-2016. Our club offers SportsVouchers from the SA government for primary school children. Two of our members attended a triathlon coaching course in Adelaide. We organised a Traffic Marshalling training course for our volunteers – thanks to Ron Foulds from SAPOL.

Individual achievements - some of our members have excelled in triathlon competitions and other sports too.

Junior development squad - Thomas Oates and Luke Sharrad

Ironman Busselton - Craig Wilson and Brian Gates, Melbourne IM Craig Wilson (2014 and 2015).

Running events - Nadene Gillet, Mel Sharrad and Phil Pfennig.

Renmark Triathlon - Riverland Triathlon Club team winners Brian Gates (swim and cycle) and Nadene Gillet (run) – thanks!

Triathlon event placings for Thomas Oates, Ruth Strout, Nadia Mills, and Sarah Kuchel.

Silversands Multi-Sport Age Group Winners - Ruth Strout and Nadia Mills.

In April we surveyed our members, and some of the feedback included: 'more skill based stuff for kids', links to coaches', and 'members only timed events' – our club is working towards meeting these suggestions.

Our website is almost set to launch – thanks to Andrew Haigh.

We are in the process of planning a Rose Run this year in October, part of the Renmark Rose Festival; and have another event 'Sweat versus Steam' in the pipeline for early August 2016.

Our club is about to purchase a timing program for events that we organise.

This year we are planning to hold TryStars program for children in the lead up to the summer triathlon season, it is an 8 week skills based program.

We are hoping to purchase a club marquee, with logos that will offer shade for our volunteers and promote the Riverland Triathlon Club.

I believe that we have in our club been consistent in applying our Core Values of: Respect, Health, Belonging, Enjoyment and Achievement. I am proud of what the Riverland Triathlon Club has accomplished in one year with a great team of people and with and for the Riverland community.

Ruth Strout  
Riverland Triathlon Club - President



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