



Audax UK Long Distance Cyclists' Association

***Annual Reports, Accounts and
Agenda for AGM 2015/16***

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Your Vote

This year's AGM is the third that members not attending the AGM are able to cast votes on business determined there. If you're not coming to the AGM, then please take some time to study the agenda items, consider the issues carefully and exercise your influence by casting your votes as you think fit, in the interests of AUK. Most of you will have received these papers by email from mi-Voice, who are helping us with the voting process. You can cast your proxy vote online using their voting website or, alternatively, if you wish to appoint your own proxy, please contact the General Secretary.

For members wanting to get more information about Board discussions and the papers that inform our decisions, minutes and papers are available on the "Official" section of the AUK website for all to see. There is also related discussion on the AUK online forum at forum.audax.uk

If you would like to attend the AGM it is taking place at 12pm on the 12th February 2017 in Room 101 in the Library of Birmingham. If possible, can you let the General Secretary know that you will be there so that sufficient catering arrangements can be put in place.

1. Annual Report 2015-2016

AUK is the long distance cycling association for the UK, and is the regulating body for cycling events held under the rules developed by Audax Club Parisien and developed further by AUK itself. It is, at the same time, a membership club for cyclists enthused by the concept of long distance riding.

AUK is a company limited by guarantee under UK company law, governed by a Board of Directors elected by and from the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The Board reports back to the membership at the AGM and this is its report for 2015-16.

Summary

In a post-PBP year that usually sees a significant drop in activity and against a background of continuing high interest in the UK in sport cycling there has been a surprising and very encouraging high level of activity:

- 542 organised AUK calendar events; a very slight increase on last year's 533;
- 372 riders achieving a Super Randonneur series of rides;
- 5067 Permanent rides completed, a 24% increase on the previous year's 4090
- an increase in membership which reached around 7,100 at December 2016.
- another excellent, well-supported National 400 event, this time in England, organised by John Perrin and his Peak Audax team.

During the year the Board has:

- celebrated AUK's 40th anniversary through the production of commemorative coffee mugs, medals, mudguard stickers . . .
- introduced full proxy voting for general meetings as it is a legal requirement under company law.
- commissioned and installed computer software to aid the validation of mandatory route DIY by GPS permanent events;
- produced and agreed a Strategy for AUK up to 2020 (available to view on the website).
- agreed that the presence of two non-executive directors on the Board along with the reduced number of executive directors provided the right balance of proportion and number consistent with efficient and effective governance
- continued the essential, on-going background work of guiding organisers and members on the regulations, and acting as adjudicator on disputes;
- continued to fund Steve Abraham's continuing world record annual distance record attempt through collecting small online donations with entry until the attempt was closed down;
- reviewed the levels of honoraria paid to directors and delegates to try and ensure that the system operates fairly, both to the delegates and directors receiving recognition of their work, and to the interests of AUK itself;
- continued to work with and support LEL Ltd. in order to facilitate the running of the UK's flagship event London-Edinburgh-London, while at the same time protecting and promoting the interests of AUK and its members;
- appointed a new General Secretary, Graeme Provan. After a strenuous induction, Graeme is standing formally for election to the post at the AGM;
- adopted a Creative Commons copyright license in order to protect our intellectual property including our website content.

The loss of the services of the General Secretary, Paul Stewart, around the turn of 2015-16, following differences regarding ongoing and future IT development, left a big hole which we were able to fill temporarily when John Sabine was persuaded to step up from his non-executive role to the Secretary position until we were able to appoint a new one. Graeme Provan was appointed subsequently, enabling John to stand down, with our thanks, and quite possibly to his relief.

In more detail:-

Events

The total number of events on the calendar was slightly above the level of 2015, unusual in a post-PBP year. The total number of Calendar event validations for the 2015-2016 season was 21487, just less than a 3% reduction from 2014-2015 which was a PBP year when numbers are always higher.

The number of permanent events completed was 24% up on last year.

After gaining AGM approval as an additional event classification in 2015, a new type of event, a 'Trace Nationale' or Easter Trail, a team event with a more relaxed format than an Arrow, was introduced at Easter 2016.

Membership

Membership continues to show growth, with the 6447 members at the end of August 2015 increasing considerably throughout the year and reaching a record of 7123 by 31 December 2016. Of the current membership, roughly one sixth are female and we are also a slightly older organisation than last year with an average age of around 53. More recent joiners show a higher average age than last year of 44.

Regulations

The approval of mandatory routing at last year's AGM has allowed us to develop the mandatory route DIYxGPS permanent events which have rapidly become popular as an alternative to advisory route perms with fixed controls, whether they validated by brevet card or GPS. Might this sort of thing be extended to calendar events?

Two appendices to the regulations have been introduced since the last AGM, namely an update for off road audax events and the formal introduction of a Randonneur 100,000 award for the completion of 100,000 km in events at randonneur standard. These require formal approval by the AGM.

The Board are proposing an amendment designed to replace the Complaints procedure noted in Regulation 1.5 and subsequent appendices and to replace it with a grievance procedure that covers complaints as well as other matters and which will be published independently of the regulations. The aims of this change include allowing grievances to be settled as close to the point of origin as possible and taking better account of AUK's organisational structure. Other amendments proposed are "housekeeping" exercises; one designed to restore the traditional deprecation in randonneur events of routes consisting of repeated passes over the same circuit and the other to clarify the position of some Fleches (Arrow events) with regard to recognition of eligibility for distance points.

Communications

A lot of effort has gone into working out how the member and public facing part of the new website (now under development) should be configured. What comes out will also need to align with our other communications e.g. ARRIVEE, in an appropriately complementary manner. There is much work to do in this respect in the future.

AUK Trophies

The AUK Trophies have finally been donated to the National Cycling Museum in Llandrindod Wells. This relieves the pressure and worry connected with their security, to say nothing of the cost and time involved in storage, transport, engraving etc. It is still possible to award mementoes for various achievements while preserving the names and their associations of the various trophies. We have also moved to recognising similarly other achievements such as Ultra Randonneur, Brevet 25,000 and Randonneur 100,000.

Governance and People

A close vote in the election of two non-executive directors at the last AGM led to pressure for the appointment of the third placed candidate. The Board considered this at a subsequent meeting and agreed that experience had shown that the presence of two non-executive directors on the Board along with the reduced number of executive directors had provided the right balance of proportion and number consistent with efficient and effective governance, and that making a further appointment was not required.

We have introduced full proxy voting for general meetings as it is a legal requirement under company law with (potentially) fines for non-compliance, and the real possibility of individual directors' employment positions being jeopardised. There is no need for a change in the articles of association as the present articles appear to allow proxy voting anyway.

As AUK and the scale of its activities grow, so does the work needed to administer it and the number of people to do the work. This year, we appointed Richard Jennings as our IT Manager with a brief to lead the development of our new website. In order to assist him in defining our requirements for this major development, he has recruited a team of analysts including John Burgato, Ivan Cornell, Dom Ellis, Graeme Hoyle, Chris Kelly, Andrew Lord, Bob Millar, Julian Parsons, Marcia Roberts, Miranda Smith and Michael Sutton.

As previously noted, Paul Stewart resigned his position as General Secretary during 2015-16. From before and since taking on the Secretary position in 2013 Paul had worked tirelessly in the interests of AUK and its members, piloting through crucial reforms to make AUK work better as well as being utterly dedicated to being Secretary. He deserves our gratitude and best wishes.

Chris Boulton is stepping down from his position as Non-Executive director after two years in post, having been a perceptive influence on everything the Board does, in particular the development of the Board's strategy, on which he took the lead. He also deserves our gratitude and best wishes.

There have been other comings and goings including

- Rob Hilderley, who has left the Mile Eater delegate post after a marathon stint, and
- Steve Snook, who has retired from his redoubt as the Altitude Awards Secretary.

Our thanks and best wishes to both of them.

We welcome on the way in

- Paul Rainbow - Reunion Secretary,
- Mike Lane - Annual Awards Secretary
- Paul Worthington - Mile Eater Secretary
- Caroline Fenton RRtY Delegate

If I've missed anybody out, please let me know and I will mention you next year.

Development of the AGM and Reunion

The 2015 AGM voted in favour of changes to the Articles of Association that would allow the decoupling of the AGM and annual Reunion, while retaining the ability of members to make proposals and nominations for the AGM within time limits that were based on the actual date of the AGM rather than arbitrary fixed calendar dates. This has now been implemented. The 2016 annual Reunion took place in Taunton and we took the opportunity to have a consultation meeting to discuss with committed members such things as the new Board Strategy, AUK Finances, AUK IT developments as well as the pros and cons of likely and/or possible AGM proposals. Members may have their own views on this but the Board thought it went well and could be a likely model for the future. The rest of the Reunion seemed to go well too.

Financial

During the year the accounting function within AUK has continued to undergo consolidation and review of earlier changes to some systems and functions.

- The accounts continue to be produced using professional accountancy software (Sage On-Line)
- The accounts continue to be produced by a paid book-keeper who is an AUK member;
- The Finance Director role continues to be more involved in strategic financial development of the organisation with an overseeing and reviewing role for the accounting function.
- In the absence of an IT Director, the Finance Director has taken on oversight of the new web development through supervision of the IT Manager.

The trading for the twelve months shows total Revenue of £125,285 (2015: £119,142) with Direct expenditure of £89,110 (2015: £83,952), overheads of £16,508 (2015: £27,245) showing a net surplus for the period of £19,667 (2015: £7,945).

At the end of August the company had £276,200 in the bank showing an increase of £25,861 over the 2015 figure of £250,339.

The coming year

We told you last year that we had developed and populated a new and more attractive front end to the website providing news and information to members and non-members alike. It was intended that this would provide a modern gateway to the information and services that members and non-members used. We put a lot of work into developing this but in the end it proved unsuitable as while it was better than the current front end in some ways e.g. look and feel, it was not as good in other ways e.g. access to information, which are particularly valued by members. We were forced to accept that overall this would not be an improvement and a decision was made to reboot the

process. We appointed Richard Jennings, a membership delegate then but an IT professional before retiring, as our IT Manager. He prescribed starting from scratch and did so.

The current ongoing process of IT development set in train by IT Manager Richard Jennings has been dealing with analysis of current IT use and future requirements, and a next step of identifying suitable suppliers is now in progress. This work will continue, and a lot of it will involve delegates and directors in extra time-consuming work.

We Intend to examine and revise our Articles of Association in order to bring them in to line with more recent company legislation, to clear up any inconsistencies that either existed at their instigation or have crept in since as the organisation has grown and changed, and to take into account that growth and change.

. . . and of course, the normal operations of AUK, in support of the many events run under our regulations, has to continue.

Acknowledgements

Many people contribute to the work and success of AUK; the delegates who manage membership, validation and all the other back office functions, the Arrivee editors and contributors, organisers and all the support teams who make the events possible and enjoyable and the new team of analysts that is examining and documenting our IT use and mapping out our future IT requirements.

All our volunteers are vital to AUK's operations, and it would be easy to take their efforts behind the scenes for granted. We are fortunate to have them, and their continuing dedication and hard work deserves our thanks.

Chris Crossland,
Chair, on behalf of the AUK Board

2. Director Report: Calendar Events Secretary

Analysis of Events

In the 2015/16 season there were 542 events and we currently have 182 organisers, 24 of whom organised events for the first time during the season. 169 (32%) of those calendar events qualified for Audax altitude Award (AAA) points. The number of calendar events continues to remain remarkably consistent year on year with only minor variations. Brevet Populaires again account for nearly 60% of all calendar events and there does appear to be a gradual but steady rise in events of 300km and above. It has also been common in the past for there to be a fairly marked fall off in events of 200km and above in the year immediately following PBP but in 2016 numbers have remained steady and even increased in some cases.

1. Breakdown of events by distance and year

| | BP | BR/ BRM | 200 | 300 | 400 | 600 | >600 | Total |
|------|-----|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|
| 2016 | 314 | 228 | 152 | 34 | 23 | 16 | 3 | 542 |
| 2015 | 310 | 223 | 151 | 36 | 20 | 16 | 0 | 533 |
| 2014 | 311 | 218 | 158 | 31 | 15 | 13 | 2 | 532 |
| 2013 | 334 | 220 | 163 | 29 | 15 | 12 | 1 | 554 |
| 2012 | 320 | 215 | 159 | 27 | 18 | 10 | 1 | 535 |
| 2011 | 310 | 246 | 167 | 32 | 24 | 22 | 0 | 556 |
| 2010 | 322 | 211 | 148 | 21 | 25 | 16 | 1 | 535 |
| 2009 | 317 | 200 | 146 | 23 | 14 | 14 | 3 | 517 |
| 2008 | 320 | 195 | 144 | 25 | 13 | 12 | 1 | 515 |
| 2007 | 339 | 219 | 159 | 27 | 18 | 15 | 0 | 558 |

Analysing events on a regional basis showed the number of events seems to be evenly distributed nationwide although there's an indication that events at the longer distances are more common in Scotland and the North.

2. Distribution of events by region

| | 50km | 100km | 200km | 300km | 400km | 600km+ | Total |
|--------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Scotland and North | 9 | 58 | 43 | 7 | 10 | 10 | 137 |
| East and Midlands | 13 | 76 | 37 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 135 |
| South West | 16 | 65 | 36 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 139 |
| South East | 13 | 64 | 36 | 14 | 3 | 1 | 131 |

Looking at planned BRM events for the 2016/17 season, there appears to be a slight reduction in the number of events at 300, 400 and 600km. The possibility of pre-qualifying entry for PBP 2019 is likely to lead to an increase in AUK BRM events in the 2017/18 season.

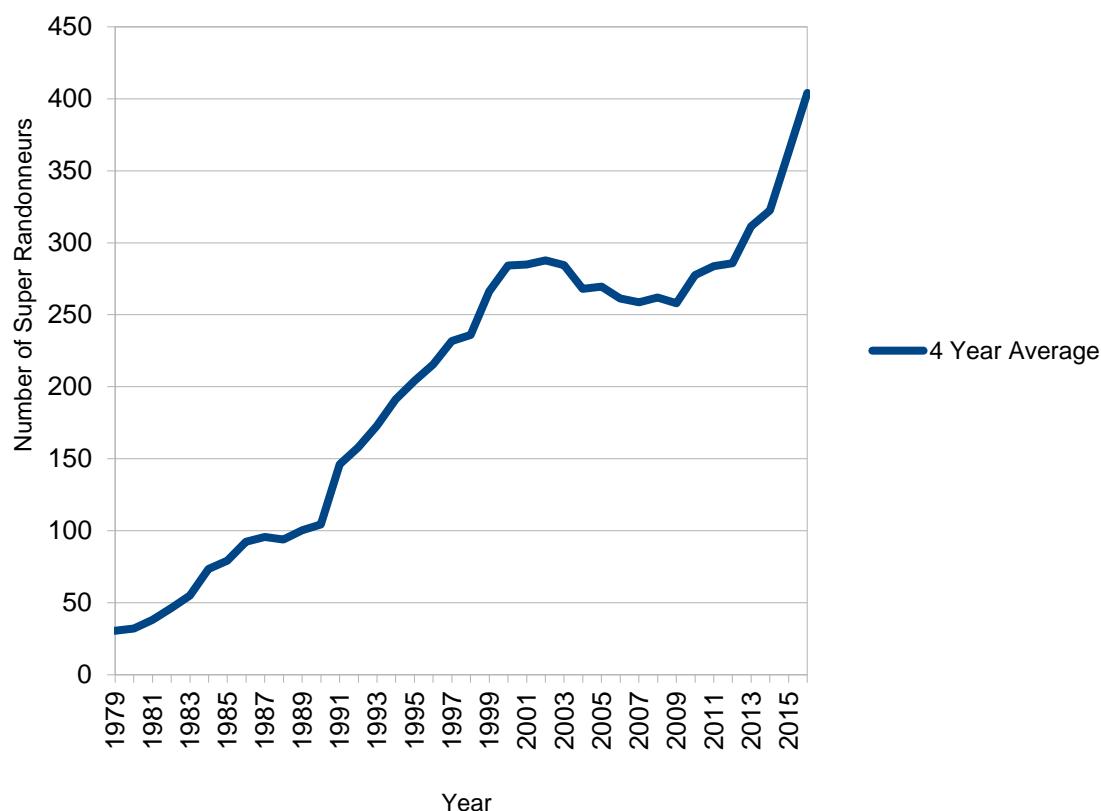
3. AUK BRM events by year/distance

| | 200km | 300km | 400km | 600km | 1000km | 1200km+ | Total |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|-------|
| 2017 | 17 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 51 |
| 2016 | 17 | 13 | 15 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 61 |
| 2015 | 57 | 21 | 18 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 110 |
| 2014 | 17 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 59 |
| 2013 | 12 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 34 |
| 2012 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 27 |
| 2011 | 46 | 22 | 22 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 107 |

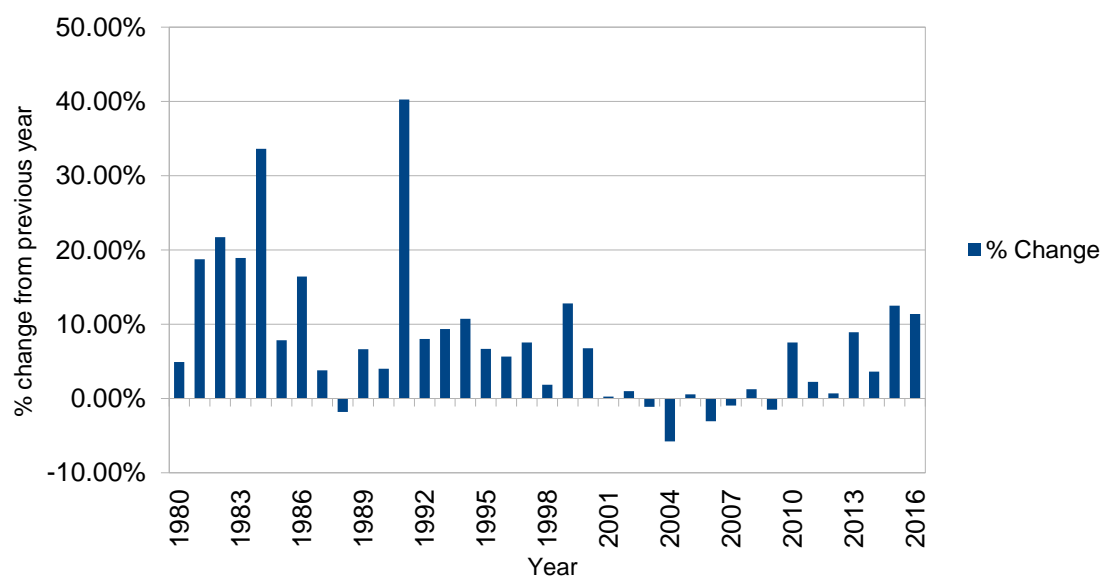
The 2015/16 season

The number of riders taking part in the longer events continues to increase. If we look at the number of riders gaining a Super Randonneur award (averaged over a four year period to negate the spikes in PBP and LEL years) in graphs 4 and 5 it continues to show a healthy rate of growth and an increase of over 11% from the previous season.

4. Number of riders gaining an SR (averaged over previous 4 years)



5. Percentage change from previous year (averaged over previous 4 years)



The National 400 was organised by John Perrin and Peak Audax CTC in July starting from Biggin. An excellent route combined with very kind weather made it a great success. There were over 140 entrants and 113 finishers. The National 400 2017 will be organised by John Hamilton and CTC Shropshire.

We have further reduced the administrative burden on organisers by making available online payment for organisers qualified to do instant validation which in most cases now makes the entire process paperless. Moving forward, it is envisaged the new website may streamline and simplify several of the existing processes further reducing the administration associated with events.

AUK organised its first Trace Nationale (Easter Trail) in 2016. The initial numbers were encouraging for what is a totally new format to riders and organisers alike.

Challenges for the year ahead

AUK's blue ribbon event London-Edinburgh-London takes place on 30th July 2017 with an anticipated field of 1,500 riders. AUK will continue to support Danial Webb and his team to ensure the event is again a great success.

We will continue to build on the growth in participation by enabling organisers and groups to organise events under our regulations that attract both returning and new riders to our sport. There is a continued challenge to nurture events in those parts of the UK where there is a paucity of calendar events and members.

Finally, a big thank you to all organisers, helpers, riders and the members of the Events Team without whom there would be no events.

Martin Foley

Calendar Events Secretary and Director

3. Director Report: Permanent Events Secretary

Following the 2014-15 Season when there was little overall growth in the number of Permanent Events ridden compared with the previous season, 2015-16 has again seen a significant increase more in line with the pattern of the previous 5 years. The total of 5067 Permanent Events validated represents a 24% growth. (Certainly the productivity level of AUK is well ahead of most of the rest of the UK economy!)

DIY Events have stayed at a similar (61%) proportional level compared to all Permanent Events ridden; and the proportion of Permanent Events to Extended Calendar Events (ECE) is also similar to last year.

The shift away from BP events towards BR events that occurred last season has been generally maintained, but 100km event validations are back to 2012-13 numbers.

The summary Permanent Event numbers for 2015-16 are:

| | | |
|--------------------|------|-------------------------|
| Fixed Route events | 1764 | 20% increase on 2014/15 |
| DIY events | 3108 | 26% increase on 2014/15 |
| ECE events | 195 | 25% increase on 2014/15 |
| TOTAL | 5067 | 24% increase on 2014/15 |

5,761 Permanent Events results, including AAA points awarded to DIY events, have been recorded for the 2015/16 season

Events completed for the 2015/16 Season compared with previous years:

| | 2015/6 | 2014/5 | 2013/14 | 2012/13 | 2011/12 | 2010/11 | 2009/10 | 2008/9 | 2007/8 |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| All Perms | 5067 | 4090 | 3920 | 3900 | 2800 | 2430 | 2300 | 2160 | 1790 |
| DIY Perms | 3108 (61%) | 2460 (60%) | 2320 (60%) | 2080 (53%) | 1385 (49%) | 1160 (47%) | 1010 (44%) | 880 (41%) | 690 (39%) |
| ECE Perms | 195 | 156 | 158 | 137 | 110 | 70 | 75 - - | | |

73% of Permanent events (including ECEs) ridden were BR events, and 27% were BP events.

The spread of event **distances for BR events** (percentage of BR events total in brackets) was:

| | 200km | 300km | 400/500km | 600km | 600 to 1000km | 1000+km |
|---------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| 2015/16 | 3163 (86%) | 286 (7.8%) | 130 (3.5%) | 74 (2.0%) | 0 | 31 (0.8%) |
| 2014/15 | 2523 (85%) | 273 (9.2%) | 82 (2.8%) | 52 (1.8%) | 4 | 18 (0.6%) |
| 2013/14 | 2102 (86%) | 183 (7.5%) | 88 (3.5%) | 47 (2.0%) | 1 | 19 (0.8%) |
| 2012/13 | 2176 (86%) | 200 (7.9%) | 77 (3.7%) | 59 (2.3%) | 1 | 11 (0.4%) |
| 2011/12 | 1474 (83%) | 131 (7.4%) | 74 (4.2%) | 91 (5.1%) | 0 | 4 (0.2%) |
| 2010/11 | 85.0% | 7.1% 3.8% | 3.8% | 2.4% | 0.1% | 0.5% |
| 2009/10 | 87.0% | 6.6% 2.5% | 2.5% | 2.8% | 0.2% | 1.4% |

The spread of event **distances for BP events** (percentage of BP events total in brackets) was:

| | 50km | 100km | 150km |
|---------|-----------|------------|----------|
| 2015/16 | 280 (20%) | 1053 (76%) | 50 (4%) |
| 2014/15 | 303 (27%) | 774 (68%) | 63 (6%) |
| 2013/14 | 250 (17%) | 1137 (77%) | 91 (6%) |
| 2012/13 | 270 (20%) | 1018 (74%) | 88 (6%) |
| 2011/12 | 203 (22%) | 616 (67%) | 95 (10%) |
| 2010/11 | 25.00% | 68.00% | 7.00% |
| 2009/10 | 17.00% | 76.00% | 7.00% |

DIY riders follow much the same pattern for events ridden as the overall Permanent Events results. 82% of DIY Events ridden were BR events and 18% were BP events. 70% of all DIY Events ridden were 200km.

Thanks are given to the team of seven DIY organisers - Joe Applegarth, Andy Clarkson, Julian Dyson, Martin Foley, Tony Hull, Chris Smith and Paul Stewart and also to Steve Snook who has calculated and attached AAA points to 700 DIY Events recorded results.

Special thanks are due to Steve, who will be retiring from his role as 'AAA man' during 2016/17, for all of the work he has put into not only fixed route Permanent Event AAA calculations, but for keeping up with the steadily increasing number of individual AAA results for DIY events.

The Unofficial Permanent Event ‘Prizes’

Organisers award for having most entrants (excluding DIY & ECE events) this year sees two new entrants on the podium and for the first time all three organisers have topped the 100 events mark with the winner pushing the target way up.

1st (246) Chris Crossland

2nd (139) Mike Wigley

3rd (109) Nick Wilkinson

Rider podium places for most Permanent events completed this year sees a new trio. Generally the Permanent events were spread more widely between more riders this year. It was very much a BP competition but Shaun Hargreaves threw in a 1300km ride just to add variety. The winner, Simon Roberts made a one-man super effort to keep up the proportion of BPs ridden (perhaps add in a BR event next year?)

1st (174) Simon Roberts – 13,380km

2nd (78) Shaun Hargreaves – 9,332km

3rd (72) Brian Childs – 6,902km

Permanents events AAA prize of the year for the most AAA points scored in a single Permanent event goes to Marcus Jackson-Baker who scored 22 AAA points cycling a 2,500km DIY Event. Probably this also qualifies as the **Permanent event validation of the year**.

A total of 3,828 AAA points were gained during the year through 1,559 validated Permanent events. 54 riders completed one or more Permanent events with more than 5 AAA points, with a total of 59 such events being successfully ridden; and 10 riders completed one or more Permanent events with more than 15 AAA points. 694 DIY events had AAA points recorded with them.

Long Permanent events successfully completed were up in number from last year, with 31 Permanent events of 1,000km or more being ridden. Those completed included: A randonneur LEJoG and the 1,300km High Roads, Glens and Sea Lochs as well as DIYs.

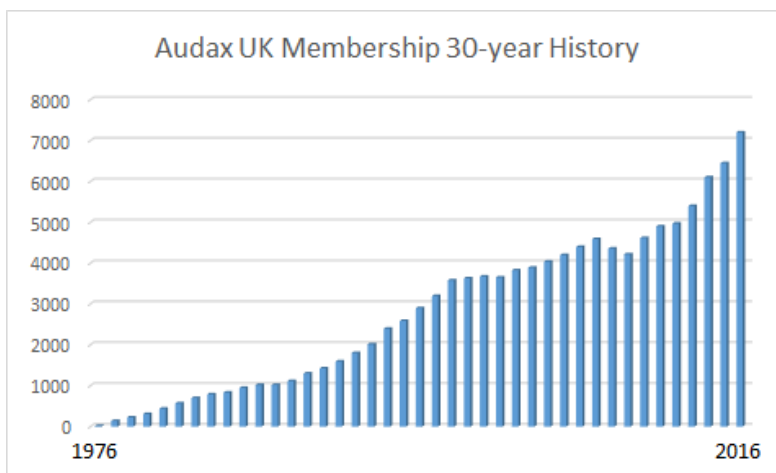
PRoFs included some to the top of classic cols or mountain top Tour de France finishes. Manche to Med remains a popular cycle ride across France. Roscoff to Nice, another ride across France, was cycled by Richard Parrotte and Chris Benyon. The most notable and longest event of the year was the 2,600km Calais to Brindisi successfully completed by Martin Lucas and Aidan Alcock.

In the Back Office work continued through the year with new events and new organisers adding to the offering to members. One development, which it is hoped to roll out next season, will be validation of some fixed route Permanent events by gpx. And for those organisers who really don't do stamps, envelopes and cheques any more there should be an online payments system.

John Ward

Permanent Events Secretary and Director

4. Director Report: Membership



Membership stood at 7213 members on 31st December 2016, an all-time record, of which

- 5352 were “main” members
- 677 were “household” members
- 485 were “Life” Members subscribing to receive Arrivée
- 699 were “Life” members not taking Arrivée.

This is an increase from 6447 at August 2015, demonstrating a continuing interest in Long Distance Cycling since our formation in 1976.

We always lose some of these on 1st January, as those who have not been able to renew their memberships by the December 31st deadline drop-off. This year we will lose 1655 (1481 “Main” plus 174 “Household”) members, but they still have a few days yet to include themselves in the mailing list for February Arrivée.

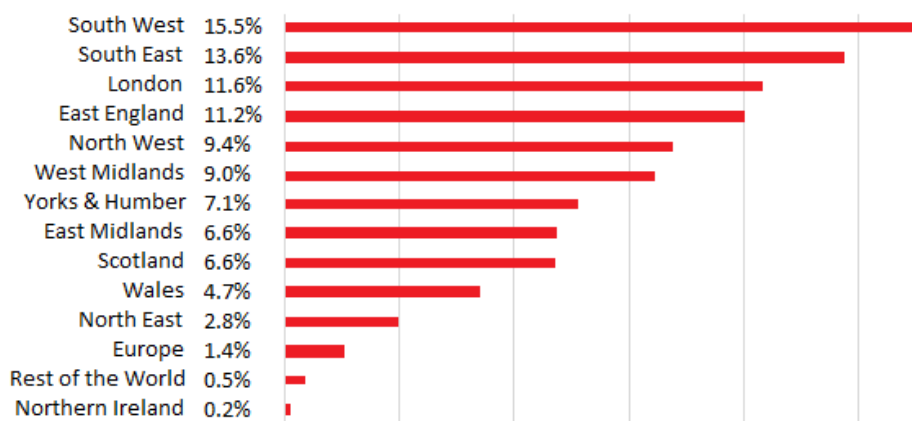
For the first time, I sent out reminders about renewing Membership for 2017 by email, as the vast majority of those needing to renew their membership have now registered an email address with us. We had 3233 for whom a Membership fee was due: -

46.9% have renewed for 2017

7.6% have renewed for 2017-2021

45.5% still need to renew their membership

Where to find AUK members



Who is the “typical” AUK member?

- male (1 in 6 is female)
- aged 53 years 8 months (31% are aged 50-60)
- lives in the south west region of the UK (and probably has a BS postcode)
- may have ridden at least one 200km Randonnee (1853 gained at least 2 points during the 2015-16 season)
- has an email address (99% of “Main” members)

As for the future, the average age of new members joining us in 2016 is 43 months, 12 months, suggesting that Long Distance Cycling is something undertaken by those who have finally got the kids off their hands, or for former racers who still want to challenge themselves on the bike, or former runners with knackered knees.

As ever, I am grateful to my team of delegates Peter Davis, Peter Gawthorne, Richard Jennings, Howard Knight, Allan Taylor and Findlay Watt, who help with the ever-increasing workload.

Mike Wigley

Membership Secretary

5. Director Report: Events Services

Statistics

The total number of Calendar event validations for the 2015-2016 season was 21487.

This is just under a 3% reduction from 2014-2015, which was a PBP year, when numbers are always higher.

Compared with the previous post-PBP year we are some 30% up (after adjustment to reflect that 2012 was an 11 month season.)

Breakdown by distance:

| 50 km | 100 km | 150 km | 200 km | 300 km | 400 km | 600 km | 1000 km | 1200 km |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| 1118 | 10805 | 1190 | 6200 | 1006 | 647 | 456 | 38 | 27 |

Total km validated (on Calendar events) approximately 3,596,860

The Validation Secretaries, Keith Harrison and Sue Gatehouse, were happy to report that the changes to the Organiser Return Form which now calculates the amounts owing automatically have resulted in a significant reduction in the number of payment errors, nevertheless they deserve a big THANK YOU for processing such a volume of work in what is now their twelfth year in the role.

Huge thanks are also due to Oliver Iles for producing nearly 30,000 Calendar Event Brevet Cards, without which none of the events could have taken place.

And the year wouldn't be complete without mention of newest delegate in the Event Services team: Caroline Fenton who has processed 170 RRTY claims in 2016 of which over 100 were from new entrants to this challenging award.

Changes for Season 2016-17

ACP have announced yet another streamlining of the process for BRM validations.

Not only will the Validation team be able to access the ACP homologation numbers online, but the BRM Validation stickers can now be printed locally too. No more waiting for the post from Paris before you get your cards back.

Peter Lewis

Events Services Director

6. Director Report – Communications Director

The primary communications event this year has been the web site development led by Richard Jennings and supported by his team of experts. Before beginning the build of the new site it was considered essential to analyse in greater depth the function and future vision of member requirements and to this end the team have committed considerable time and effort. This has resulted in comprehensive detail of functionality requirements.

This analysis stage is now very near completion as is the technical specification required to brief potential specialist build suppliers. In order to get the right fit in this supplier. Richard has identified an extensive number of possible companies and will proceed to hone this down to the final short list by the end of March 2017.

The content of the new site has also been studied and to this end a cross-section of the membership has been consulted. The feedback was interesting and confirmed that users find the existing site valuable but uninspiring. It is important that all types of members are engaged and it is the team's objective to ensure that the content of our refreshed site not only appeals to all of them but also informs developments within the association and the larger cycling community.

The timescale for completion of the current development stage is now estimated to be the end of 2017.

Part of the web site development is aligning all our communications so that there is minimal duplication across them. The new site will, of course, help to inform the content of the association magazine, *Arrivée*. Until the site content and design has been decided our flagship publication will remain as it is presently but it is proposed that a survey of our entire readership is undertaken in the interim to help inform the function and role of the magazine when it sits alongside the revised web site.

Working with Allan Taylor, our online shop manager, we have restocked and produced all of the latest designs of the achievement badges and medals. This has been quite a big undertaking and I am indebted to Allan for all his hard work. There are still a few older-style awards available but we have tried to centralise the supply of medals as far as possible so that we can maintain control over the new branding. Of course everyone is free to develop their own assets such as banners and badges but I would ask that anyone wishing to do so runs their design past the communications director before publication.

Ged Lennox

Communications Director

7. ACP Correspondent / LRM Representative Report

Following a flurry of activity in 2015 related to my appointment as ACP representative, and the quadrennial LRM conference after Paris-Brest-Paris, work has been a little quieter. I attended the Audax Club Parisien awards ceremony and Paris-Brest-Paris 2015 closure presentation in Paris in early 2016.

Verifying and submitting award claims on behalf of members for ACP Randonneur 5,000 & 10,000 awards for members and collecting and sending on to them was a pleasant task, as was dealing with a handful of orders for BRM distance and Super Randonneur medals.

I am pleased to report that AUK's first Easter Trail, a UK version of the French Trace Vélocio, took place at Easter 2016. This approachable little sibling of the Easter Arrow was appreciated by the small but significant number of members who took part.

Some might say that the post of LRM President has not always been viewed as a position demanding hard work from its incumbents. As worldwide interest in randonneur events grows, it has become necessary for the LRM President and Vice President to apply themselves fully. The number of riders taking part in LRM events is increasing as these events proliferate. Work is now having to be done to modernise LRM's administration. A new website is being developed at randonneursmondiaux.org, replacing the old one which had been neglected. When it became infected with malware, only a small amount of content could be recovered, including only part of the regulations. With no corroborating paperwork, this led to some confusion over time limits for various distances, and at one point it looked likely that 12 kph would become the default minimum speed for all LRM events of 1400 km. and above. Fortunately, it has been accepted by the LRM President that the minimum speeds for exceptionally long events should conform to the minimum speeds specified in the AUK regulations, which are the minimum speeds that the whole LRM regulations used to specify. This may possibly be good news for those intending to enter super-long rides like the Wild Atlantic Way in the future (or even the 11384 km. Vladivostok - Crimea, should it ever take place again).

Chris Crossland

ACP Correspondent / LRM Representative

8. Director Report: Finance

I am able to confirm that the process of preparing and reporting quarterly on the financial position for AUK has continued through 2015/2016. The accounting records are maintained by a paid Book-keeper, and independently examined, while the role of the Finance Director continues to be more strategic and reporting.

Continuing improvement in process and control of expenditure has continued though out the year, with a review of the levels each Director has, all payments are reviewed by a Board Director and then paid by the Finance Director.

The Finance Director has been working with IT team during the year to progress the development of the new website. This has largely been performed by volunteers with some incidental costs. The major development costs are expected to be incurred during 2017 once the specification has been agreed and a suitable partner identified. The Board will work together to ensure that AUK achieves value for money from the investment in the new system.

Paul Salmons

Finance Director

Agenda for the Audax UK Long Distance Cyclists' Association AGM 2015/16

To be held at Room 101, The Library of Birmingham , Centenary Square, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2ND on 11 February 2017 commencing at 12:00pm

- 1) To record the names of those present at this meeting.
- 2) To record apologies for absence.
- 3) To approve the minutes of the last agm as a true record of that meeting.
(The minutes are on the AUK website and are reproduced in Appendix 1 of this Agenda)
- 4) Matters arising from the last meeting (AGM 2015).
- 5) To approve the Annual Report.
- 6) To approve the Annual Accounts and the Finance Director's recommendations.
- 7) To consider special resolutions
 1. Amendment to AUK Regulation 1.5 and Appendices regarding grievance procedure
 2. Amendment to AUK Regulation Appendix 7.3.1(c) for off-road events
 3. Amendment to AUK Regulation Appendix 9.8.2 to prevent multiple passes.
 4. Amendment to AUK Regulation 13.1 regarding points.
 5. Amendment to AUK Appendices 13.2.4 and 13.2.4(ix) for new R100,000 award.
- 8) Election of Directors
 1. General Secretary
 2. Events Services Director
 3. Permanent Events Secretary
 4. IT Director
 5. Non-Executive Director (2 positions)
- 9) Date and venue of next meeting
- 10) Close of meeting

Resolutions for AGM2015/16

1) Amendment to AUK Regulation Appendix 5.1 regarding grievance procedure

Proposer: Graeme Provan, General Secretary

Seconded: Mike Wigley, Membership Secretary

Proposed Amendment to AUK Regulations:

Replace existing Regulation 1.5 and its appendices in their entirety and insert:

1.5 *“The Board of AUK will publish and operate a grievance procedure designed to deal fairly with perceived injury, injustice or wrong that affords reason for resistance or formal expression as a complaint, including the application of these Regulations and their Appendices.”*

Rationale: AUK recognises that from time to time members, event participants, ride organisers and events staff and others may have grievances concerning various matters relating to AUK, its activities and the personnel involved. AUK would like to see all such grievances resolved as quickly and as fairly as possible.

The current Complaints procedure is problematic in several respects, including:

1. The reference to "complaints" is unfortunate as it may not cover all instances where a grievance arises.
2. A role for riders' clubs is posited, but not defined, and the purpose of this inclusion is not clear.
3. The range of levels at which a complaint is considered is very limited, leading to a high level and culminating in the final level, the AGM, very quickly.
4. In days when AUK was a small organisation and all major decision-making was at the AGM, attended by knowledgeable and experienced members, a final level of appeal might have made sense in a situation where a case could conceivably have been heard fairly and voted upon there and then. In the current way of doing things, with most votes being cast by proxy, it does not make sense.

Revising the current Complaints procedure to produce a Grievance procedure which deals with these problems will allow AUK to produce something that:

1. Allows grievances to be settled as close to point of origin as possible.
2. Removes the role of riders' and organisers' clubs.
3. Takes better account of AUK's organisational structure.
4. Allows members and participants better access to fair resolution of their grievances.

2) Amendment to AUK Regulation Appendix 7.3.1(c) off-road events

Proposer: Martin Foley , Calendar Events Secretary

Seconded: John Ward, Permanent Events Secretary

Proposed Amendment to AUK Regulations:

Insert new Appendix:

7.3.1(c)“Off-road events have a route consisting of not less than 50% unmetalled or unpaved surface over which cyclists have access rights or permission to ride upon. It must be acceptable to the Events Secretary and be designated Off-Road or Rough Stuff in the title.”

Rationale: This amended version now reflects more accurately the prevailing legal situation regarding such events in all parts of the UK.

Note: Appendix 7.3.1(c) was altered by the Board at its meeting on 16 March 2016 subject to ratification at the next AGM.

3) Amendment to AUK Regulation Appendix 9.8.2 to prevent multiple passes.

Proposer: Martin Foley , Calendar Events Secretary

Seconded: John Ward, Permanent Events Secretary

Proposed Amendment to AUK Regulations:

Insert new Appendix 9.8.2(b) as follows:

9.8.2 (b) *“A route may visit a control more than once, but routes consisting of repeated passes over the same circuit will not normally be approved.”*

and re-number the existing Appendices 9.8.2(b) and 9.8.2(c) to 9.8.2(c) and 9.8.2(d) respectively.

Rationale Randonneur cycling events have traditionally eschewed the use of repeated circuits in order to make up the distance of a brevet. This deprecation is enshrined in the Brevet de Randonneur Mondiaux regulations for the organisation of events. Unfortunately it seems to have fallen out of the AUK regulations some years ago, although it remains as a prohibition in the AUK Organisers handbook. This has rendered it less accessible to the point that an increasing number of members are unaware of its existence and/or doubtful of its validity. This amendment restores the situation to its former position.

4) Amendment to AUK Regulation 13.1 regarding points.

Proposer: Peter Lewis, Events Services Director

Seconded: Martin Foley, Calendar Events Secretary

Proposed Amendment to AUK Regulations:

That Regulation 13.1 be deleted and replaced with the following:

13.1 "Points: Members shall be awarded points at a rate of 1 point for every 100km in BR, BRM and RM events validated by AUK, plus PBP, Flèches Nationales, BRM and RM events validated by ACP or LRM."

Rationale: The current version of Regulation 13.1 appears, in its strict interpretation, to deny riders credit for riding Flèche events in countries other than France, even though such events may be validated by ACP and considered by ACP to be fully equivalent to the Flèche Velocio.

Furthermore, it could even be argued that AUK's Easter Arrow to York falls outside the strictest definition of "a BR event validated by AUK", and demonstrably fails to meet any of the other criteria.

Under the proposed revised wording, not only is AUK's Easter Arrow covered by being a 'Flèche validated by ACP', but so are the equivalent events held in other countries around the world.

5) Amendment to AUK Appendices 13.2.4 and 13.2.4(ix) .

Proposer: Mike Wigley, Membership Secretary

Seconded: John Sabine (AUK3171)

Proposed Amendment to AUK Regulations

That Appendix 13.2.4 be deleted and replaced with the following (note the subsections are to remain subject to the further amendments below):

13.2.4 The Randonneur Award Series is for achievement in one season, except where indicated. Whilst a rider may complete the award in subsequent seasons, a rider completing a SR award is thereafter designated a Super Randonneur. All events of 200km or more must be BR, BRM or RM. For any distance a longer distance may be substituted. The Super Randonneur award is available to all riders; only subscribed AUK members are eligible for other Randonneur awards.

That Appendix 13.2.4(viii) be amended as follows:

13.2.4(viii) delete the words “administered by Peak Audax”

That a new Appendix 13.2.4(ix) be inserted as follows:

13.2.4(ix) Randonneur 100,000: within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 100,000 km at randonneur standard.

Rationale: In 2015 a former Events Secretary found a number of badges obtained some years previously to recognise the achievement of completing 100,000 km. in randonneur events. Several members had been awarded these badges free of charge. A search through the records and some detective work allowed us to identify some of those members who had since completed this distance. This award has never been included in our schedule of awards and it requires amendment of the appendices to the regulations in order to implement it.

Note: Amendments to Appendices 13.2.4 and 13.2.4(viii) and the addition of 13.2.4 (ix) were agreed by the Board at its meeting on 12 October 2016 subject to ratification at the next AGM.

Nominations for Election as AUK Directors

1) General Secretary

Nominee: Graeme Provan (AUK12898)

Proposer: Grant Huggins (AUK6150)

Second: Andy Corbyn (AUK15106)

Personal Statement: I am a qualified solicitor specialising in company/commercial law. In addition, I have held a number of voluntary positions across a range of sporting and other organisations. I am a recent convert to cycling but I am enjoying the challenges that audax brings.

Note: Graeme Provan was appointed to the Board as General Secretary in June 2016 and is standing for election at AGM2015/16 as required by Article 9.5 of the Audax UK Articles of Association.

2) Event Services Director

Nominee: Peter Lewis (AUK7916)

Proposer: Mike Lane (AUK6372)

Second: Stephen Agnew (AUK8383)

Personal Statement:

Existing Event Services Director

3) Permanent Events Secretary

Nominee: John Ward (AUK826)

Proposer: Annemarie Winter (AUK 69)

Second: Chris Norris (AUK 1240)

Personal Statement:

Re-discovered cycling in my fifties, then you all know the familiar Audax story: A few more 100km rides, the impossible distance of 200km, perhaps a bit further, bought some lights, cycled through the night, SR series, PBP.....

Event organising:

AUK events from 50km to 1,000km organised. I have been running the New Forest Permanent and Calendar Events for 15 years.

AUK posts:

Delegate to Brevet Card Secretary 2004. Acting Permanent Secretary 2005 brought in to rescue system after resignation of Permanent Secretary and loss of results records. Permanent Secretary 2006/17, during which period number of Permanent Events validated has increased from 800 to more than 5,000. DIY and ECE events have been introduced and systems for new events and validation and recording have been developed, including gpx and virtual brevet cards.

Priorities for 2017:

GPX validation available to Organisers for all Permanent Events.

On-line payments available to Permanent Events organisers.

Lots more still to do with continued work on developing new AUK website and “back-office”

Other cycling:

Committee member CTC Wessex Cycling

Organiser Lymington Tuesday Cycling

4) IT Director

Nominee: None

5) Non-Executive Director (2 positions)

Nominee 1: John Sabine (AUK3171)

Proposer: Martin Malins (AUK2709)

Second: Pat Hurt (AUK6700)

Personal Statement:

Although I’ve been a member of the Board since December 2014, and was elected to continue as a non-executive director at the last AGM, I’m conscious that I’m still relatively new to audax and to AUK. I joined at the beginning of 2013 and rode perhaps half a dozen events before that year’s LEL, which I finished out of time. Since then I’ve ridden more, including a couple of SR series, PBP, and long brevets in Ireland, but I know that’s much less than many other members.

I have strong memories of what it’s like to be very new to audax, both what I’ve found difficult and helpful as a relatively inexperienced rider, and what has sparked my enthusiasm for it. I believe I’ve brought a reasonably fresh perspective as a non-executive director.

I see the role as being a critical friend to the Board, helping to reach decisions rather than simply discussing endlessly. I’m not afraid of challenging the status quo or other people’s assumptions, though I try to do that constructively.

Professionally, I've worked as a journalist, in local government and for a couple of charities. I'm able to express ideas and proposals clearly and enjoy working with others to make them happen.

I believe in setting a strategic direction for AUK that respects existing members and traditions, but also looks to a future where we're able to expand without diluting our uncommercialised ethos, and without an increasingly complex rulebook.

I want to increase the numbers of people enjoying audaxes, not simply to see AUK get bigger. I believe that the work the Board is doing, especially around plans for new IT systems, is fundamental to allowing us to grow sustainably, supporting organisers and in turn allowing them to plan and run events as simply as possible.

Nominee 2: Dave Minter (AUK 6814)

Proposer by: Aidan Hedley (AUK 4521)

Seconded: Roger Cortis (AUK 7244)

Personal Statement:

I have been Audaxing for a fair while; having ridden my first Audax in 1992 and joined AUK in 2002. To date, I've finished 5 x PBPs and 2 x LELs (hopefully riding another later this year), collected various AUK awards including Ultra Randonneur and Brevet 25000, and ridden brevets up to 1600km long in 11 countries. Not much beats riding good roads amongst friends new and old.

In Australia, I introduced Audaxing to Queensland in 1994 and organised brevets ranging from 50km to 1000km, including the local version of the Easter Arrow. I served on the Audax Australia National Committee for three years and was National Calendar Coordinator for a year. My "A Little Audax History" article for Audax Australia has been republished by several randonneuring groups. <http://yacf.co.uk/forum/index.php?topic=1200.0> I continue to cooperate with the ACP and other groups to clarify records and answer a variety of questions. This background gives worthwhile insights into not just AUK (often a leader in the Audax world) but also how other national organisations function and solve issues.

I was a bicycle mechanic early on, before getting a proper job as a civil engineer. Recently that involves transport projects on four continents. Inevitably that provides quite a lot of experience in resolving conflicting views and achieving objectives in a practical and pragmatic fashion.

The AUK Board has generally performed well but I believe that some decisions would have benefited from more robust examination; part of the responsibilities of a non-executive director. I hope that my extensive experience and enthusiasm for long distance cycling will benefit AUK and its members.

Appendix 1: Annual Accounts and Finance Director's Recommendations

Executive Summary

The accounts are presented for the 12 months from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the accounts were independently examined by Seahouses Accountancy Services and approved by the Board. They were presented at the AGM in management accounts format.

The trading for the twelve months shows total Revenue of £125,285 (2015 £119,142) with Direct expenditure of £89,110 (2015 £83,952), overheads of £16,508 (2015 £27,245) showing a net surplus for the period of £19,667 (2015 £7,945).

At the end of August the company had £276,200 in the bank showing an increase of £25,861 over the 2015 figure of £250,339.

Results to end August 2016

The accounts for the year 2015/2016 have been prepared in a consistent manner as those for 2014/2015.

2015 saw some adjustments to the previous method of accounting in that honorariums are now paid in the year to which they relate. There were some one off items of expenditure; including new banners and some costs on the new web site to Invent Partners.

2016 was not a PBP year but saw an increase in income and members. Being the 40th anniversary there were some costs associated with special badges for achievements during the year, and some new validation software for DIY organisers.

The remunerations committee including two Non-Executive Directors and the Chairman met again and suggested the level of Honorariums to Team Delegates and Board members.

Profit and Loss Highlights

Income

Membership income £91,970 (last year £84,317) – increase £7,653

Direct Expenditure

Medals and badges £10,566 (last year £4,918) – increase £5,648

Overheads

Computer software and systems £5,426 (last year £8,390) – decrease of £2,964

Advertising, publicity and marketing £48 (last year £6,700) – decrease of £6,652

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2016

The balance sheet shows the following key figures:

- Stock of badges etc £1,424 (2015, £3,436)

- Cash at Bank £276,200 (2015, £250,339)
- Insurance and other items paid in advance £3,262 (2015, £3,559)
- Creditors under one year £24,627 (2015 £23,585)
- Membership fees paid for one year in advance £21,878 (2015, £18,171)
- Membership fees paid in advance 2 to 5 years £28,924 (2015, £27,508)

Why £276k in the bank?

As an organisation we are required to hold a certain amount of cash for future requirements, the Board realise that £276k is a large figure for an organisation of our size but has taken the view over the last few years to build up the reserves ahead of the strategic developments for the organisation likely to include

- Upgrade of events database and website
- Raising the profile of the organisation
- Holding cash reserves should LEL need a loan
- Requirement to carry an amount as a reserves policy

Summary

The Accounts to August 2016 show a surplus before interest and tax of £19,667 (2015 £7,945) with a bank balance of £276,197 (2015 £250,339)

Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association

A company limited by guarantee
Company Number 05920055

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR TO 31st AUGUST 2016**



INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE DIRECTORS OF AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION.

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2016.

Respective responsibilities of Directors and examiner

The Directors of Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and have requested that an independent examination is carried out.

Having satisfied myself that the company is not subject to audit under company law and have been asked to carry out an independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts;
- (ii) review the accounting records; and
- (iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the company and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, and comply with the accounting requirements of section 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006;

have not been met.

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Richard Alsept, Chartered Accountant
Seahouses Accountancy Service
62-64 Main Street, Seahouses NE68 7TP

DATE 21st December 2016

Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association

Company Number 05920055

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Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association

Company Number 05920055

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Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association

Company Number 05920055

Report of the Directors

The directors present their annual report with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st August 2016.

Principal activity

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was the promotion, development and control the sport and pastime of non-competitive long distance cycling in all its forms amongst all sections of the community in the United Kingdom and throughout the world.

Directors

The directors in office in the throughout the year were as follows:

Christopher Peter Crossland (Chairman)
Christopher Richard Boulton
Martin David Foley
Peter Christopher Donald Lewis
John Matthew Sabine
Paul Salmons
William John Ward
Mike Wigley

The directors who were appointed in the year were as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Ged Lennox | appointed 1st January 2016 |
| Graeme David Provan | appointed 9th May 2016 |

The directors who resigned in the year were as follows:

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Paul Ian Stewart | resigned 23rd December 2015 |
| Lucy McTaggart | resigned 8th Januray 2016 |

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006

Signed on behalf of the board of directors



P Salmons
Director

Approved by the board on

21 December 2016

Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association

Company Number 05920055

Company Information

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Registered office | 25 Bluewater Drive Elborough Weston-Super-Mare Avon BS24 8PF |
| Bankers | Lloyds Bank plc 2 Pavement York YO1 9UP |
| Accountants | Seahouses Accountancy Services 62 - 64 Main Street Seahouses Northumberland NE68 7TP |

Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association Limited

Profit & Loss account for the year ended 31st August 2016

| | Notes | 2016 | 2015 |
|--|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Turnover - Continuing operations | | 125,285 | 119,142 |
| Cost of sales | | <u>89,110</u> | <u>83,952</u> |
| Gross Profit | | 36,175 29% | 35,190 30% |
| Administration expenses | | <u>16,508</u> | <u>27,245</u> |
| Operating profit - Continuing operations | 2 | 19,667 | 7,945 |
| Interest receivable | 3 | <u>485</u> 20,152 | <u>1,323</u> 9,268 |
| Interest payable | | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation | | 20,152 | 9,268 |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities | 4 | 685 | 788 |
| Profit for the financial year after taxation | | <u>19,467</u> | <u>8,480</u> |
| Profit Brought forward | | 203,577 | 195,097 |
| Retained Profit carried forward | | <u><u>223,044</u></u> | <u><u>203,577</u></u> |

The Association has no recognised gains & losses other than the profit & loss for the above two periods

**Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association
Limited**

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2016

| | Note | 2016 £ | 2015 £ |
|--|------|----------------|----------------|
| FIXED ASSETS | | | |
| Tangible Assets | | 0 | 0 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Stocks | | 1,424 | 3,436 |
| Debtors | 5 | 81 | 99 |
| Cash at bank & in hand | | <u>276,200</u> | <u>250,339</u> |
| | | 277,705 | 253,874 |
| PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME | | 3,262 | 3,559 |
| CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year | 6 | <u>24,627</u> | <u>23,585</u> |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES) | | 256,340 | 233,848 |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | 256,340 | 233,848 |
| CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 7 | 28,924 | 27,508 |
| PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES | 8 | 4,372 | 2,763 |
| NET ASSETS | | <u>223,044</u> | <u>203,577</u> |
| CAPITAL & RESERVES | | | |
| Profit & loss account | 9 | <u>223,044</u> | <u>203,577</u> |
| ASSOCIATION FUNDS | | <u>223,044</u> | <u>203,577</u> |

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities effective January 2015.

For the year in question the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. No notice has been deposited under section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:

- i) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Mr P. Salmons, Director

Dated

P Salmons
21 December 2016

**Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association
Limited**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities effective January 2015.

Turnover

Turnover is derived from members subscriptions, events, and other fundraising and donations.

Cash Flow Statement

The company has taken advantage of the exemption available per FRS1 for small companies not to prepare a cash flow statement.

Stocks and Work in progress

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items. Costs include all direct expenditure and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

| | | |
|--|-----------|--------|
| 2 OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS) | 2016 | 2015 |
| The operating profit is stated after charging: | £ | £ |
| Directors' emoluments | 5,572 | 4,300 |
| 3 INTEREST RECEIVABLE AND SIMILAR INCOME | 2016 | 2015 |
| | £ | £ |
| Bank interest | 485 | 1,323 |
| 4 TAXATION ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES | 2016 | 2015 |
| Analysis of charge in the year | £ | £ |
| UK Corporation tax based on the results for the year at 20% (2015 - 20%) | 685 | 788 |
| Total tax charge | 685 | 788 |
| 5 DEBTORS | 2016 | 2015 |
| | £ | £ |
| Other debtor | 81 | 99 |
| | 81 | 99 |
| 6 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year | 2016 | 2015 |
| Comprise the following, | | |
| a) Membership fees in advance | 21,878 | 18,171 |
| b) Trade Creditors | 1,469 | 3,447 |
| c) Taxation | 777 | 515 |
| d) S Abraham world record attempt | 503 | 1,452 |
| | 24,627 | 23,585 |
| 7 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 2016 | 2015 |
| | £ | £ |
| a) Membership fees in advance | 28,924 | 27,508 |
| | 28,924 | 27,508 |
| 8 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES | 2016 | 2015 |
| | £ | £ |
| Corporation tax | 289 | 322 |
| Accruals | 4,083 | 2,441 |
| | 4,372 | 2,763 |
| 9 RESERVES | | |
| Profit and loss account b/f at 1 Sept 2015 | £ 203,577 | |
| Profit for the year | £ 19,467 | |
| Profit and loss account c/f at 31 August 2016 | £ 223,044 | |

**Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association
Limited**

10 COMPANY STATUS

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each member is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

Appendix 2: Minutes of the AGM 2015

Audax UK Long Distance Cyclists' Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2015

Held at The Holiday Inn West, Peterborough on 14 November 2015 at 2.00pm

Board Members Attending: Chris Crossland (Chair), Paul Stewart (Secretary), Paul Salmons (Finance Director), John Ward (Permanent Events Secretary & Returning Officer), Peter Lewis (Events Services Director), Mike Wigley (Membership Secretary), Martin Foley (Calendar Events Secretary), John Sabine (Non-Executive Director), Chris Boulton (Non-Executive Director)

The Chair opened the meeting by informing members there would be a meeting after the AGM to address AUK Strategic issues led by Chris Boulton. The Chair introduced Janet Grey who was taking notes for the AGM and would also be taking notes for the following meeting.

He then asked members to join him in a short period of reflection in memory of members who had passed away this year. These included: Simon Martin, Peter Cresswell, Neal Talbot, Brian Garrill, Henry Bracewell, Norman Maggs, Ed Jones, Ian Dixon, and Margaret Phillpotts.

It was reported that the case against the driver found guilty of causing serious injury by dangerous driving to John Radford had been reviewed by the Attorney General following John's death. A charge of causing death by dangerous driving had been laid, to which the driver pleaded guilty. More news will follow regarding sentencing.

1) TO RECORD THE NAMES OF THOSE PRESENT AT THIS MEETING.

Including the aforementioned board members a total of 59 members attended the meeting.

2) TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies had been received from: Stephen Abraham, Pauline Porter, Graham Holdsworth, Chris Davies, Martin Lucas, Richard Phipps, Mark & Louise Rigby.

3) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM as a true record of that meeting

The Minutes were published in Arrivee Winter 2015 and are on the AUK website and are reproduced in Appendix 1 of the Annual Report).

The resolution was passed with 351 votes for, 0 against and 25 Abstentions

4) MATTERS ARISING from the last meeting.

There were none.

5) TO CONSIDER DIRECTORS' REPORTS.

Keith Benton queried the typing error on page 5, 3rd paragraph. It was agreed that "Steve Boulton" should read "Chris Boulton".

The Annual report was approved and passed with 355 votes for; 1 vote against and 8 abstentions.

6) TO CONSIDER THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND TREASURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The Finance Director (FD) Paul Salmons was invited to report on the annual accounts and take questions.

The FD stated that he was not proposing to go through all the details but to summarise the changes which AUK has gone through over the last few years. His role is more one of looking at financial strategy helped by Nigel Armstrong who completes the book keeping..

The FD said that the costs associated with running the organisation had increased compared with previous years. For example, the cost of the Electoral Reform Services to support voting at the AGM, Honoraria and for IT costs. Arrivee costs for Print and posts were £34k.

A Remuneration Committee had been set up to look at the way honorariums had been previously paid and how to standardise these. They are now reported as gross figures, including tax which was a change to previous years, and were paid during the year to which they relate.

The FD pointed out that the balance sheet had some late changes. The creditors' figures are out by about £1,000. There is also over £250,000 in bank and this will be used towards the work to be decided in the new strategy including, for example a new website, raising the profile and promoting the brand. In future there will be a move towards accurate budgeting for the various projects to get maximum benefit back for the members. Overall the surplus this year was £8,000.

Keith Benton noted that on the last page which provided a detailed Profit & Loss account, it was stated that it was for the use of the directors only but he suggested that this related to the areas members would be interested in and so should be for everyone to see. The FD said that this phrasing was used because that page was an addendum and did not form part of the statutory accounts. In fact the accounts as listed had been circulated to members along with the annual report and were available through the AUK website. He agreed that in future the phrase 'Directors and Members' will be used.

Marcus Jackson-Baker asked about some of the details in the Profit & Loss overview in that the administration costs reported differed in different sections of the report. The FD said that these costs had been broken down into more categories to allow for more accurate/relevant reporting. Whilst the categorisations had changed the bottom figure was the same. The FD thanked Nigel Armstrong who manages the accounts for his work and Linda Johnson and Tony Greenwood for all their hard work in years past.

It was resolved to accept the Annual Accounts. Those in favour 340; 6 against and 11 abstentions

7) TO CONSIDER THE SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

Special Resolution 1: Amendment to AUK Regulation Appendix 7.1 regarding riding other organised events

The resolution was proposed by Paul Stewart and seconded by the AUK Board of Directors.

Paul Stewart introduced the resolution which was first raised last September by the AUK Board as a temporary amendment to the relevant AUK Regulation Appendices as authorised under Regulation 1.4, and was now being presented for formal ratification by the membership. It had not been possible to present it earlier, i.e., at AGM2014, as it was raised after the submission period had closed.

The amendment allows for members to participate in events outside those recognised by AUK by way of established channels, i.e. BRM/LRM events, and for that participation to count towards awards. It had initially been raised to support rides taking part in HBKH2014 in Germany, and other examples such as the Vätternrundan 300km in Sweden and the Dunwich Dynamo in the UK were quoted. It was recognised the number of such requests were quite small but were important to those members concerned.

As part of this amendment there is a need to consider AUK's role. As a regulatory body with certain standards the proposal enables this.

Michael Lane and Dave Matthews asked how this might affect an AUK member riding on the wheel of another AUK member who had not paid fees, and other strictures regarding 'Pacing'. Paul Stewart said that he had discussed this with the (previous) Events Secretary who had said that regulations relating to pacing referred to pacing organised as a form of personal support on behalf of a specific rider and was banned on that basis.

Paul Stewart was asked how the distance of such events would be verified. Paul Stewart said that as far as AUK were concerned, the rider would enter the (DIY) Permanent as they would any other ride, by providing a set of controls and route as appropriate which would be assessed for compliance with AUK regulations. The intent was not to validate other organisations events but to validate rides entered and completed to AUK standards.

Paul Stewart said that this resolution was not just about the German event; it was a generic response to requests from members who wanted to be able to claim events completed to AUK standards for their AUK palmarès. The Chair noted that Paul Stewart should address these questions as part of his general response to the resolution as part of his 'right of reply' regarding the resolution.

Arabella Moore said she could understand we are ratifying events in the UK but what about Germany and Sweden, should these be ratified when the local bodies had not decided to validate them? THE CHAIR said that we could not comment on what overseas bodies had decided to do or not but were responding to requests from AUK members for their rides to be validated and recognised by AUK.

The question was asked how overseas events by ACP affiliates would be affected, as they could be validated by two bodies.

Peter Lewis (AUK Event Secretary and Recorder) said that there was a apparent lack of consistency in that AUK recognised BRMs organised by other national organisations without any check by AUK but does not recognise the same organisations' equivalent of BRs, but that this was because of their (the ACP affiliates) own rules.

Sheila Simpson said that (ACP) BRM events are claimable, you could make two claims one for BRM & one for DIY and it would be difficult to show that these were duplicated. The Chair pointed out that they would show up on member's records as concurrent rides.

Dave Minter said that he was against the resolution. He said the problems relating to HBKH related to a long running dispute between the organising club and the German ACP representative who organises the validation of LRM events in Germany, and it would likely not be resolved until the ACP representative dies, and felt this approach was a sledgehammer to crack a nut. This amendment will reverse a rule that has been in existence since the beginning of AUK – you don't collect a Brevet for a non-Brevet event; this has only come about because of the German event. It is more than is required and that previous editions of the event had been recognised by AUK without resorting to such measures.

The Chair said that the situation regarding previous HBKH rides had been investigated very extensively. The first event was due to be LRM approved but this approval was then withdrawn, and the rides of AUK members had been recognised by AUK to support those who had entered it on the basis that it would be a LRM approved event. The decision to recognise the second event was not approved by the Board and The Chair had been advised that if it had been known then it would not have been recognised. The third event was then not allowed but the Board felt it appropriate to initiate a change to regulations to support the riders taking part, the regulations having previously been modified to remove any discretion the Board might have regarding such matters.

After another speaker had been called, Dave Minter asked to question the resolution further and The Chair ruled that he had had his opportunity to speak and we should move on. Dave Minter said he was not aware that members could only speak once regarding a resolution and that he disagreed with this.

Andy Clarkson said he was for the amendment. Have any of the events ever asked to be an AUK event? We can't go back to find blame as to why they are not AUK events – if a rider wants to ride these events and can have the credit for it he would like to think he'd get 12 points for it and would want to know before he went, and more to the point, that we had now spent more time discussing it then riders had spent riding such events over the last year. He noted that all the DIY organisers were in the room and the question was asked if there had been an event this year that has been requested under this precedent?

Steve Poulton said that he enjoys rides abroad and had ridden the Marmotte for AAA points. Dave Matthews said that now having listened to arguments could the motion be re-worded to say that the Board validates certain events. The Chair noted that it was not possible to amend any motion

at this stage, the period and opportunity for amendment having ceased. Approval of events would be an operational matter.

Keith Benton was concerned that in his response to Dave Minter, The Chair was putting the case for the motion, and was not remaining unbiased. The Chair said that his intention was to put forward the facts regarding the HBKH situation rather than the misleading account that had been provided. The HBKH situation did not form part of either the merits or demerits of the current motion.

Noel Toone said that he will be voting against. He wanted to ask about pacing which is not covered with this resolution. Historically this has been to do with non-participant riders and these historic regulations will not be changed.

In his right of reply, Paul Stewart said that this resolution was not just about one event; it was a generic solution which expanded the opportunities for AUK riders to take part in other long distance events completed to AUK standards and have them validated as part of their AUK palmarès. It was intended that riders including such events as (DIY) Perms would include that fact in their Brevet application. He had received some enquiries regarding the Vätternrundan in Sweden but nobody had entered it as far as he was aware. He was aware of some taking part in the Dunwich Dynamo. The question of pacing had been addressed in that it was banned as a form of especially arranged personal support but there were no restrictions regarding riding with others generally. PSt noted that when fit he might ride with a group of riders on the event – taking pace – but otherwise would tend to ride mostly on his own. The discrepancy regarding the recognition of (non BRM/LRM) events organised by other ACP affiliates was recognised but falls outside the scope of this resolution and would need to be addressed separately.

The vote was counted and the motion was carried: for 356 votes; against 54 and abstentions 11.

Special Resolution 2: Amendment of AUK Regulation Appendix 7.3.1. for the 'Easter Trail' event

MF Introduced the resolution saying that from Easter 2016, AUK will be organising an Easter Trail or Trace Nationale and the rules governing this event are set by Audax Club Parisien (ACP). There are a number of rules unique to this event which will be categorised as a Brevet Populaire. This is a team event for 2-6 machines which finishes in York. Teams can start any time after 6am on Easter Friday and must arrive in York between 8am and 11am on Saturday morning. Teams must plan a route of 201 to 360km including a mandatory overnight stop of 8 hours.

The resolution was required because the event falls outside the current regulations. The Easter Trail event rules are set by ACP and will be validated by them. The AUK event will feature teams of 2-6 machines covering a distance of 201-360 km and starting at any time after 6am on the Friday with a mandatory stop of 8 hours and a maximum time limit of 29 hours..

Mike Lane asked if you gained distance points for this event. MF said no, it will appear in your results as a BP. It is not a BR or a BRM. Julian Dyson asked will there be a badge and MF replied there may be.

Keith Benton asked for the question to be put, and the vote was taken. There were 382 votes; against 11 and abstentions 8 – the motion was carried

Special Resolution 3: Appendix 9.8.2 to allow for events with 'Mandatory' routes

The resolution was proposed by Paul Stewart and seconded by the AUK Board of Directors.

The resolution was introduced by PSt who explained it would enable event organisers to select between offering riders the ability to vary their route between controls (Advisory Routing) as now, or to set fixed (Mandatory) routes. The objective is to simplify the process of planning GPS DIY perms, supports the introduction of GPS Permanents and allows Calendar Events to be organised with fixed routes, as required by the ACP/BRM standard.

Paul Stewart said that the proposal had its roots in the DIY Perm planning routes. The usual tools have been withdrawn and it's now making it difficult to plan routes. This resolution provides DIYers the opportunity to set up routes in a simpler way and reduce the effort for planning and validating routes. It also introduces other opportunities i.e. GPS Based Permanents and mandatory routing for calendar routes for those organisers who would like that option.

Keith Benton questioned that as the postal vote is showing a large vote, is the vote in the room making any difference. The Chair thanked him for having given advance notice of this question. He noted that he had needed about 2 seconds to answer it then, which enabled him to give an instant answer now, the answer still being NO, as to be fair to all, postal voters would have needed to know details of the votes cast by people attending the AGM, an impossible situation. The votes cast by postal voters were held in confidence by the Returning Officer until the time for a vote occurred.

Dave Matthews said that he didn't understand why the change was required because riders were expected to follow the route. It was explained that this had not been the case since advisory routes were adopted in 1999, which was the reason the resolution was being raised now, to re-introduce the option for mandatory routes.

Joe Applegarth asked what happens if someone goes back on the route after making a mistake or choosing to go off track and someone else doesn't. One of the key things with a calendar event that adopts mandatory routing is that it might allow for shortcuts which advisory routes would not. It was suggested that this will need to be considered by the Events Team when accepting such events. He was against taking GPS.

Tony Hull asked if the route is mandatory why do we need to place controls?

Sheila Simpson said that an important purpose of controls is to ensure that riders have rest etc. at regular intervals, i.e., it is part of the duty of care towards riders.

Rob Webb said that he constantly goes off-route as he has no sense of direction. This would make it difficult for him. He can understand why they want the GPS DIY (with mandatory routes) but feels it is divisive.

Ashley Brown was in favour of mandatory routing; advisory routing compromised the route length and he sometimes has to follow a shortest route which may be on main roads.

Andy Clarkson said that we don't have the guidelines for this. If we do DIY by GPS we have to do the route exactly. Under mandatory route we have to follow that exactly. He felt that we only have half the story – this doesn't give us anything new that we don't already do.

Denise Noha said that she didn't understand what the resolution was trying to achieve.

Mike Lane said he rides mostly by following GPS and was concerned that events with mandatory routes would reduce the number of events available to him.

Noel Toone asked is there an alternative if the calendar ride has mandatory route?

THE CHAIR said that members present had had a chance to air their concerns and wondered if there were any more questions. It appeared that the matter had been thoroughly aired.

In response, Paul Stewart said that mandatory routing is part of ACP regulations and the approach used throughout the rest of the Audax world. He recognised the general anxiety expressed by some members about how strictly 'mandatory routes' would be enforced, and that it was standing policy that the AUK Board and events team looked to support riders in getting their rides validated; not to try and find ways to stop them being validated. We can expect there will inevitably be a period of adjustment as organisers and riders get used to events with mandatory routes. Whilst it is recognised that riders do go off-route, get lost, etc. and this would be allowed for, if there is a mandatory route then there is an expectation that riders will endeavour to get back onto the route as soon as they can. There is no intent to make 'mandatory routes mandatory'; it is the organisers' choice. Regarding dealing with GPS failures, he said that if a GPS fails on a GPS DIY Perm with advisory routing that the rider might be able to recover by collecting receipts from that point on, but for a complicated (mandatory) route this would likely not be sufficient. However the number of DIY perms that are rejected because of GPS problems is extremely small and it was felt that overall it was a manageable problem.

Votes were then counted and the motion was carried: for 362 votes; against 47 and abstentions 13

Special Resolution 4: Amendment to Appendix 12.1 regarding the validation of Brevets for EAPC riders on Brevet Populaire events.

Proposed by Dave Minter and seconded by Matt Chambers.

Dave Minter explained that last year at the AGM a proposal was put forward that riders using e-bikes were same as those using human power alone. He felt that we need to go back to the beginning of AUK when the ruling was that an event should be completed by human power. AUK is the only international randonneur organisation that says if you don't do it by human power that's okay. He had no objection to riders of e-bikes wanting to take part but that they should not be allowed the same benefits as those riders using human power alone.

Paul Stewart said the recommendation from the Board was based on the principle that this related to Brevet Populaires only, which are not long distance events as recognised, and it was accepted international practice that if you take part in and successfully complete an event, then your participation is recognised.

Keith Benton asked how many riders of e-bikes were validated. The figure was not known but it was minimal.

Arabella Maude asked how does someone on e-bike fit with pacing and how does it fit with equal opportunities.?

Andy Clarkson suggested that collectively this year and last year this topic had been discussed for more hours than e-bikes had been ridden. He suggested that there was no evidence that there is a problem – it doesn't need fixing.

In his right of reply, Dave Minter said that regarding pacing and external assistance – nobody feels that riding a tandem is external assistance – both have paid and both are riding. The argument is that 250W of power is the same as a Tour de France rider sitting on your bike and no fee has been paid for them. Since 1903 Brevets have been based on human power alone. Equal opportunities do not really apply because you are taking on a challenge – you either meet the standard or not. Why has this been changed? E-bikes were used before the rule was changed – validation does not matter to them – they have not followed the principle of the event. Surely it makes no difference to the rider themselves?

A vote was taken and the motion was passed: In favour 243; against 153 and abstentions 12

Special Resolution 5: Amendment to AUK Company Articles to facilitate scheduling the AUK AGM separately from the Annual Reunion Weekend

The Resolution was proposed by Paul Stewart and seconded by Martin Foley

Paul Stewart introduced the resolution, saying that historically the AUK AGM has been held as part of the Annual Reunion weekend, however, with the introduction of postal voting at the 2014 AGM a large majority of the total votes cast were done by non-attending members. Some members feel this undermines the purpose of holding the AGM as part of the Annual Reunion weekend; others would prefer the AGM was not held during the Annual Reunion weekend at all. It has also been noted that holding the AGM in November means that regulatory and other formal matters must be progressed during the summer months when attentions are naturally focused elsewhere i.e. on cycling and holidays. Having the AGM at this time of year effectively means that all preparation has to occur during the main cycling time of year i.e. summer. If the AGM was held in the Spring the preparation could be done in winter when riders were not out on bikes. It also means that it would allow for additional informal meetings over the winter period so that proposals can be better developed.

Another speaker wanted to ask about the AUK year, and whether if the AGM is moved to spring or later could the AUK year finish at the end of October i.e. when BST gives way to GMT.

Noel Toone said he found it useful to listen to all arguments today but he was getting the feeling that there was not much point in voting because of postal votes. He suggested that with the informal meetings, if they were like this one which was being minuted, the details could go out to the postal votes so they can vote having been fully informed.

Paul Stewart confirmed that it was intended such meetings will be minuted and promoted through the AUK forum to encourage open discussion. The proposal would also allow the Annual Reunion

Meeting and AGM to be far enough apart for information to go from one to the other through the AUK forum and Arrivéé.

Mike Lane was happy to admit that he had changed his mind on two matters that had been discussed today after listening to the arguments. Would postal votes have changed if they had all the details – if they have the information then he would be in favour.

The Chair pointed out that the resolution is enabling and the intention is to decide on the dates. If there are decisions that need to be taken in between then that would need an EGM.

Heather Swift said she had also changed her mind during the course of the AGM. Agreed that the intention of changing the Reunion Meeting weekend and any extension meeting will give out information to postal voters - this can only be good.

Rob Webb suggested that these informal meetings would only be for those turning up. Would it be a good idea to make it a web conference? The Chair agreed that they need to look at all ideas. The Secretary suggested there might be regional meetings.

Martin Foley asked what is/was the number for a Quorum for AGM – The Chair replied that is 8.

The motion was passed and the votes cast were: for 323; against 35 and abstentions 18. This was 98% of the valid vote and was therefore carried.

8. Election of Directors

(i) Finance Director

Nominee – Paul Salmons – proposed by Paul Stewart & seconded by the AUK Board.

Proposing Paul, Paul Stewart said that since Paul joined the Board he had been very impressed with his professional approach and he is fully recommended into the role.

No questions from the floor

Votes were counted: For 385; against 3 and abstentions 6

(ii) Communications Director - This is the new name for the Publicity & Publications Director

Proposed Ged Lennox by Paul Salmons – he works in graphic design and has some good ideas for marketing – impressed that he was taking photos for Arrivéé at this meeting

Marcus Jackson-Baker asked – please don't change the logo again.

Keith Benton questioned whether Board should be proposing new Committee members – should they be proposed from the floor? THE CHAIR took this on board.

Votes were counted: For 377; against 6 and abstentions 9

(iii) Non-Executive Director (2 positions)

There were three nominees for two positions: Chris Boulton, Dave Minter, & John Sabine.

Chris Boulton was proposed by Andy Clarkson who confirmed his credentials and asked that he be allowed to finish what he has started. Keith Benton seconded – he believes he will help.

Dave Minter was proposed by Marcus Jackson Baker who said Dave had a good understanding of the history and facts of AUK and felt as we have now entered a point of change this will help.
Secunder Roger Cortis – not present

John Sabine was proposed by Martin Malins who was not present. Pat Hurt seconded the proposal and said that John was truthful and would recommend him to the Board.

The three were invited to take questions from the meeting.

Peter Lewis wanted to know what collective responsibility meant to the candidates

- Dave Minter: The Board has collective and individual responsibility. They should do this honestly.
- John Sabine: As a non-executive member you are part of the Board and questioning is a primary part of the role. Need to be a critical friend and help to come to a decision to show things have been thought through.
- Chris Boulton: One should be prepared to have a robust debate, but to try to reach unanimity. Once the Board has made a decision, it's important that all the directors stand behind it, or the organisation could become dysfunctional. The normal action of a director who cannot support a properly arrived at decision would be to resign.

Keith Benton –asked the Board why they are restricting the number to two and why not have all three. Heather Swift asked when would the third be appointed.

Secretary's note: Two Non-Exec Director positions were set for election as last year when in fact no member stood for election. The Board subsequently received five expressions of interest and appointed three Non-Exec Directors. The Non-Executive Director positions are elected annually.

In response to questions as to whether the meeting could vote to elect three non-executive directors instead of the two specified in the Meeting Agenda, The Chair said that it could not as that would constitute business not previously notified to the membership.

Paul Revell asked candidates for a brief description of their view of future AUK strategy.

- John Sabine: I see the role in determining strategy would come out of scrutinising the proposals of others. He felt it wasn't substantially broken – should be picking up in growth in sport cyclists who want challenging rides.
- Chris Boulton: Membership is quite a big part of this. As you go to the bigger events there are more members than non-members and we need to look at the membership package. Need to look at a funding strategy. Is AUK going in the right direction?
- Dave Minter: I spent 3 years in Audax Australia in a similar role. I do not have a specific view on this for AUK - seems to be okay but the membership is falling which is surprising.* He believes it could be made more robust. Does not have strong ideas of how to do that and wants to look at what is proposed.

*Secretary's note: the overall membership is increasing year on year.

Noel Toone: He wanted the meeting to know that he has been cycling for 37 years but hadn't heard of AUK until 3 years ago. Do we need to change to attract more members or will that fundamentally change what AUK is about?

- John Sabine – echoed that and his own local club was ignorant of AUK. If we get it right we can move ahead without changing the essence of the organisation.
- Dave Minter – does not believe we need to change essence of AUK. He believes we would not be here unless the concept was exciting. He is happy with the mix of events – high quality – lots of riders – lots of buzz and low key events. This allows for a range of riders. AUK should be better known – perhaps amongst the walkers etc. for example.
- Chris Boulton: I believe we need to market the organisation better, particularly through smaller events

Andy Clarkson – last year we had 3 people in these roles and we have 3 good candidates. He felt it was irrational not to vote them all in and it is only an excuse to keep the options open. Need to give good reasons why all three people should not be put forward.

THE CHAIR thanked Andy for his sincere comments but noted again that matters like this could not be changed at this meeting. The Board had retained the ability to consider what aspects of its constitution could be improved in the best interests of AUK by the appointment of a third non-executive director, and he would ensure that due consideration of this would be undertaken at the next Board meeting.

He reminded members that the vote on this would be by ballot. All members eligible to vote in person at this meeting had been issued with ballot papers naming the three candidates. Members eligible to vote were entitled to cast up to 2 votes.

Votes were cast and counted: the results Chris Boulton 216; Dave Minter 207; John Sabine 244

Chris Boulton and John Sabine were appointed as Non-Exec Directors

9. Date and venue of next meeting: TBA

Marcus Jackson-Baker read out a message from Stephen Abraham thanking AUK and all members for help and support – sorry that I don't have time to say more but sure all you understand "time is miles".

Keith Benton gave thanks to the Board and to The Chair for overseeing this meeting, and welcomed new members of the Board, and offered a vote of thanks to the delegates and Directors because without backroom members the systems wouldn't work.

10 Close

The meeting closed at 16:50