

19th August 2017**COACHING CO-ORDINATOR**Barry Warriner
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Merseyside
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Email: barrywarriner@gmail.comCoach Coordinators Report for September 2017 AGM

Once again I think the end of any years assessment of how we did in the region's previous year in our coaching programme structures, always seems to be comparative to the current year, but as always, we have, once again made a noticeable improvement in the abilities of our youth riders, which has shown in their standard of racing throughout the year.

I believe this is, as always, down to the volunteer coaches who give up their free time to help to ensure the programmes we have in place continue and get the best attention. The idea of cluster sessions for all coaching will always be the way forwards, not many clubs have the amount of young riders to fulfil a worthwhile session so it makes sense to invite other clubs to take part. Call it what you like, but the Tameside youth sessions and Merseyside winter training programme a good examples of cluster sessions.

January/ February saw the Pathway CCT programme (to be known loosely as the 'bike light sessions'), continued to complete the 2016 programme with great numbers, and a high quality of technique and skill from the riders, as did last year, we are continuing to see this in the standard of racing on road and track.

The RSR (Regional School of Racing) and SQT (Structured Quality Training) sessions for the older youth riders have also played their part in the massive coaching development we have seen over past months, with entries for regional and national events on a high, and the list of riders for selections onto national (and international events) teams, being hard to choose from. I'm looking forwards to seeing what new coaching initiatives we can come up with in 2018.

The regional track cluster session programme at Manchester managed to hold its own on numbers through to the month of May, where we had the second of the accreditation sessions, the first being in February, once again with good pass marks at both, making the queue a little longer for getting onto the track leagues at Manchester. The cost was as last year (which is still being criticised by some areas) and could be a reason that some areas had some difficulty in take- up this year.

There has been a change of structure at Knowsley Velodrome, and at the time of writing, the previous known coaching format seems to have been abandoned, and there hasn't been an opportunity for any track coaching since the track league finished in July.

The Go-Ride programme in Merseyside now has another two clubs working for their Club Mark award, Liverpool Century and Harry Middleton Cycles, have good numbers attending, hopefully bringing in new talent for the future, I'm sure Alex will provide more in detail in his report.

Barry Warriner