

East Region Commissaire Report 2020

It's not easy to write a report on a season of racing that has been missing a crucial element - the racing. The calendar of events in an Olympic year tends to look very busy, particularly in the period leading up to the 'big show'. So when the 2020 programme was issued, it looked like I would manage to avoid painting the fence for another few weekends.

The pre-season 'warm-up' began with the 4 rounds of the 2019/2020 Winter Series. As ever, the region's organisers did a fantastic job of providing racing for riders during the winter months.

The 2020 Summer Series started off brightly at Peterborough. This was also the first regional event to use the transponder-based timing system. Our newly minted trainee commissaire, Alyx Foreman, ran the race administration on the day, which seemed to go pretty smoothly. Our thanks must go to Ant Hurry, one of our colleagues from the Midlands region, who came down for the day to guide us through the process. It's a pity that Phil Townsend hasn't shared any footage of him running round the garden testing the timing loops.

Thereafter, the racing was curtailed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. British Cycling have been hosting commissaire seminars over the past few months, that members of the team have attended. Unfortunately, we don't know when we'll be able to resume racing. But we'll keep reading the regulations, so that we can forget them again just in time for the restart of the action. It's what we do best.

Thanks to all the members of the commissaire team that volunteered their time over the shortened season. And to all those club members that helped us. Fingers crossed for 2021. Stay safe.

Mark Tomsett (East Region Commissaire Coordinator)