



***Tough Times End but the
Tough Keep Going!***
~ Anon

Sulis Scorpions Youth Cycling Club (SSYCC)

Annual General Meeting 2020 - 2021

24 April 21 (1700 - 1800)



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HEALTHY CYCLING
CYCLE CLUB

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Annual Report

2. Proposed changes to the Constitution:

- *Changes to the constitution require the votes of two thirds of the voting members.*

3. Election to Committee – Year 2 Rotation

- **TREASURER** – *a volunteer is sought to fulfil this role*
- **HEAD COACH** – *a volunteer is sought to fulfil this role*
- **WELFARE 1** – *Amy Francis is stepping down from 24 Apr 21 and a volunteer is sought to fulfil this role*
- **YOUTH CO-ORD** – *Sarah Crowther is stepping down from 24 Apr 21 and a volunteer is sought to fulfil this role*

4. Election to Committee – Other Roles

- **SECRETARY** – *Fiona Valis is stepping down from 24 Apr 21 and a volunteer is sought to fulfil this role*
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5. AOB



Annual Report

2020-21

Sulis
Scorpions



*Coming together is a **beginning**;
Staying together is **progress**; and
Working together is **success***

~ Henry Ford

Who Are We?

Committee:

- Chris Crowther, Chair
- Steve Glass, Vice-chair
- Fiona Vallis, Secretary
- Eugene Kertzman, Head Coach
- Mike Woodward, Treasurer
- Robert Weeks, Membership Secretary
- Amy Francis, Club Welfare Officer 1
- Gareth Dixon, Club Welfare Officer 2
- Sarah Crowther, Youth Co-ordinator
- Jenson Harris, Youth Committee Representative
- Ryan Cains, Volunteer Co-ordinator

Coaches (British Cycling trained)

- Ryan Cains, Level 2
- Chris Crowther, Level 2
- Sarah Crowther, Level 2
- Jason Dodd, Level 2, plus Track Award (Velodrome)
- Steve Glass, Level 2, plus Road & Time Trial Award and CX Award
- Joanna Goodhead, Level 1
- Eugene Kertzman, Level 3, Level 2 plus Road & Time Trial Award
- Alan Mowat, Level 2
- Charlie Major, Level 1
- Luke Watson, Level 2

Volunteers

- Leon Gierat
- Vicky Gierat
- Justin Ryan
- Bill Vallis
- Jean-Yves Cherrault
- Laurence Howard
- Martin Harris
- Tim Cummins
- Steve Baldie
- Anna Dixon
- Diane Pearcey
- Chris Cannings
- Simon Pearcey
- Steve Burrige
- Ed Tucker
- John Grenfell

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- **INTRODUCTION**

- Sulis Scorpions Youth Cycling Alliance was formed in April 2013 to enable young people to participate in cycling as a sport. We are based at the dedicated 1.5 km cycle circuit at Odd Down, Bath. Membership of the club is open to any youth or junior between the ages of 7 and 18 years who wishes to improve their cycling skills and/or develop their participation in cycle sport, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.

- **CLUBMARK STATUS**

- Joining a select group of cycling clubs across the country, in June 2018 Sulis Scorpions fulfilled the necessary criteria to achieve British Cycling's Go-Ride Clubmark status and now holds this prestigious accreditation. Clubmark is a universally acknowledged cross sport scheme introduced by Sport England for community sports clubs, which recognises high standards in welfare, equality, coaching and club management.

- **MEMBERSHIP**

- The club currently has 100 youth members and 30 adult members (volunteers, coaches and committee). We have 29 female youth members, representing 29% of our membership. 51 (51%) of our youth members are in the under 12 age groups. Our membership is close to full capacity with demand for places remaining high and increasing; our waiting list has grown significantly to 68 in lockdown, as we have been unable to run any inductions during the COVID-19 enforced shutdown. We really need the support of more coaches and volunteers to ensure these eager new members get the chance to join our great club.

Chair's Report



Covid-19 and lockdown continue to wreak havoc at every level. However, it is testament to our members and volunteers that we have continued to offer quality sessions throughout. From our Christmas fun-day to our Half-term Quiz; our regular bulletins to our Saturday virtual sessions ~ everyone of us have played a role in providing **certainty** to our members and it shows!

Our second objective was to **consolidate** our position. As a committee, we are in awe of your energy, dedication and support: our attendance looks to be holding at pre-Covid levels and enquiries in becoming a **Sulis Scorpion** are at an all time high. In this regard, we have revised our induction process to make cycling available to all as soon as we possibly can.

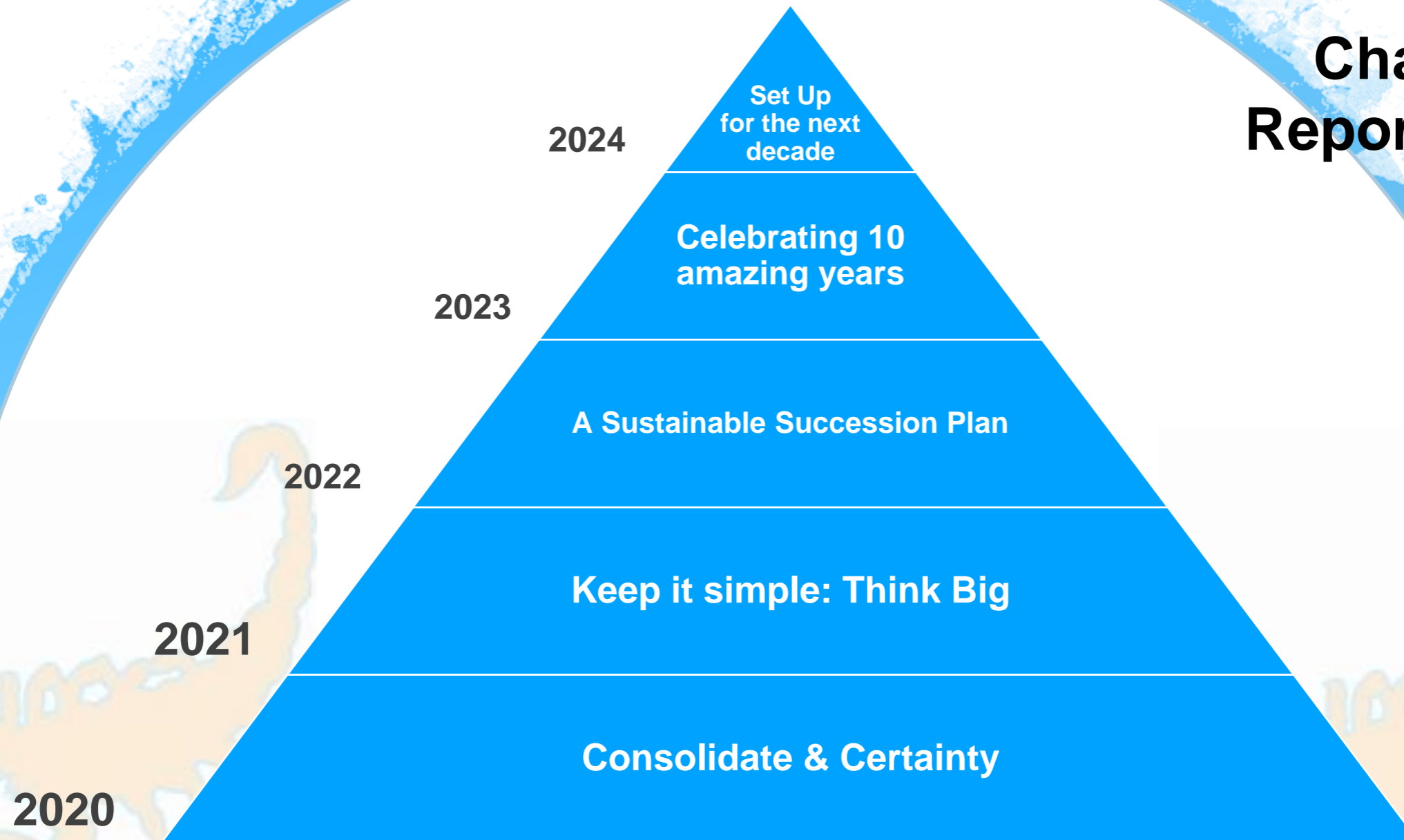
As part of our plan for 2021, I hope that we can **Think Big** – already we have been awarded a prestigious British Cycling grant to build our fleet of bikes as a means to make cycling more inclusive for the young people of the region. We are excited to deliver on this project in 2021.

On behalf of all our members, I would like to thank our coaches and volunteers who give their time each week. Without their dedication, there would be no **Scorpions**.

This year, we've some big changes on our committee and our coaching team is smaller than last year. As good people move on, I am delighted to welcome their successors but I want to focus on getting a more sustainable **succession plan** in place ~ this is probably the Club's biggest vulnerability going forward.

Even the longest or the fastest bike ride starts with those initial wobbly pedal-strokes. I am keen for us to establish a long term strategy stretching to 5 years. However, **a plan without action is simply a dream** so I challenge you to ask yourselves how you can support and sustain Sulis Scorpions? Your help, no matter how big or small, makes the difference, allows your children to enjoy the amazing sport of cycling and will take us through the **next decade** for Sulis Scorpions.

Chair's Report 2021



Sulis Scorpions - A Vision for the future

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Treasurer Report 2021

Sulis Scorpions remains in a secure financial situation with the committee continually seeking best value for money opportunities to reinvest in the club.

During the accounting period 1 Jan 20 –31 Dec 20 we had a surplus of income over expenditure of just over £1,000 to reinvest and a sale value of kit/clothing held in stock of £4,130.00, a reduction of £328.00 over the year. The club continues to discount the kit / clothing sold to our riders making it exceptional value, and we cover the cost of Sulis Scorpion riders entering British Cycling races that we organise at Odd Down.

Coaching Groups and Racing

Group name and time	Coaches
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Whip 09:00	Eugene
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Sand 09:00	Sarah
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Emperor 10:00	Ryan
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Striped 11:00	Alan
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Stalker 11:00	Steve
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Imperial 11:00	Jason
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Assistant coaches:	Chris
	Luke
	Joanna
	Jenson
	Charlie

Our aims:

1. Increasing access to cycle sport for young people
2. Developing core cycling skills for young people
3. Coaching young people to compete in cycle sport
4. Organising accessible, inclusive and enjoyable competitive cycle sport events for young people
5. Enabling young people to progress to club riding and other branches of cycle sport.
6. Provide volunteering and coaching opportunities for adults and young people to develop these skills in the cycling environment.

The Coaching Team:

We currently have a team of 10 coaches and it's great seeing young volunteers coming through and doing coaching qualifications!. The departure of Matt Shonfeld, David Sleight and Rich Franklin has left us under staffed on the team which is making it quite difficult to cover all the groups every Saturday. We have a number of volunteers willing to train as coaches and we are now able to do an 'in-house' level 1 which means prospective coaches can go straight to level 2 once they have completed our little coaching induction program. We are keen to get the volunteers trained as soon as possible so if you are interested and haven't yet been in touch then please let us know. Funding is available for the training courses. Please speak to Eugene Kertzman for more information (headcoach@sulisscorpions.co.uk)

Coaching Groups and Racing

Coaching

The annual coaching programme is working well with all groups doing the same topic although at a different level. The Induction group has become part of the Whip group on a rolling basis and as places become available new riders will be invited to join. This way we hope to reduce the waiting list as fast as possible. Going forward, we are looking to have enough coaches to have two Emperor groups to prevent this group from becoming a bottle neck. We have also re-introduced the cycling award scheme starting with the Whip group.

The past year has been exceptionally unusual but most riders have been able to keep up their cycling in one way or another but group riding has been the biggest casualty. We will be looking to brush up on skills over the next few months topped up with a few time trials and races. During the lockdowns, the riders were kept busy with our newsletters highlighting challenges and quests for them. During the latest lockdown we had 80 participants in the Saturday morning turbo sessions which we ran virtually.

We have planned a number of events for 2021:

3 Time Trials

3 British Cycling open races

1 Cyclo Cross event

TT & Club Race Results can be found here:

<http://www.chiptimingresults.co.uk/series.aspx?CId=61&RId=344>

Coaching Groups and Racing

This Girl Can

We have started a new coaching group that meets once a month for all girls from the 6 coaching groups. The aim is to give the girls a chance to ride together and create greater camaraderie. We are looking to expand the horizons with trips to other venues such as Newport, Keynsham and perhaps some MTB – this will need volunteers and coaches to make it happen.

Places to Ride

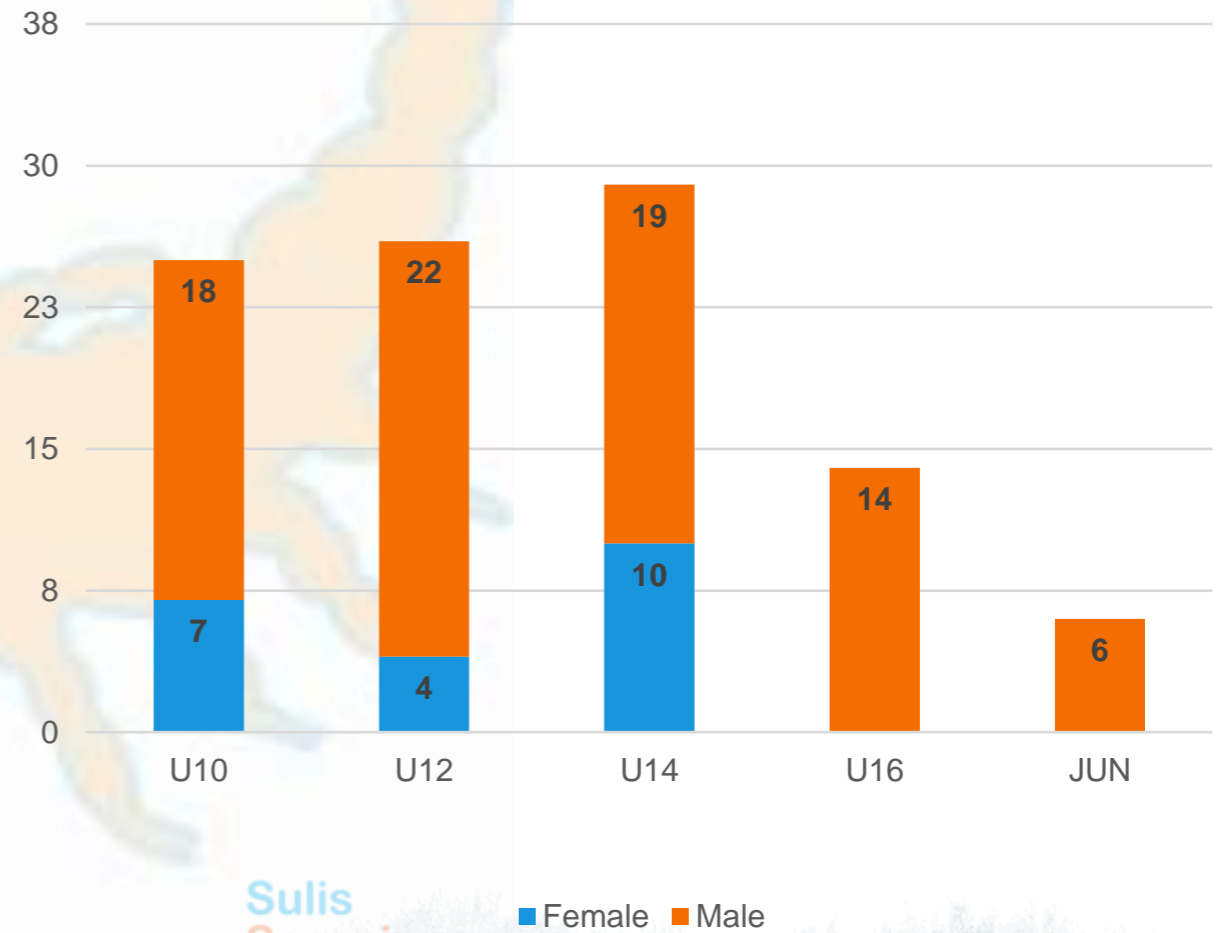
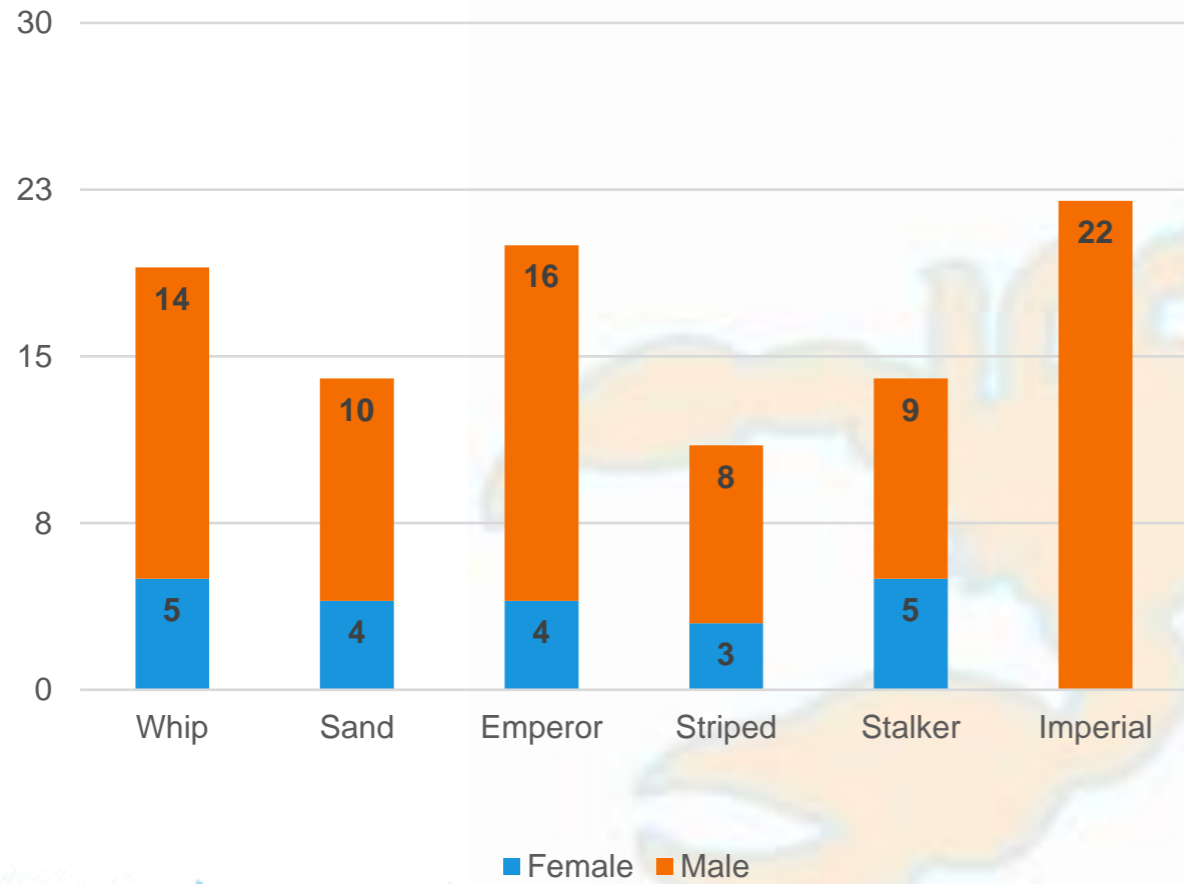
The club still has a number of loan bikes available to help those in need. However, for 2021, the club has also been successful in the Places to Ride scheme, a sporting England grant scheme to promote bike skills and cycling. We have been awarded a 50% grant for 11 bikes and cycle store upgrade. The grant will allow the club to promote cycling to young people that don't easily have access to a bike and for special events where we could provide the bikes.

Sulis Scorpions Race Bikes Loan Scheme

We have a number of road racing bikes available for loan. If you think that you might need one for a period of time or find it difficult to afford a new bike right now a youngster has grown out of his/her current bike then have a word with one of the coaches or volunteers at the gate.

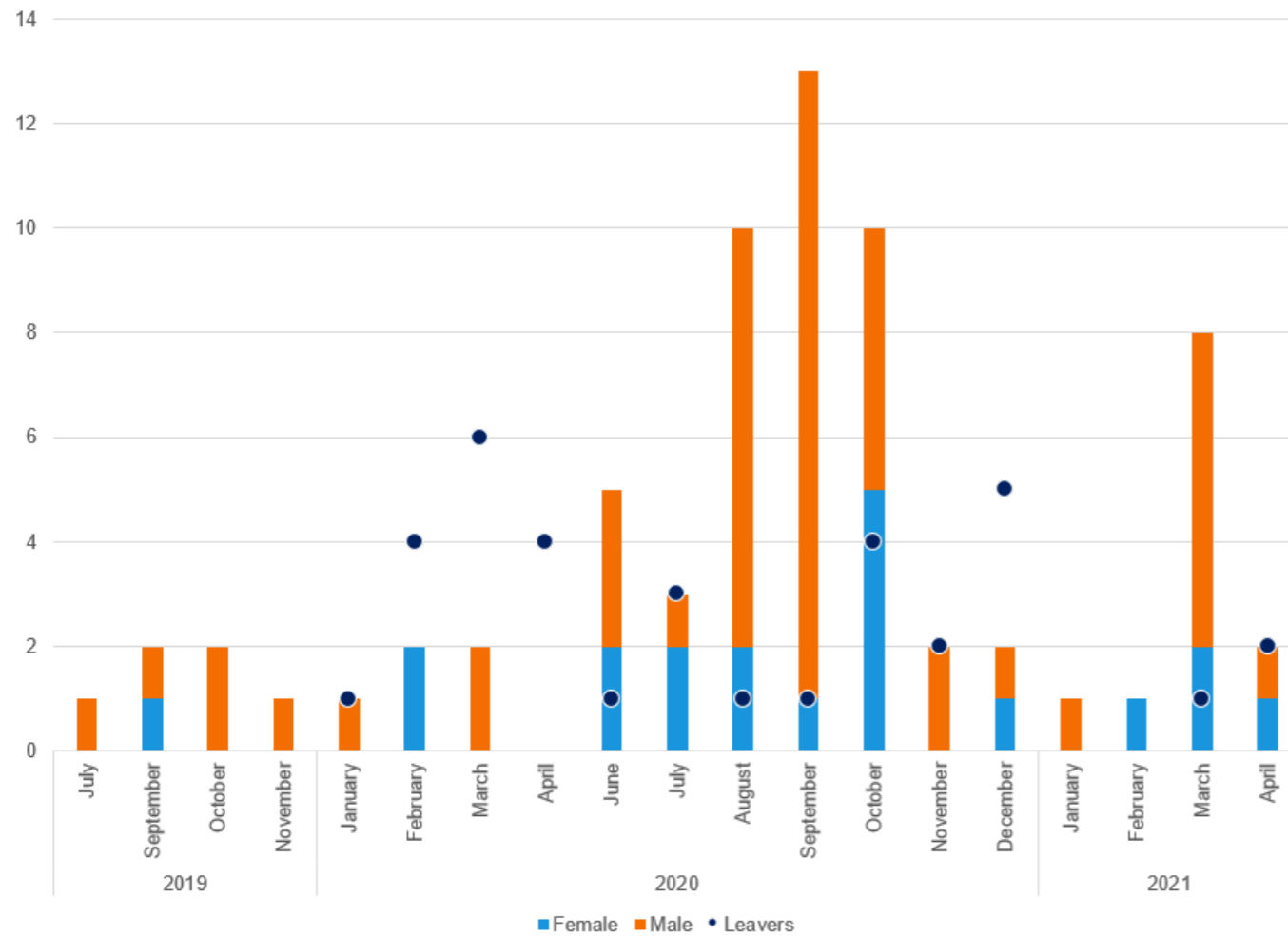
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Membership by age and gender

Requests to join waiting list versus members leaving



Year	Month	Added to waiting list	Leavers
2019	July	1	
	September	2	
	October	2	
	November	1	
2020	January	1	1
	February	2	4
	March	2	6
	April	0	4
	June	5	1
	July	3	3
	August	10	1
	September	13	1
	October	10	4
	November	2	2
	December	2	5
	2021	January	1
February		1	
March		8	1
April		2	2

Membership by popular demand!!



Club Kit

The club continues to offer a range of Kalas cycling shorts and jerseys, plus hoodies and buffs for extra warmth, all in the distinctive orange and blue design. In the Autumn the smart new black and orange padded jackets were introduced to help get us through the Odd Down winter weather and proved very popular. Sales of club kit have carried on during the periods of lockdown and restricted activity via individual requests and arranged collection or delivery.

Our new club kit manager, Diane, is introducing a contactless payment system to support efficient and safe transactions when we resume our regular kit sales on Saturdays at Odd Down.

Our websites has all the info about styles & sizes: <https://www.suliscorpions.co.uk/kit> and for queries about kit please email kit@suliscorpions.co.uk.

Plans for kit sales are communicated in the regular members' emails and on the Facebook page. Prices are generously subsidised by the club and have remained unchanged for the past three years.

Kit items and prices

Jersey - short sleeved half zip relaxed fit	£15
Jersey - short sleeved full zip closer fit	£25
Jersey - long sleeved full zip winter fabric	£30
Shorts - non-bib	£20
Shorts – bib	£25
Arm warmers	£10
Hoodies	£ 5
Bufs	£ 7
Padded jackets	£15

Sale Value of Clothing Stock 19 Dec 19	£ 4,458.00
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Sale Value of Clothing Stock 31 Dec 20	£ 4,130.00
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Difference in Sale Value of Clothing Stock (2019 to 2020)	-£ 328.00
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CLUB WELFARE

- The club continues to put the welfare of our members at the forefront of all we do and adheres to the British Cycling Safeguarding Policy and our own Codes of Conduct. All coaches are aware of their welfare responsibilities and have received the appropriate training.
- It is great to be back at the circuit now and thank you to all the volunteers, parents and riders for your ongoing support with the adaptations we have had to make to keep the sessions safe.
- Our current Welfare Officers are Amy Francis and Gareth Dixon. However, Amy will be stepping down from the role this year and we are seeking a new volunteer to cover this role and support Gareth.
- If any child, parent, coach or volunteer has any concerns about the welfare of any club member, please do come and talk to Gareth, who can often be found at the circuit on Saturdays. Alternatively please contact us via email: welfare_team@sulisscorpions.co.uk.
- **All concerns will be taken seriously and will be treated in confidence.**

VOLUNTEERS

- We are pleased to report that the Scorpions continue to be supported by an amazing team of volunteers and so on behalf of the committee, coaches and all of the Scorpions I want to say a big thank you to all of our volunteers.
- We have recently seen the number of active volunteers increase slightly, which is great news! We are, however, always on the lookout for new volunteers to join our team and support our Scorpions.
- Typical volunteer duties consist of controlling access to the circuit via the gate, marshalling, sign-on at races and time trials. If you can help, please feel free to talk to Ryan Cains - Volunteer Co-ordinator & Coach (volunteering@sulisscorpions.co.uk).

Without our Volunteers there is no **Sulis Scorpions!**



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Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Clause 4: Remove AGE

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4) Membership

a) Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.



<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/u0687dp371e5d80zany64/Constitution-Agreed-AGM-190518.docx?dl=0&rlkey=n5hdv7qkezocjkeej4izf0bls>



Election to the Committee

TREASURER

HEAD COACH

WELFARE 1

YOUTH CO-ORD

SECRETARY

DIGITAL VOLUNTEER

***Volunteers do not necessarily
have the time; they just have
the heart***

~ Elizabeth Andrew

In Summary

BLUF: What we are?

- Our noble cause is to introduce young people to cycling and help them realise their potential

How? We will

- Maintain **Certainty + Consolidation** but will not be afraid to **Think Big**
- Be a volunteer-active club with a clear **Succession Plan**
- Bring our energy and ideas together in a comprehensive **Development Plan 21 - 24**

