

THE RESPONSE TO THE ARTICLE ABOUT
TEAM CAMBRIDGE
IN THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER
THAT THE EDITOR REFUSED TO PUBLISH.

TEAM CAMBRIDGE

Having read the article in the September Newsletter regarding Team Cambridge I feel a reply has to be made to put the record straight.

The following comments are mine and mine alone - although other people have expressed similar comments to me - so only I am responsible for what follows.

I agree with the lead article written by Greg regarding the problem with Cambridge CC. I am one of those people who has said "enough is enough". The reason why members are "throwing in the towel" has to be asked. I with others have tried to help the Club to progress but there has been so much inertia by some of the more established members that to continue to try is well nigh impossible.

The Chairman threw in the towel and resigned a year ago disgusted at the way the Club was going, so it was hardly surprising that other members should feel likewise inclined.

Yes, other clubs have started up (with varying degrees of success) as a result of the dissatisfaction of Cambridge CC. This is not a new experience for Cambridge CC as the Editor pointed out. Rather than launching an attack on Team Cambridge why not ask the question; Why are people starting new clubs? The answer is one of attitude.

Cambridge CC has a handful of members who work hard to keep the Club going. The majority of the members do nothing or little to help the Club. The attitude of members who turn up for the Club 10's with no intention of riding and then refuse to help in either marshalling, timing or pushing off shows just how deep rooted the problem is. And it is one of these so called members who when in a race, and had quit, finding that there was no one else from Cambridge CC still in the Divisional Championships, then decides to restart to go pot grabbing!! This is then endorsed by the Committee as a legitimate form of competition!

When the Treasurer was supposed to have resigned, the Club asked me to act as Treasurer until the AGM. I pointed out that as a second claim member I could not oblige. What was wrong with one of the 90 or so members that the Club boasts about?

As a new club, Team Cambridge has yet to work out what events it can promote. The problem of fitting them onto the racing calendar is our problem and not that of either the Editor or Cambridge CC.

The starting of Team Cambridge was not taken lightly and many of the members still have an affection for Cambridge CC. But like me, the membership see the only real way of promoting the sport and attracting new people to the sport is by starting a new club.

To finish, Team Cambridge does not want a fight. This has been shown by offering Cambridge CC the option of sharing the Club Room with us at Perne Road on Monday nights. Two of the ladies, Gwyneth Speechley and Pauline Parker who timed all the Club 10's are both prospective Team Cambridge members.

Nevil Speechley.