

Results of the club survey – by the Captain

1. General Summary

We have had 56 responses to the survey, it's been out for several weeks now and a reminder has been sent so we probably aren't going to get many more responses.

56 responses represents 54% of 103 members, but probably represents a much higher percentage of regular riders.

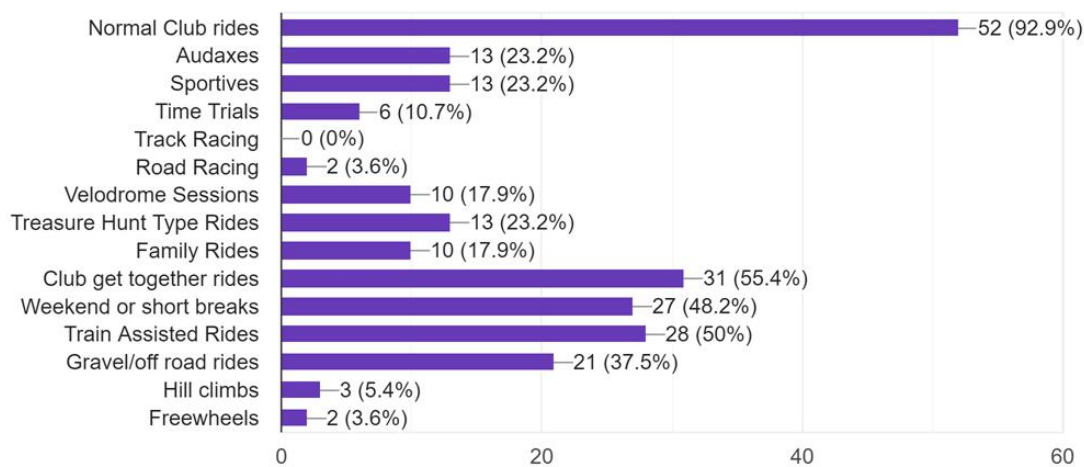
On the whole, the findings are generally good, most people are able to do the rides they want and are also happy with club activities. However, as always, there is room for improvement and there are plenty of suggestions, far too many to deal with in detail here.

I'm sending out this preliminary report on the survey to keep you informed, but we will be discussing this at the Committee meeting on 17th August and I will report back again to members after that.

2. Level of Interest in Activities

Which of the following activities would you like to do/do more of. Please indicate all the ones you are interested in.

56 responses



I don't think there are too many surprises here. On a positive note we seem to be offering all of the most popular activities to members, together with some of the less popular activities.

This was sent out before Des came up with his idea of an internal ABC TT for members only, so people were probably thinking of open competitive TTs when responding. So interest in a less serious "club only" TT is almost certainly higher.

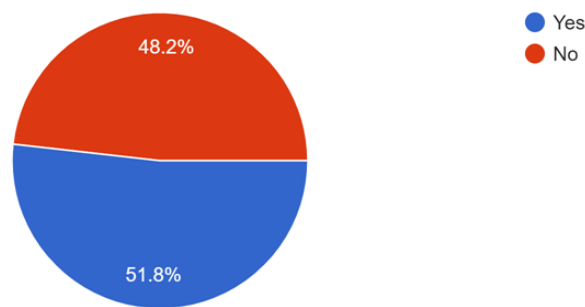
I don't think these responses mean we shouldn't "do" any of the activities with low interest, but we should perhaps put our main efforts into those activities where greater interest is indicated. The

successful Velodrome sessions show that “minority” interests can still be worthwhile, but we do need to check that we have sufficient real interest to go ahead with specific events and activities where less members are interested. There is also the issue of whether we organise our own events or for some types of event, we simply sign on to events organised by others, this of course also depends heavily on whether members are willing to help out with any ABC events.

3. Are members willing to help out with events?

Would you be willing to help out if the club decided to organise more of it's own events such as TTs?

56 responses

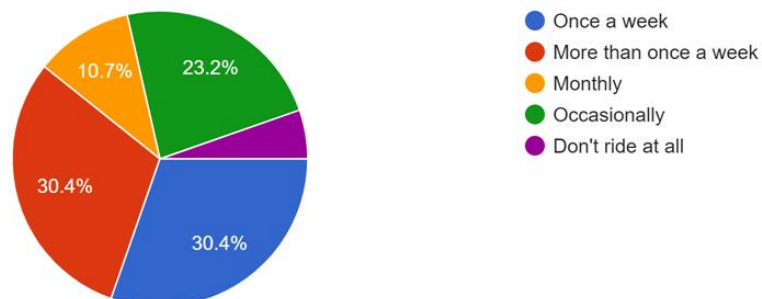


This is great. That is a huge percentage of people who are willing to help out with events. Thank you!

4. How often are people riding with the club?

How often do you ride with the club?

56 responses

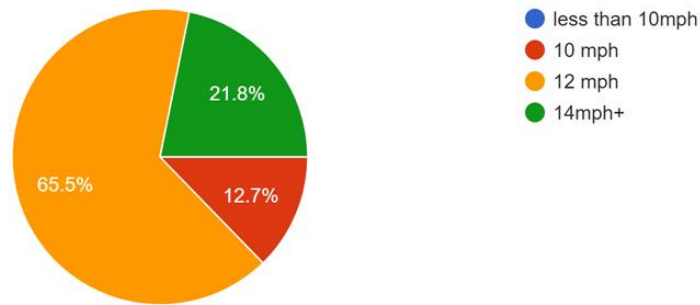


Again, I don't think there are any surprises here, and although it is very positive overall we do perhaps need to look at some of the specific comments and think about how we can offer more rides to people who have restricted time available due to work and other reasons.

5. Preferred Ride speed

What average speed do you prefer

55 responses

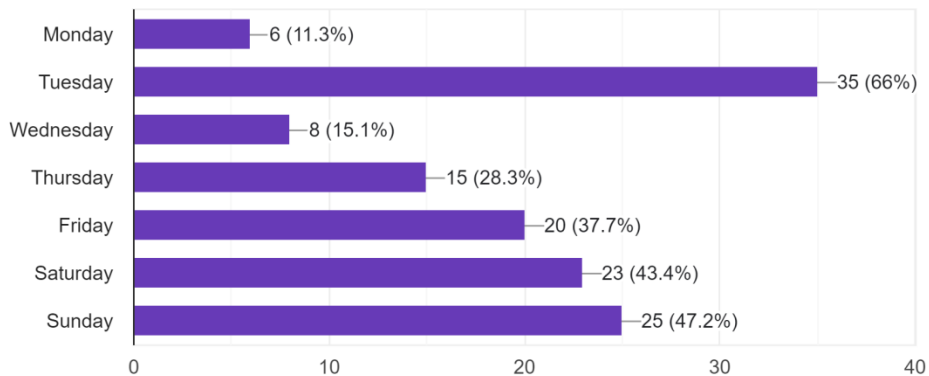


This one surprised me a bit. I thought 12mph was our most popular average speed, but I didn't realise we had such a significant number of riders who prefer a faster ride. So I think there is some scope for us to offer some more faster rides, subject to willing leaders, but I'm afraid my days of 14mph plus are over!

6. Preferred days to ride

What days do you prefer to ride?

53 responses



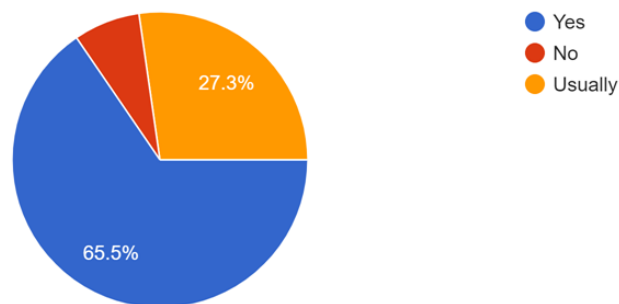
This is interesting, as expected Tuesday is by far the most popular day. However, weekends are the next preferred option, which is surprising because very few people have been signing on to weekend rides recently, and in practice Friday rides are better attended than weekend rides.

Of course people can only sign on to the rides that are offered, So some of this contradiction can perhaps be explained by a lack of suitable rides (as someone pointed out ride preference depends on all factors including speed, distance, day, start time and overall time required).

This question also allowed people to choose multiple days, so the fact that Fridays have become more popular may be reducing people’s desire to ride again at the weekend. Nevertheless, members are expressing a strong interest in weekend rides. This is also evident from some of the specific comments. There is also significant interest in Thursday rides.

7. Are we providing suitable rides?

Are you always able to sign on to a suitable ride when you want to?
55 responses

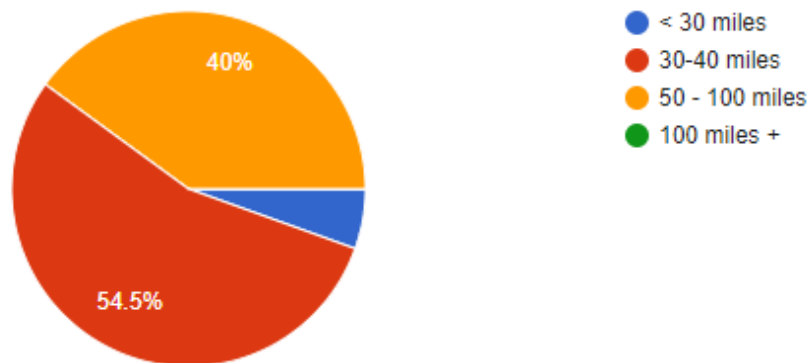


Overall this is very good. And it would be easy to say everything is fine here because most people are able to join suitable rides most of the time, but when we also look at some of the results from the “days” question, and the comments, we need to at least consider if there is more we can do to offer more people suitable rides.

8. Preferred Ride distance

What distance do you prefer

55 responses



This is much as I expected, with a slight surprise that some people would prefer some shorter rides, and also the absence of 100 miles plus, given that we do these occasionally.

I think that shorter rides for time limited people is something worth exploring, I sometimes go for a solo shorter ride on a Tuesday or Saturday when I don't have enough time to do a full club ride. In future I may offer these as short club runs, watch this space.

9. Specific Comments

There were two questions which asked for specific comments and suggestions, and these were quite broad ranging and diverse. I want to try and take action on as many of these comments as possible, subject to the availability of club resources, and take up by members.

Some of these ideas are not easy quick fixes, but I promise I, or one of the other committee members will respond on every one of them, I will try to address a few of them myself, but many of them will depend on people stepping up to help out.

We will be looking at the full results of the Survey at the Committee meeting on 17th August and I will report back to you again after that.

Here is a list summarising the issues that were raised in comments and suggestions, the numbers in brackets are the number of people who made the same or similar comment;

1. The most common comments praised the club, the friendliness of the members and what it offered (over 20)
2. More rides for working members and others with restricted time, (6) perhaps with café stop at the end. (1) weekends (2) Sunday (1)
3. 100+ mile rides (3) every month (1) occasionally (2)

4. More advanced notice of rides on the Register, especially get together rides, longer, complex, train return rides and short/weekend breaks etc (3)
5. Please give full information about ride on the Register (2) especially speed, distance (1) and surfaces (1)
6. More Thursday rides (2)
7. Hill Climb coaching, general riding technique training (2)
8. Try some club walks or hikes (1)
9. Do more audax rides (2) together (1)
10. More social rides and social non-ride events, especially in summer (2)
11. Not enough "other" club activities organised by Committee, no specifics given (1)
12. Club tour of Japan (1)
13. One leader offered to lead rides based on members preferences (1)
14. What please are freewheels? (Freewheel competitions are a bit of fun where you push off at the top of a long hill and see who can freewheel (no pedalling) the farthest.)
15. Please send out more surveys (1). (Not sure if this was a wind up or not!)
16. Ride preferences are complex. I go faster on short rides, slower on long (1)
17. The large number of women members is very positive.
18. ABC needs to consider better representation on committee for female members (1)
19. Suggest a Joint Female club captain (1)
20. ABC could encourage more younger and more diverse members (1)
21. Are e-bikers welcome? (YES, we have several already who ride with us regularly!)