

West Surrey AGM

Saturday 29th October

Moving to Affiliated Club Status

Questions & Answers

Question	Answer
What is Affiliated Club Status?	These are cycling clubs that operate independently of Cycling UK but still follow Cycling UK guidance in order to fulfil insurance requirements.
Why is the Committee discussing this?	<p>It is acknowledged that much good work is being done by Cycling UK to encourage cycling and create a better environment for cycling.</p> <p>However, there have been worrying changes to the CTC (now Cycling UK) over recent years. The removal of member benefits, changes to governance, and disregard of members' views are some examples of concerns raised by Committee members.</p> <p>Many groups feel similarly disenfranchised and as a result a number have moved to affiliated status; and more are in the process of so doing.</p>
Why is this being raised at the AGM?	The Committee recognises that its prime responsibility is towards the interests of our WSCTC members. Therefore we do need to know how you want us to proceed.
What are the pros & cons?	<p>On the positive side, a move to Affiliated status would provide almost complete independence, and club membership would be a nominal fee of around £5 a year. Potentially this considerably lower cost might attract younger members – one of the Committee's goals.</p> <p>On the negative side, it is possible we would lose our accumulated treasury (see below).</p> <p>There would also be some changes to insurance arrangements, which may require action on the part of our members (see below). Unless they remained CUK members, there would also be the loss of the magazine and legal advice.</p>

<p>What about insurance?</p>	<p>There are two types of third party insurance cover provided through Cycling UK: firstly for ride leaders and event organisers, and secondly for individuals (whether riding by themselves or on a club ride) through their annual membership subscription. The level of cover is £10 million.</p> <p>The new club would make a payment of £75 a year to be affiliated to Cycling UK, and this would cover ride leaders and organisers (for £10 million) provided we continue to adhere to Cycling UK guidelines (our own ride leader guidelines are in fact more onerous).</p> <p>The new club would ask all our riders to confirm they have third party insurance. This could be arranged by the rider continuing to be a member of Cycling UK (£10 million), or by checking their home contents insurance cover (typically this automatically provides third party insurance of around £2 million), or by paying for cycling insurance through membership of another cycling organisation (for example, the London Cycling Campaign offer £ 5 million third party cover for £9.50).</p> <p>Guest riders (and the ride leader) are presently covered if a guest form is completed ahead of the ride. If we moved to Affiliated status the ride leader would be covered but not the guest rider (who - in any case - should check their insurance cover before going on any ride).</p> <p>There is a separate note available on Insurance.</p>
<p>Will we lose our club funds?</p>	<p>The Cycling UK charter states that if we moved to Affiliated club status we would be obliged to return all funds accumulated in our treasury, of which at least 50% has been generated through the club's own efforts, such as the Tour of the Hills.</p> <p>It is possible we could negotiate the retention of some funds which would then be transferred to the Affiliated entity.</p>
<p>How will the change to affiliated status affect my eligibility for CTC Holidays tours?</p>	<p>The booking form for tours requests a CUK or ECF membership number. If you regularly participate in CTC holiday tours it would seem sensible to retain your CUK membership (the argument being that the additional payment of £43 to retain membership (£26 for seniors) is not significant</p>

	<p>when compared with the overall cost of the tour). Sustrans is an affiliate of ECF and this may be an alternative route.</p>
<p>What about branding?</p>	<p>This would not be an immediate issue but we would likely rebrand to a similar club name (e.g. West Surrey Cycling Club) when we placed an order for new cycling gear.</p>
<p>Won't this fragment the Group?</p>	<p>This is the Committee's biggest concern, and the last thing we would want. It is true that some members feel so strongly about this matter that they intend to terminate their CUK membership anyway and unless we move to Affiliated club status these few members will be lost to us.</p> <p>However we do not wish to take any action that results in wider fragmentation of our Group.</p>
<p>What are the next steps if the AGM recommends a move to Affiliated club status?</p>	<p>The Committee would draw up detailed plans and then call a General Meeting to vote on the matter.</p> <p>If this vote is in favour of a move, in summary we would then constitute a new club, form a new committee (in parallel to the existing one), organise a bank account, establish a payment system (cost £60 a year), and pay the CUK affiliation fee. Existing members would sign up to the new club and arrange their own third party insurance (as discussed above). We would need to make some changes to the existing website.</p> <p>All our rides would continue to be organised as at present. Ride leaders would – we hope – elect to be members of the new club, and would continue to adhere to ride leader guidelines in order to ensure continued insurance cover through CUK.</p> <p>We would need to negotiate the retention of at least some of our hard earned funds but there is no guarantee this would be successful.</p> <p>Once the new club is firmly established we would dissolve the existing Cycling UK member group.</p>