

FLAMME ROUGE

R A C I N G



presents the

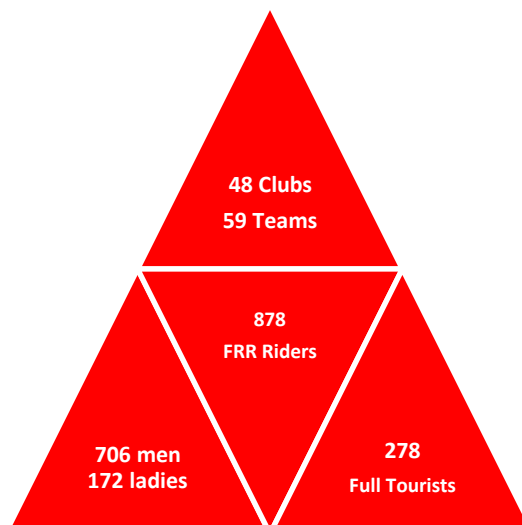
FRR Event Report

Series 2

Tour Britannia

Nov 26 – Dec 4

V20221205.1



Thank you everyone...

This week has been another great week of racing across all the classes with very few issues to report – PEN C aside but that's covered in the observations and changes a little later, so please take a moment to read through as there are a couple of new things.

Once again, the level of engagement across emails, direct messages, Facebook posts and increased use of our Discord server was really good. Over the course of the week we are one big group in it together, hence we look to react quickly where change is needed as the Tour sometimes needs to adapt to conditions perhaps not anticipated – but always for the right reason – in much the same way as an IRL event changes route if a road is closed.

The Tour Series offers everyone something GC, Team, Polka, Sprint, mixed, gender or simply to do all stages and go further than they ever thought they could. Do you have come first, no – there is so much more than that...

Looking across the results there were so many great performances across the classes, after hours of racing generating results that were simply amazing across all competitions – separated by seconds or handfuls of points which went right down to the wire on Stage 8...which is how it should be - [Tour Britannia Podium Report](#)

But as we did in France, not all great performances make the podium – the **Readhead** award is made for riders who went above and beyond on the Tour. Over the course of the week two riders showed that they have what it takes to succeed since they chose events which mostly resulted them performing each stage as an iTT – but rather than being put off they completed the Tour.

Congratulations to both **Jessica Kaiser** and **Angela Stevenson** your effort has not gone unnoticed you both went above and beyond, and I very much hope to see you again in Watopia.

I want to thank everyone who has taken the time to send funds through the [FRR GoFundMe](#) page, we do not push this and mention it only in passing as we all have our lives to live and I know we are all living in a much harder economic period than most can ever remember. I'm honoured that you let me into your lives each Series and appreciate every donation and ounce of perspiration.

As you may know 20% of donations received will be used to support causes World Wide and we have now linked up with our chosen charity [Cyclists Fighting Cancer](#)

So as the Tour van puts the shutters down for now, we head off for [Tour Watopia](#) which starts Jan 2nd and has 8 stages in 8 days with 2 on the first day.. just remember to update your Profile to indicate you want to ride as we need to help managers understand who is in this time.

Friday December 9 the Watopia Schedule will show up so those interesting course names will get a reveal and of course don't forget to keep looking for the 'World Trophée' Stage 2 reveal

which is going on over the run up to Christmas on the Facebook event group and the web home page.

Finally, I want to wish you all a great festive season and look forward to seeing you Watopia, please keep an eye on the Notice Board as this will get updates when announcements are made on the Facebook Event Group.

See you very soon!

Richard

And Supporting FRR Team

Join us in the [FRR Facebook Event Group](#) and we also have a [FRR Discord](#) server

What's next....

- FRR has events during the week which will test the new features for the Tour Series so look out for those
- **Tour Watopia** kicks off Jan 2nd, 8 stages 8 days....the schedule will be released (and as such the courses) 10am Dec 9th
- **FRR World Trophée Feb 11th – 2 Stages back to back (Refer to Schedule page) 1 race time for all FRHC classifications for all riders**
 - o **Complete Registration by 4 Feb 2359GMT**
To do this in your Profile
 - Tick the '**World Trophée**' event entry box
 - Ensure your rider key details are up to date to Feb 4th
 - Mixed CAT
 - Ladies CAT
 - Weight
 - NP Power
 - Gender
- **World Tour** is our Grand Tour Finale, 2 weeks – exact date needs to be agreed that will be epic in every sense.
- **World League announcements coming on what this is and when.....**

Event Lessons Learned

If you have any additional observations then please contact [Race Control](#)

Reminder Our Tour Ethos...

- Multi day stage event where fatigue comes into play
- Remove game features and level the playing field
- Rider engagement from Stage 1 to the end
 - Mixed Team racing
 - Your Race Your Way – Race any event each stage
 - Fairer narrower racing Classes
 - Race starts appropriate to your own level
- Engage riders of all levels
- Fair, honest and respectful racing

Feedback Point	Comments
Event PENs and AUTOCAT	PEN C caused much discussion for several reasons. First, some 'C' riders were prevented from joining it because Zwift cat enforcement judges them differently therefore some CAY riders had no choice but to join the other pen. Second, rider numbers were down (address that later) in the CAY/JLP classes as such despite making provisions for all regions early morning and evening the pens were too light which ultimately affected the quality of race in those smaller fields – but massive kudos to all those that took on small races to do the stages. Feedback on the pens in general was pretty split with the balance just tipped in favour of having separate pens especially where numbers allowed. Ultimately, we used separate pens to give riders a start at their own speed rather than force riders to try and blast out and hang on However, this only works if a PEN has 30+ in the pen. Where there were too few riders GC times were heavily affected and that was unfair especially if the choice of time was dictated by life.
	CHANGE For Watopia based on the experience of Britannia we will only offer PEN C where we know or expect there to be sufficient riders to produce a competitive peloton speed (ie. the 1730 event from Britannia) all other race times will offer a single PEN.

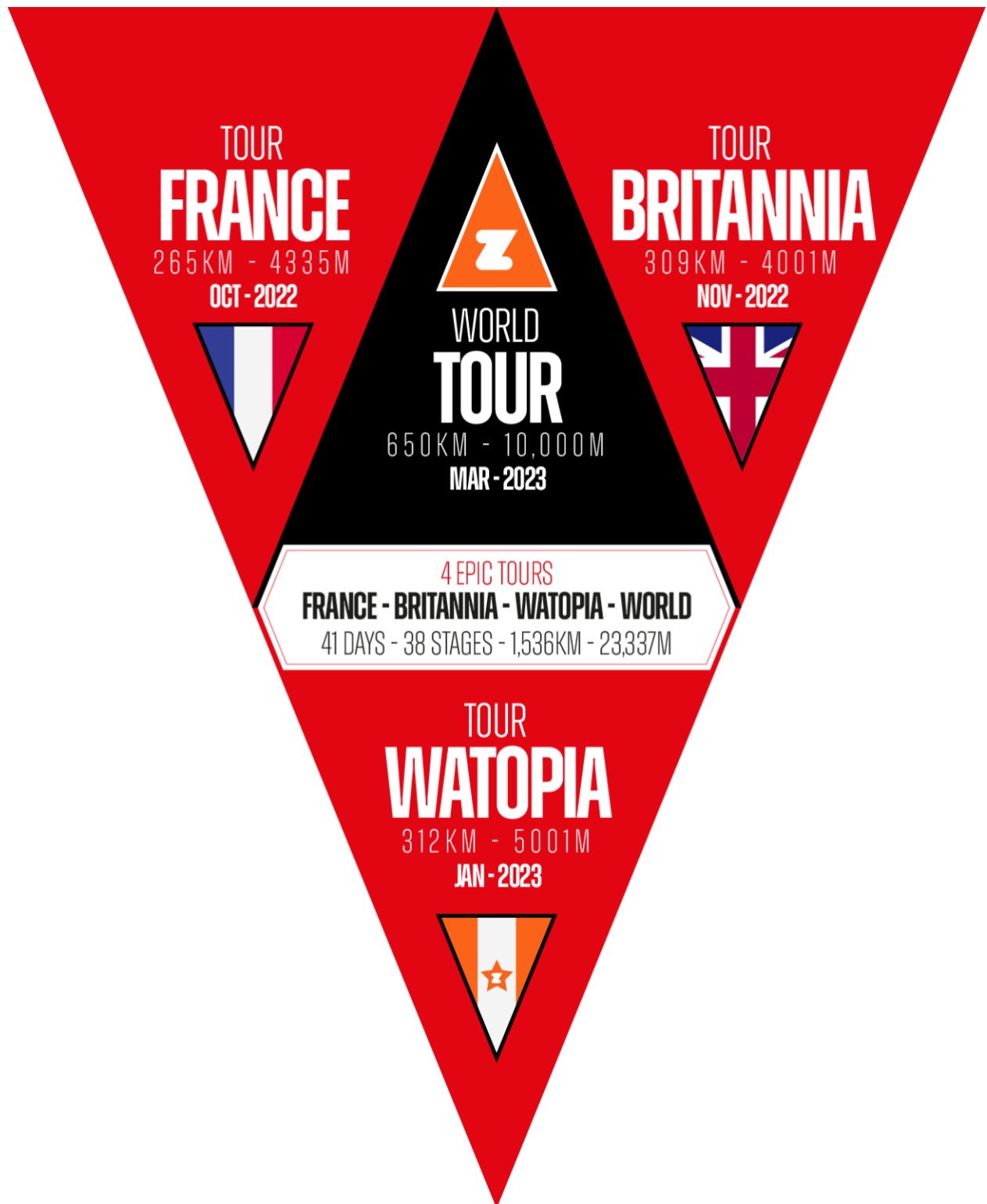
	PEN C when in use will set off 5 mins BEFORE A so riders are not instantly doing an iTT, furthermore dropped A PEN riders have something to push towards to. Riders can choose which PEN they want to race out of, if a BON rider wants to ride out of PEN C they can.
Event Times	Event times will be reduced and tweaked to reflect where the largest volume of riders have proved to be consistently on the Tours. CHANGE Times will be (UTC). Weekdays: 0630 / 1045 / 1400 / 1730 / 1830 / 0030 / 0230 Weekends: 0700 / 1100 / 1400 / 1700 / 1830 / 0030
Flamme Rouge	One for the memory everlasting. Now whenever you are watching a race on TV as rider's pass under the 1km banner and the commentator says 'Flamme Rouge' you will think of FRR.
FRHC calculation	FRHC classification, for perfect classification, relies on riders inputting up to date values. Existing riders who raced in FRR had their numbers set and Team managers were given the ability to review and update pre-Tour.... Some teams did others not so much... We need to address this to reduce the number of reviews and upgrades we process during a Tour. In the main when other Teams look and query a rider (and they do) NP numbers were too low and normally because of performances just before the Tour started. CHANGE (1) FRHC explanation to be added to the rulebook this will hopefully provide sufficient information for riders to understand the broad process and why riders who push over a class baseline are not upgraded. (2) A new Menu option titled 'Verification' will be provided for all riders to verify their Profile key metrics – once a rider has verified their Profile, their FRHC is calculated AND all TourPass's will show on the Schedule page.

	Responsibility is very much on riders to get their numbers right, however we will continue to allow Team managers the ability to review and verify their riders. Verification will be extended for the World Trophée event to add any requested biometric checks or links to videos etc...
FRHC rider grading	FRHC grading will be reviewed based on the experience of Britannia. No glaring issues this time except where riders base numbers to grade themselves was just not correct. That said the JLP band is the widest class and we want to address this by adding a NEW 8th rider classification to offer the lower powered D Category riders their own space to race. The exact baseline will be reviewed and updated in the rulebook for Watopia. CHANGE New PEPPERONCINI (PEP) class to be introduced
GC & Race Time	Combining results across races in general works, however it was very evident that to be the top GC performer or place high in the virtual peloton result then you 100% needed to be in the big races of the day... they were simply faster. The method is right, the option to race any time is right we will see if more numbers and less time slots increases the pen sizes and as such evens out the races times. It is noticeable that there are really 2 broad types of Tour rider. (1) The rider who just wants to complete the series and happy to race any time that allows them to do this (2) The rider at the top end of their class who has to race in the largest groups to ensure a competitive time.
Personal Touch	No change – we answered every email and I'm pleased to report that we had ZERO complaints just positivity... FRR is personal to me as such the level of thought and care to evolve and have the best racing experience for all levels is at the utmost of my thoughts all the time. FRR is a Global family and together we can create great events.

Race results	No issues beyond the odd data hiccup, I'm sure when I read book 6 I can make presentation even better... but that may take until Series 3 as Santa is the next priority and I'm not going to tinker with too much so close to Watopia.
Rider Segment Gender split	Worked well and gave real incentive to everyone to fight for every point.
Rider entry fees	Our Tours remain free and I can't really see that changing however if you like the experience and feel that you want to donate then please use the FRR GoFundMe page.
Rider numbers	Overall numbers were down, I'm sure there were many reasons for this, from ZRL cross over, Thanks giving and life in general – hopefully we will see numbers increase in January. However, we did not offer a positive acceptance for Britannia – for Watopia the rider Profile has been updated to show a new tick box for each Tour so we and managers can understand who has positively registered. CHANGE New registration tick box in the rider Profile for Tour Watopia
Rider Upgrade	Leading riders will be reviewed and may earn themselves a new higher FRHC challenge for the next Tour. Be the best you can be.
Team Combine	In the final days before the Tour kicks off we combined smaller Teams with larger Teams to enable those riders to have a Team element for the Tour. This is something we want to continue however to make things a little easier anyone who has a 'Manager' role will have a new option to 'Tick' to indicate that combining Teams is acceptable to them. CHANGE Add Team Combine tick box to manager profiles, default is NO
Verification penalty	Over the course of the Tour there are always performances at the top level that raise question and require verification. It may well be

	down to equipment calibration, lower level tech and inaccurate watts or the worst case riders playing a virtual game. Not everyone can dual record and given we do this fun and not \$\$ then we have to be relatively pragmatic about performances too. That said we have now developed a proactive method of dealing with situations where performance appears out of the ordinary, this worked well in Britannia. CHANGE For performances that cannot be explained or verified riders finish and segment times are penalised up to 10% in time depending on the situation.
Your Race Your Way	No change but we will remove the less populated times and hope that those riders can join one of the other races.

You know you need these badge's....



**FRR
1**

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

**1900 UTC
11-FEB-2023**

CAN YOU BECOME A **FRHC** CHAMPION
COMBINED STAGE TIME = WINNER

1 EVENT - 2 STAGES - BACK TO BACK

STAGE 1 BOLOGNA ITT **8KM**

STAGE 2 WATOPIA PEAKS RACE **60KM**

Registration Closes February 4 2023 - 23:59 UTC
All riders will be assessed to ensure FRHC Classes are correct
Register at www.flammerougeracing.com