

Terrible Two 2003 Results

Finally: a Terrible Two that is truly terrible

Mark down June 28, 2003 as the day the Terrible Two returned to its roots. The traditional triple whammy of this hardest of all double centuries has always been miles (200), hills (over 16,000'), and heat (100?+). But for the past ten years, the heat has been missing...a non-factor. Year after year, the day of the event has dodged the bullet: it has been hot on Friday or Sunday, but never on Saturday. It got so bad (or so good), we had to strike the "100" line off the back of the TT t-shirts. An entire generation of Terrible Two participants had never experienced the ride in all its sick, infamous glory...until now.

All that changed this year, as riders saut'ed themselves on the sizzling griddle of Skaggs Springs after lunch. On-bike thermometers were reading as high as 118° over that entire section, and the roadside was littered with stationary, glassy-eyed riders...either done for the day or husbanding their depleted stores of energy against one more hot climb, and then one more after that. It was nearly as hot on the exposed sections of the Geysers before lunch too, with triple digit readings common. As bad as it was though, it could have been a lot worse! The official high on the day for Cloverdale - which is what we use as our annual benchmark - was 'only' 98°. It had been well over 100° on Thursday and Friday preceding the ride. And if 98° in Cloverdale translated to 118° on Skaggs, think what it must have been like in our last hot years '92 and '93 - when the official highs were 106° and 108° respectively. In fact, some TT vets, who remember those nasty old rides, claim this edition was "not that bad" in comparison. And for those who survived the gauntlet on Skaggs, it was cool - even nearly cold - on the foggy coast. Such are the extremes of Sonoma County's microclimates.

Ancient history aside, this ride was hot enough for anyone, and too hot for many. A comparison to last year's mild weather and fast times is instructive. Last year, when the mercury never climbed out of the 80's, 80% of the starting field finished by 10:00 pm. This year only 64% made it in time to claim their "I Did It!" t-shirts. Last year, if you had finished in 14 hours, you would have been in 77th place. This year, 14 hours would have been good for 45th. Generally speaking, the blistering weather added an average of an hour to most riders' times, depending on how well they coped with the heat.

2002's big dog Brian Anderson of Santa Rosa backed up his record-setting time from last year (10:50) with another first place finish, this time in a more sedate 11:13. He finished with Jeff Landauer, who was leading the California Triple Crown Stage Race going into the TT. Rohnert Park's Robert Choi was right behind Jeff in the Stage Race standings, and that's exactly where he stayed: he finished 17 minutes behind Jeff on the TT, so Landauer wrapped up the Stage Race and Choi finished second.

Pat Ross of Richmond was the first woman finisher at 12:38 (good for 15th overall). That's not counting last year's winner Catharina Berge, who this year finished in 11:42 (tied for 6th overall), but did it on the back seat of Paul McKenzie's tandem, breaking the record for a co-ed tandem. The former record of 12:21 had been set by Paul, with pro racer Sara Ballantyne as stoker. The new co-ed record is in fact the record for all tandems, eclipsing the men's tandem record by 10 minutes. Pretty impressive, considering the harsh conditions. One other record was set on this day as well: Sunnyvale's James Kern set a new recumbent record of 13:53 for the 200-mile course, bettering Bruce DeBell's mark of 14:29. The 'bent crowd still has a way to go though to beat Eric House's time of 12:53, set on the old 211-mile course. Also deserving a special mention was Derek Kuda of Fairfield, who completed the ride in 16:26 on a single-speed mountain bike. Not a fixed-gear, but nevertheless, an amazing accomplishment on such a hilly circuit.

Overall, there were 242 official starters...not a record but right up there with our other biggest fields of 252 in 2001 and 245 in 2000. Of those, 177 completed the course, 156 by the traditional cut-off of 10:00 pm. There was only one significant accident, and it was a rather fluke one: a tired rider fumbling with a package of Tums toppled over on the slow climb on Black Mountain and broke his hip. As far as we know, there were no accidents caused by sketchy pack riding or by overzealous descending on the usual, suspect slopes. This may be an all-time low for serious accidents.

Many riders at the finish lavished praise on the support personnel who helped them get the job done under very trying conditions. We heard repeated hosannahs for the cold towels at the Skaggs Springs water stop...real lifesavers for many suffering souls. Sag drivers, rest stop crews, dinner crews, and even the radio staff...all came in for their share of thanks from the grateful but weary road warriors. We like to think the Terrible Two is not only the hardest double, but also the best supported. That may seem oxymoronic at first glance, but isn't really. The event is hard because of the inherent challenge of the landscape: the miles, the steep climbs, and- sometimes- the brutal heat. It shouldn't be hard because our crew ran out of food or supplements or water. So hats off to both the riders who finished this grueling marathon, and to the volunteers who helped them do it.

262	registered riders			
242	official starters			
177	official finishers			
156 (64%)	by 10:00 pm " <i>I Did It!</i> " cut-off			
Place	Name	Age	Home Town	Elapsed Time
1	Brian Anderson	33	Santa Rosa	11:13
	Jeff Landauer	35	Roseville	
3	Robert Choi	42	Rohnert Park	11:30
	Shaun Locker	37	Lafayette	
5	Om Dixon	37	San Rafael	11:41
6	Barley Forsman	31	Cotati	11:42
	Charlie Miller	42	Saratoga	
	Paul McKenzie (Tandem)	48	Richmond	
	Catharina Berge (Tandem)	36	Visalia	
9	Mark Reimer	38	Chico	11:43
10	Robin Tiner	36	Santa Cruz	12:05
	Barney Wilson	42	Cool	
12	Tao Bernardi	36	Dublin	12:28
	Bill Ellis	44	Rio Nido	
	Graham Pollock	35	Folsom	
15	Pat Ross	39	Richmond	12:38
	Robert Wagner	39	Fairfax	
17	Janet Christiansen	42	Poway	12:53
	Kenneth Holloway	50	San Jose	
19	Robert McDaniel	35	Palo Alto	12:58
	Reid Walden	52	San Francisco	
21	David Hoag	38	San Jose	12:59
	Douglas McKenzie	43	Santa Rosa	
	Kenneth Philbrick	25	Seattle, WA	
	Daniel Stahlmann	24	Minn, MN	
25	Louis Garcia	46	Santa Rosa	13:00
26	Preston Booker	40	Santa Rosa	13:06
27	Jennie Phillips	41	Danville	13:11
28	Derek Dial	33	Mount Shasta	13:20
	Ed Keller	49	Loomis	
	David King	38	Galt	
	Gilbert Martinez	47	Fair Oaks	
	Timothy Woudenberg	45	Moss Beach	
	Doug Grattan (Tandem)	40	Gardnerville, NV	
Carol Breed (Tandem)	47	Gardnerville, NV		

Place	Name	Age	Home Town	Elapsed Time
34	Dan Barrus	54	Woodland	13:32
	Carl Poppe	36	Sebastopol	
	Bill Ripke	39	Pinole	
	Craig Robertson	45	Los Altos	
38	Brett Goett	37	Scottsdale, AZ	13:33
39	Brian Bowling	29	Laguna Niguel	13:53
	Peter Burnett	40	Chicago Park	
	Paul Guttenberg	44	Davis	
	James Kern (Recumbent)	44	Sunnyvale	
43	David Holt	51	Laguna Niguel	13:55
44	Ronald Lew	36	Fair Oaks	13:57
45	Scott Davis	37	Rohnert Park	14:15
	Jerry Hoge	44	Stockton	
	Greg Lester	48	Cazadero	
48	Leann Warren	42	Portland, OR	14:16
49	Rob Schmidt	44	Palo Alto	14:17
	Jeremy Rozen	31	Fairfax	
51	Tom Long	56	Piedmont	14:25
	Michael Pope	41	Auburn	
	Rich Boettner (Tandem)	36	Davis	
	Daryn Dodge (Tandem)	43	Davis	
54	Peter Morrissey	39	Oakland	14:31
55	Doug Simon	44	Santa Rosa	14:38
56	Richard West	55	Bellingham, WA	14:43
57	Bruce Berg	56	Berkeley	14:44
	Steve Goldbeck	48	San Francisco	
	Charles Kaye	50	Scottsdale, AZ	
	Rebecca McClellan	44	San Rafael	
	Jerry Ridge	46	Hayward	
62	Keith White	53	El Cerrito	14:46
63	Peter Farrell	35	Petaluma	14:48
	Kevin Keenan	47	Woodside	
65	Mark Abrahams	47	Berkeley	14:51
	Rollin Feld	46	Bolinas	
	Jeffrey Gould	29	Palo Alto	
	Brett Lider	25	San Francisco	
	Eric Ostendorff	42	Torrance	
70	Larry Bolander	58	Pacifica	14:59
71	Howard Schnirman	38	S.R	15:01
72	Chris Browder	45	Shasta Lake	15:02
	Eric Hall	31	San Francisco	
74	James Shupe	46	Willits	15:03
75	Susan Forsman	32	Cotati	15:06
	Mac Imacseng	46	Sunnyvale	
	Dan Spano	50	Zephyr Cove	
	Les Speckert	49	So. Lake Tahoe	
79	Elaine Astrue	37	Mountain View	15:10
	Michael Sokolsky	41	San Mateo	
81	Joe Gorin	52	Santa Rosa	15:12

Place	Name	Age	Home Town	Elapsed Time
82	David Baird	44	San Mateo	15:16
	Patrick Garner	43	Vacaville	
84	Richard Ballard	45	Santa Rosa	15:18
	John Clare	61	Long Beach	
	Leland Gee	48	Santa Rosa	
	Jerry Hlebo	46	Salinas	
	Ken Marsh	47	Los Angeles	
	Ian Prowell	26	Lafayette	
	Todd Trowbridge	41	Los Altos	
91	Mark Birnbaum	50	Novato	15:20
92	Everitt Chock	39	Fremont	15:23
	William Holzapfel	38	Berkeley	
94	Tony Fitzpatrick	52	Tiburon	15:24
	Eric Norris	43	Davis	
	John Quarterman	42	San Francisco	
	Roopinder Tara	46	Novato	
98	Bryan Alders	17	Tahoe City	15:25
	Doug Springer	49	Windsor	
100	Tom Kuhn	43	Sebastopol	15:26
	Robert Redmond	43	Petaluma	
	Tom Rieber	30	Venice	
103	Theresa Lynch	37	Palo Alto	15:32
	Joseph Vella	43	Santa Cruz	
105	Steve Berry	57	Brisbane	15:35
	Colin Lynch	48	San Rafael	
	Michael Maxey	32	Novato	
108	David Neff	55	Fair Oaks	15:38
109	Richard Coyle	44	Granite Bay	15:42
110	Sean Smith	23	Danville	15:44
	Paul Vlasveld	43	San Jose	
112	Zach Kaplan (Recumbent)	33	Alameda	15:53
113	Mark Parish	40	Chino Hills	15:54
114	Michael Arreguin	38	Sacramento	15:56
115	Margie Biddick	44	Aptos	15:58
	Paul Detering	46	Los Altos	
	Charles Whyte	50	Santa Clara	
118	Timothy Houck	54	Pleasanton	15:59
119	David Burns	53	Granite Bay	16:02
	Jaw Ching	40	Palo Alto	
	Steve Lausmann	49	Citrus Hts	
122	Jonathan Berk	41	Berkeley	16:03
123	Nicole Honda	36	San Mateo	16:04
	Tim Mason	42	Davis	
	Todd Teachout	45	Hercules	
126	Darrel Lager	56	Livermore	16:05
	Charles Noyes	49	Berkeley	
128	Robert Okano	37	San Jose	16:07
129	Donald Cartwright	47	Berkeley	16:09

Place	Name	Age	Home Town	Elapsed Time
130	John Fuoco	47	Lewistown, PA	16:12
	Tom Gandesbery	41	Piedmont	
	Tim Neil	35	Santa Rosa	
	Ernie Perreira	34	Windsor	
134	Thomas McCoin	36	El Dorado Hills	16:15
135	Tony Mainz	44	Paradise	16:16
136	John Axtell	42	Minden, NV	16:17
	Mary Page	50	Portland, OR	
138	Mark Gunther	52	San Francisco	16:18
	Ken Johnson	50	Sacramento	
140	Dave Farey	47	San Rafael	16:19
	Larry Tomasson	55	Santa Rosa	
142	Michael Bayer	36	Saratoga	16:21
	Chuck Bramwell	51	Irvine	
	Karl Huie	38	Tiburon	
	Mark Tamanaha	34	San Francisco	
	Bruce Taylor	53	Alta Loma	
147	Chris Nutter	34	San Francisco	16:25
	Jonathan Tupy	35	San Francisco	
149	Derek Kuda (1-speed)	36	Fairfield	16:26
150	Raymond Kido	42	Bakersfield	16:27
	Craig Wilson	50	Eureka	
	Gary Wysocky	46	Santa Rosa	
153	Peter Kellner	45	San Jose	16:29
	Ross Tomita	37	Sacramento	
155	Tom Bahlo	47	Los Altos	16:30
	Michael Star	43	Santa Rosa	
157	Mark Dehanke	55	Glendale, AZ	16:43
	Jeff Griffo	42	Homewood	
	Michael Sturgill	44	Phoenix, AZ	
	Tertius Thakar	41	San Francisco	
161	Dean Alleger	38	Sacramento	16:46
162	Robert Buntrock	38	Byron	16:54
	Jack Holmgren	50	Oakland	
	Jeanine Spence	38	Fresno	
165	Lori Cherry	45	Fresno	17:00
	Med Cram	40	Roseville	
	David Leonard	50	Sacramento	
	Paul Snyder	50	Berkeley	
169	Anthony Beach	41	Redwood City	17:10
170	Jacqueline Crist		Danville	17:11
	Shirley Pfeifer	49	Foster City	
	Lyresa Pleskovitch	37	E Palo Alto	
173	Edward Nunes	47	New York, NY	17:12
	Jeff Schweningen	49	E Palo Alto	
175	Jonathan Tallerico	31	Palo Alto	17:20
176	Geoffrey Hastings	44	San Francisco	17:30
	Scott Wing	26	Santa Rosa	

Notes:

Shaded entries donote female riders