

Mild weather a boon to the riders on 2009 Terrible Two

The 2009 edition of the Terrible Two double Century turned out to be not so terrible, thanks to pleasant, mild weather. Our traditional benchmark is the official high for the day in Cloverdale, near the midpoint of the ride. On the day of the ride—June 20, Summer Solstice—it was 80°, with patchy clouds and a persistent but not too powerful wind out of the northwest. That wind made for some moderately challenging headwind legs early on—usually where smart riders could find shelter in a group—and then helpful tailwinds later, down the coast and back inland to the finish.

All of those essentially favorable elements added up to a very user-friendly day for most riders and a near-record finishing rate of just under 80%. (That is for riders finishing by our traditional 10:00 pm cut-off. There were 221 starters. Including five tandems, one fixie and one 'bent. 176 entrants made it in by ten, with another six finishing within the next half hour.) This rate of success is not unprecedented. We saw a finishing rate of just over 80% in 2002—the year both the men's and women's course records were set—and 79% in '99 and '00. But it is in contrast to the wicked heat of last year, which resulted in a finishing rate of 54%.

If you've followed the TT in recent years, you won't be surprised to learn that Santa Rosa's Brian Anderson was once again the first rider to arrive back at Analy High School. Robbed of his shot at seven straight wins last year, thanks to three late-ride flats, he was back in charge this year. His progress followed the now well-known pattern of taking it easy early and pouring on the coal late. He arrived at the Geysers rest stop in a group of three, behind 17 other riders. At lunch, rookie Kevin Spaecht and second-year rider Fred Berghout checked in first at 11:18. Four more riders arrived five minutes later and another five riders five minutes after that. Two more another three minutes back, and then Anderson cruised in alone, looking completely unruffled and cheerful. He was in and out of the lunch stop in under a minute and hit the killing fields of Skaggs Springs ready for the real ride to begin.

He whittled the 13-minute deficit at lunch down to four minutes at the Gualala River checkpoint (passing everyone except the two leaders somewhere in between), and then he caught them on the Rancheria Wall. Spaecht lost contact immediately, but Berghout hung with Anderson all the way to Fort Ross, before that last, steep climb saw Anderson begin to pull away to what would become a 12-minute margin at the end. (Put another way, he did the second half at least 25 minutes faster than his nearest competitor.) His time of 11:11 is the same as his time in his last win in 2007, but is five minutes slower than his time from 2006, our first year with the new course of exactly 200 miles.

There were only 14 women starters, not counting all five stokers. Ten of them finished. Rookie Donna Nice was first in at 13:53, 39 minutes ahead of Elizabeth Tenuto. Four of the five tandems finished, led home by Troy and Karen Taylor of Napa in a time of 13:56. Steve Smead brought the fixie in with a time of 13:25, lopping almost an hour off the fixie record he set last year.

Kenneth Price was the oldest finisher at 66 (we had 11 finishers over 60), and SRCC's Matt Wilson was once again the youngest finisher at 20, logging a good time in spite of a hard fall near the first rest stop. Although we didn't see new course records on this relatively comfortable day—except for that fixie mark—we did see many riders carving big chunks off their personal bests, leading to great joy and satisfaction at the finish line. But it's important to remember that, even on the nicest day, the TT course is still a cruel and brutal taskmaster, and it still took quite a few riders to the woodshed for some hard lessons about reality trumping agendas. Never imagine that this is an easy ride. If there are any chinks in your armor, any flaws in your game plan, this course will find them and crack them wide open.

Speaking of cracks, we had only one serious injury on the day, with a rider going down on Oakville Cross and breaking her arm. Two other riders were seen rolling around in the tall grass after flying off the road, but both survived their tumbles and finished.

On a more positive note, it was a treat to see one of the event's founders, Rod Mowbray, visiting the TT this year. He and his wife had come to see their son Ryan take part for the first time. 30 years ago, in 1979, Rod had to rush home after winning the TT to be on hand for the birth of his son. Now that boy is a man and doing the ride himself. Those are family values we can believe in.

Much has been made over the years of the special esprit de corps that pervades the TT, bonding riders to one another in their shared struggles and binding the riders to the cheerfully efficient support crew in a way that has to be experienced first-hand to be fully appreciated. You won't find quite this same atmosphere at any other event. It's that special energy, as much as the beautiful and challenging course, that keeps us all coming back, year after year. We hope to see you all again next year.

2009 Terrible Two Results-Final

24 June 2009

Ordinal	Time	Bib	Name	Comment
1	11:11	7	Brian Anderson, 39	Santa Rosa
2	11:23	20	Fred Berghout, 39	Menlo Park
3	11:26	84	Jamie Goldstein, 36	Santa Cruz
	11:26	203	Kevin Spaecht, 36	Chico
5	11:41	65	Bob Fisher, 53	Spokane, WA
	11:41	147	Marc Moons, 43	Petaluma
	11:41	219	Rob Treadwell, 45	Burbank
8	11:54	22	Tao Bernardi, 42	Dublin
	11:54	167	Giampaolo Pesce, 44	Santa Rosa
	11:54	239	Bob Gade,	Berkeley
11	11:58	37	Peter Burnett, 46	Chicago Park
12	12:02	171	Graham Pollock, 41	Folsom
13	12:03	28	Dan Boyle, 39	Santa Rosa
14	12:12	123	Tony Lee, 50	Petaluma
	12:12	139	Douglas Mckenzie, 49	Santa Rosa
16	12:25	73	Jim Frink, 46	Folsom
	12:25	161	Michael Ogul, 53	Kensington
18	12:32	17	Josh Beisel, 26	Redwood City
	12:32	78	Philippe Gauthier, 27	San Francisco
	12:32	155	Paul Neussl, 48	Eagle Point, OR
	12:32	175	Bill Pratt, 42	Berkeley
22	12:41	24	Rob Bishop, 42	Chico
	12:41	222	Jeffrey Tuttle, 38	Los Angeles
24	12:43	233	Matthew Wilson, 20	Santa Rosa
25	12:46	184	Craig Robertson, 51	Los Altos
26	12:46	30	Williamson Bradford, 47	Ross
	12:46	56	A. Mattson Davis, 45	San Francisco
	12:46	140	Scott Mckinney, 43	Sacramento
	12:46	211	Curtis Taylor, 37	Folsom
30	12:55	76	Michael Gaiman, 25	San Francisco
31	13:01	170	Massimiliano Poletto, 36	San Francisco
32	13:08	195	Mark Sedgwick, 47	Santa Rosa
	13:08	165	Chris Pemberton, 35	Oakland
34	13:13	25	Guy Bondi,	,
35	13:15	213	Tommy Taylor, 34	Fort Collins, CO
	13:19	40	Ken Cabeen, 46	Sebastopol
	13:20	208	Reid Swanson, 39	San Ramon

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Ordinal	Time	Bib	Name	Comment
38	13:21	35	Robert Buntrock, 44	Discovery Bay
	13:21	124	Greg Lester, 54	Cazadero
	13:21	69	Mckay Florence, 45	Loomis
41	13:24	80	Leland Gee, 54	Santa Rosa
42	13:25	201	Steve Smead, 45	Lincoln
	13:28	94	Vince Herrera, 39	Cloverdale
44	13:30	178	Anthony Quinn, 55	Salt Lake City, UT
45	13:36	41	Bruce Carroll, 54	Oakland
	13:36	119	Karl Kuhn, 53	Windsor
47	13:40	58	Robert Duchynski, 44	Santa Rosa
	13:40	151	Randy Moschetti, 57	Colorado Springs, CO
	13:40	231	Matthew Wietrick, 40	Sacramento
50	13:42	74	Bruce Fritz, 50	Emeryville
	13:42	99	Chris House, 45	Redwood City
	13:42	100	Eric House, 47	Corvallis, OR
53	13:44	206	Paul Stimson, 56	Santa Rosa
	13:44	235	John Witkowicki, 58	Petaluma
55	13:47	50	Michael Conway, 36	Albany
	13:48	163	Christopher O'keefe, 42	Mountain view
57	13:49	128	Tom Long, 62	Piedmont
	13:49	150	Robert b Morris iii, 56	San Francisco
59	13:53	156	Donna Nice, 40	San Jose
60	13:54	79	Mike Gaylor, 61	sebastopol
	13:54	182	Reve Ramos, 62	So Lake Tahoe
62	13:55	197	Don Sheff, 55	Mill Valley
63	13:56	209	Joshua Talley, 37	Santa Monica
	13:56	214	Troy Taylor, 37	Napa
	13:56	214	Karen Taylor, 36	Napa
65	14:00	59	Wayne Dunlap, 47	Austin, TX
66	14:03	62	Bill Ellis, 50	Novato
	14:03	96	Kenneth Holloway, 56	San Jose
68	14:06	64	Steve Fielding, 44	Walnut Creek
69	14:09	115	Laurence Kluck, 60	Eureka
	14:09	179	Michael Raasch, 44	Santa Rosa
71	14:14	172	Garth Powell, 46	Santa Rosa
72	14:15	97	Eric Horning, 52	Livermore
73	14:17	2	Mark Abrahams,	Berkeley

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Ordinal	Time	Bib	Name	Comment	
74	14:18	106	Michael Jordan, 37	Middletown	
75	14:18	121	Todd Law, 41	San Rafael	
76	14:19	116	Masayoshi Kobayashi, 36	Menlo Park	
77	14:20	160	Chris Oconnell, 44	Redwood City	
78	14:21	112	Bruce King, 54	alameda	
79	14:22	110	Nick Kersmarki, 30	Santa Rosa	
	14:22	207	David Strong, 39	San Anselmo	
	14:22	232	Andy Willbanks, 40	Santa Rosa	
82	14:22	81	David Giannetto, 45	Santa Rosa	
	14:22	185	David Robertson, 54	Santa Rosa	
84	14:24	205	Russell Stevens, 39	Santa Clara	Captain
	14:24	205	Sheila Stevens, 40	Santa Clara	Stoker
	14:24	113	Jack Klebanoff, 58	Walnut Creek	
	14:27	153	Mark Mularz,	Ashland, OR	
87	14:28	180	Pete Rackl, 38	San Francisco	
88	14:28	85	Joe Gorin, 58	Santa Rosa	
	14:28	154	Dan Nelson, 52	San Francisco	
	14:28	234	Jim Wire, 48	Zephyr Cove, NV	
91	14:32	215	Elizabeth Tenuto, 29	Carlsbad	
	14:33	26	Preston Booker,	Santa Rosa	
93	14:40	27	Bill Bourne, 54	Castro Valley	
94	14:41	191	Doug Schrock, 56	Kenwood	
95	14:42	194	Stuart Searle, 35	Novato	
96	14:47	46	Randall Coleman, 45	Sacramento	
97	14:48	14	Shane Barnes, 36	Santa Rosa	
98	14:50	36	Richard Burger, 52	Petaluma	
	14:50	51	Keith Cook, 53	Loomis	
	14:50	75	Mark Froelich, 50	Oakland	
	14:50	145	Tom Milton, 55	Fairfield	
	14:50	177	Robert Puckett, 63	Santa Rosa	
103	14:52	93	Gustavo Hernandez, 47	Davis	
	14:52	146	Donald Mitchell, 46	Napa	
	14:52	217	Tertius Thakar, 47	San Francisco	
	14:52	223	Chris Udarbe, 37	Folsom	
107	14:54	5	Nabeel Al-shamma, 52	Healdsburg	
108	14:57	133	Tony Markwick, 40	San Rafael	
109	14:59	229	Keith White, 59	Petaluma	

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	14:59	162	Robert Okano, 43	San Jose	
111	15:00	66	Greg Fisher, 34	Forestville	
	15:00	70	Erika Floric, 45	Camp Meeker	
	15:00	149	Leonard Moore, 60	Aptos	
114	15:02	190	Christopher Schneider, 41	Olympia, WA	
115	15:03	57	Rob Delfosse, 49	livermore	
	15:03	103	Darrin Jenkins, 36	Rohnert Park	
117	15:04	105	David Jordan, 21	San Ramon	
118	15:05	54	Peter Curley, 40	San Francisco	
	15:05	107	Mick Jordan, 57	Palo Alto	
	15:05	114	Jay Kleinwaks, 52	Antioch	
	15:05	159	Ramon Ochoa, 38	Sunnyvale	
121	15:06	34	Mark Buettner, 39	Auburn	
	15:06	44	Dean Clark, 50	Palo Alto	Captain
	15:06	44	Janine Clark, 48	Palo Alto	Stoker
	15:06	111	Bryan Kilgore, 27	Oakland	
	15:06	174	Kenneth Prager, 47	Granite Bay	
	15:06	186	Janine Rood, 50	Chico	
127	15:08	6	Erik Andersen, 37	Everett, WA	
	15:08	52	Chris Cummings, 40	Palo Alto	
	15:08	125	Cameron Lim, 40	San Jose	
	15:08	158	Janice Oakley, 42	Santa Rosa	
131	15:11	98	Timothy Houck, 59	Pleasanton	
132	15:16	3	Sherry Adams, 35	Healdsburg	
	15:16	141	Brian j. Meadows, 50	Wheat Ridge, CO	
	15:16	216	Allen Testa, 49	Petaluma	
135	15:18	224	David Vandershaf, 61	Carmichael	
	15:18	53	Jeff Cummings, 53	Santa Rosa	
	15:18	90	Jeff Halperin, 56	El Cerrito	
	15:18	168	Mike Pherson, 47	Ventura	
139	15:19	55	Mark Cutone, 48	Albany	
	15:19	61	David Elliott, 52	Sebastopol	
	15:19	95	Laura Hipp, 45	Santa Clara	
	15:19	137	Ronald McGhie, 52	Taipei, Taiwan	
	15:19	138	Jeffrey McGillicuddy, 38	Auburn	
	15:19	157	Meredith Nielsen, 52	Berkeley	
145	15:20	152	Ryan Mowbray, 30	Pacifica	

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Ordinal	Time	Bib	Name		Comment
146	15:21	117	Albert w Kong, 50	El Dorado Hills	
	15:21	228	Michelle West, 37	Santa Monica	
148	15:22	144	Jimmy Miller, 53	Healdsburg	
149	15:30	19	Roy Benton, 59	Angwin	
	15:30	237	Ehud Yuhjtman, 49	Reno, NV	
151	15:34	47	David Collum, 56	Stockton	
152	15:35	29	James Bradbury, 50	San Francisco	
	15:36	109	Zach Kaplan, 39	Alameda	
154	15:40	91	Chris Harger, 34	Santa Rosa	
	15:40	131	Don Mackey, 41	Orinda	
156	15:41	173	Chris Powers, 47	Marina del Rey	
	15:41	176	Kenneth Price, 66	Arroyo Grande	
158	15:42	148	Hunt Moore, 58	Petaluma	
159	15:45	130	Vladislav Luskin, 46	Oakland	
	15:45	193	Brian Scott, 50	San Rafael	
	15:45	198	Ken Shoemaker, 50	Los Altos Hills	
162	15:50	1	Mike Aberg, 43	Palo Alto	
	15:50	188	Brian Schaeffer, 53	Aptos	
164	15:52	218	Karen Thompson, 45	Santa Rosa	
	15:52	236	Greg Yaeger, 46	Windsor	
	15:52	31	Jerry Briggs, 53	Sebastopol	
	15:52	32	Bill Brockley, 45	Santa Rosa	
	15:52	196	Patrick Seely, 56	Reno, NV	Captain
	15:52	196	Marlies Radtke, 48	Reno, NV	Stoker
	15:52	204	Shaun Spiegle, 47	Windsor	
	15:52	220	Stanley Tsang, 48	Pacifica	
	15:52	212	Fred Taylor, 55	Pacific Grove	
	15:52	225	Miguel Villarreal, 49	Petaluma	
173	15:55	101	Brian Houser, 47	Cheney, WA	
174	16:09	77	Tom Gandesbery, 47	Piedmont	
	16:09	183	Rob Ramos, 45	Folsom	
176	16:13	21	Jonathan Berk, 47	Berkeley	
177	16:15	88	Travis Guillory, 29	Santa Rosa	
178	16:42	67	Richard Fisher, 63	Oakland	
179	16:44	118	Michael Kresser, 59	Monte Sereno	
180	16:46	108	Jack Joseph, 53	Oakland	
181	16:51	43	James Chou, 36	Fremont	

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182	16:59	226	Paul Vlasveld, 49	San Jose
183	17:00	230	Jim Wholey, 62	Saratoga