

# Pretty dang hot on the 2017 Terrible Two

The Santa Rosa Cycling Club staged the 42nd annual Terrible Two double century on Saturday, June 17. Right on schedule, as if she had it marked down ahead of time in her day runner, Mother Nature rolled out the first serious heat wave of the North Bay summer season. After cool days and even some rain and hail in the prior week, the temps started inching up around Thursday, and by Saturday the torrid weather was fully deployed.

Just how hot was it? The official highs were 101° in Cloverdale and Sebastopol and 102° in Healdsburg. Add a few degrees for the real-world, real-feel up on the exposed walls on Skaggs Springs after lunch and you have a classic TT crock pot: a slow cooker that turned many a rider into the human equivalent of a well-done pot roast. If it's any consolation to the toasted riders, it could have been worse: the next day it was 110°.

The bake-oven weather turned a small field of starters (96 entered and 89 actual starters) into an even smaller field of finishers. Only 29 riders made it in by the old standard cut-off of 10:00 PM (32%), earning their coveted "I Did It!" t-shirts. Another 12 made it in before 11 for CTC credit, for a full-field finishing rate of only 46%. That ranks right up there as one of the nastiest Terrible Twos on record. Not the worst ever—that would be 2012—but definitely on the short list of bad-ass beatdowns. Anyone who finished this one can stand very proud and anyone who didn't finish it has no reason to hang their head. It was a very tough day.

After avoiding Napa County on the 2016 edition of the ride, the club managed to sort out its red tape tangles with the Napa suits and we were back to something approximating our traditional route: east through Santa Rosa from the Sebastopol start, up and over the summits on Bennett Valley and Trinity, and down into Napa Valley. The transit of Napa County was, as far as we know, entirely uneventful.

However, there was one very significant change to the course once it was back in Sonoma County. Severe winter weather had trashed the northern end of Geysers Road and it was officially closed by the county. So we turned the long trek up to the Geysers rest stop into an out-&-back, *a la* the run up to Mt Tam on that double. Once back down into Alexander Valley, the route headed north up the valley to rejoin the traditional course at Dutcher Creek. Sounds simple and potentially a bit easier than the rugged north side of the Geysers...right? It didn't work out that way. A hardcore headwind was booming straight down Alexander Valley, right into the teeth of the riders headed north. Most agreed that it was worse than scrambling up and down over the chunky rollers in Big Sulphur Creek Canyon. And by then the heat was starting to build...

Up at the sharp end of the field, three riders checked through the Geysers stop within a minute of each other, and they arrived together at the Warm Springs Dam lunch stop at 11:39: Taylor Bertrand-Barrett, Rich Thurman, and Mark Christopherson. Taylor made the quickest pit stop and was off first on the way to the midday misery of Skaggs Springs. They were all on the road again before Miguel Sanchez and Max Mehech rolled in nine minutes later, with perennial TT champ Brian Anderson not far behind. Bertrand-Barrett—a former US pro—kept the pedal to the medal and finished in 12:02, a comfortable 33 minutes clear of Anderson and Thurman. SRCC's Miguel Sanchez came in three minutes behind them for 4th. Miguel had been ahead of Anderson and Thurman at the last rest stop in Monte Rio, but they caught and passed him in the last miles along Bohemian Hwy and he couldn't quite stay with them. Christopherson faded just a bit to finish 7th, but can be satisfied with wrapping up first place in the CTC Stage Race.

The first woman to finish was Kirsten McDaniel in 11th place, with a time of 14:16. That earned her first place in the CTC Stage Race among the women. Kandice Lund had been the first woman into the lunch stop, 18 minutes ahead of McDaniel. But the latter passed the former at one of the water stops on Skaggs and in the end finished exactly one hour ahead of her. They were the only two women to make the 16:30 (10 PM) cut-off, but Rosio Castanon was oh-so-close at 16:31.

It was the usual hot-day travail for riders back through the field. Lots of cramping, lots of salt-caked jerseys and shorts, lots of ice and ice water put to good use. Some coped with the heat better than others but pretty much everyone suffered. The attrition rate tells the story in the abstract for many riders: too much heat; too many hills. It should be noted though that around a dozen riders accepted the option of riding from lunch down the valley on our bail-out ride...a 141-mile consolation prize. And don't forget that those riders stayed in the hot inland valley all the way to the finish, while the full-course riders eventually punched through the killing fields of Skaggs and made it to the much cooler weather on the coast. To the best of our knowledge, we only had one serious accident: a rider who lost it on the fast descent from the Geysers rest stop. Not certain of the injuries but enough to warrant an ambulance ride to the hospital. We had a sag on the scene immediately and the fellow's wife showed up in time to deal with all the practical stuff.

We had another 49 riders tackling the 200-K alternative, leaving Sebastopol with a mass start at 7:30. Thanks to their shortcut up the valley, they arrived at the "lunch" stop around 9:30 and were onto the brutal hills of Skaggs while it wasn't yet 80°...not to mention arriving there with relatively fresh legs. And while many of the riders said the course beat them up, they managed to battle through it all: 42 of the 49 finished. Scroll down past the Main TT results to see the stats for the 200-K riders.

With the small fields this year, there was a weird but not unwelcome imbalance seen out there along the back roads. That can be illustrated by a look at the big boxes of commemorative t-shirts: one box for the 200-K riders, one box for the 200-mile riders, and three boxes for the volunteers. Altogether, the cheerful, tireless SRCC volunteers outnumbered the participants by about two to one. Bean counters might say we could save some money by having fewer volunteers and cutting back on all those t-shirts, but the problem is we simply can't stop the club members from wanting to be a part of this legendary event. Even though it represents a long, hard, hot day for all of them—some folks worked over 20 hours straight—they want to be there. It's one of the favorite days on the club's annual calendar, with a series of mini-parties at each rest stop and the big fiesta at the finish. It's family. It's community. We hope our loyal riders will be back again next year to help us celebrate this mid-summer madness.

# Terrible Two 2017 Final Results

Place	Bib#	Finish Time	
1	8	12:02	Taylor Ottis Bertrand-Barrett, 30, Glen Ellen
2	3	12:35	Brian Anderson, 47, Santa Rosa
	89	12:35	Rich Thurman, 49, Chico
4	80	12:38	Miguel Sanchez, 40, Santa Rosa
5	58	13:01	Maximiliano Mehech, 55, Santa Clara
6	94	13:42	Sakae Wada, 40, El Cerrito
7	23	13:51	Mark Christopherson, 59, Trabuco Canyon
8	50	13:55	Stephan Kizziah, 51, Oakland
9	10	14:11	Bill Brier, 55, Fremont
	73	14:11	Gregory Plumb, 42, Santa Rosa
11	57	14:16	<i>Kirsten McDaniel</i> , 48, Campbell
12	35	14:18	Steve Fielding, 52, Walnut Creek
13	49	14:23	Ryosei Kaneko, 55, El Sobrante
14	46	14:31	Eric House, 55, Emeryville
15	75	15:07	Edward Reed, 56, Spring Valley
16	77	15:15	Samer Rezkalla, 43, Brentwood
17	36	15:16	Bob Fisher, 61, Spokane, WA
	55	15:16	<i>Kandice Lund</i> , 38, Centerville
	76	15:16	Dave Reynolds, 55, South Jordan
20	17	15:41	Roehl Caragao, 54, Fresno
21	24	15:52	Mark Chuml, 53, Fontana
22	2	16:03	Mike Anderson, 47, Rohnert Park
23	5	16:12	John Armor, 53, Lemoore
	9	16:12	Mathew Bittleston, 46, San Francisco
25	91	16:13	Metin Uz, 51, Palo Alto
26	15	16:19	Richard Burton, 45, Monterey
	52	16:19	Dmitry Kosorukov, 41, Kentfield
	87	16:19	Tertius Thakar, 55, San Francisco
29	81	16:30	John Seeley, 57, San Diego
30	19	16:31	Damien Cartron, 45, Los Angeles
	21	16:31	<i>Rosio Castanon</i> , 40, San Diego
32	7	16:46	Chris Beauchamp, 51, Los Gatos
33	11	16:52	Michael Brochier, 56, Novato
	33	16:52	Anthony Feliciano, 49, Pasadena
	48	16:52	Rick Jacobson, 58, Van Nuys
36	51	16:58	Laurence Kluck, 68, Eureka
37	40	17:01	Leland Gee, 62, Santa Rosa
38	26	17:05	Randall Coleman, 53, Sacramento
39	31	17:20	Arnel Dionisio, 49, Castro Valley
	79	17:20	Daniel Romero, 28, Vallejo
	92	17:20	Mar Villafior, 48, San Leandro
	16	15:00	Bill Bushnell, 52, Sunnyvale e-bike

# Terrible Two's 200K 2017 Final Results

Place	Bib#	Finish Time	
1	525	7:44	Joe Hughes, 37, Sebastopol
2	545	7:46	Daniel Quirk, 48, Sonoma
3	529	7:50	Pat Krueger, 51, Sebastopol
4	507	8:10	Aaron Canale, 47, Petaluma
	550	8:10	Gabe Sanctuary, 46, Novato
6	542	8:21	Bruce Pauly, 59, Pleasanton
	544	8:21	Jennie Phillips, 55, Danville
8	528	8:42	Steve Kroeck, 58, Sebastopol
	531	8:42	Caleb Martinez, 23, Windsor
	558	8:42	Drew Willner, 23, Davis
11	509	8:50	Mike Cochran, 56, Sacramento
12	527	8:55	Darrin Jenkins, 44, Rohnert Park
13	513	9:11	Scott Duncan, 63, Healdsburg
	522	9:11	Andrew Griffiths, 43, Orinda
	532	9:11	Heather Mastrianni, 46, healdsburg
16	548	9:31	Michael Rouse, 25, Oakland
17	504	9:33	Delmont Bogart, 60, Petaluma
18	502	9:43	Ted Bissell, 63, Mill Valley
	510	9:43	Cory Creath, 56, Mill Valley
	515	9:43	Rhonda Evans, 53, Olympic Valley
	518	9:43	Scott Fetherston, 44, Ukiah
	546	9:43	Mike Richter, 49, Santa Rosa
23	535	9:53	Steve Meffert, 54, santa rosa
24	505	9:57	Karl Burkhauser, 72, Cotati
25	519	10:06	Mark Fine, 41, San Francisco
26	553	10:12	Brad Simeral, 40, Healdsburg
27	551	10:21	Jean-Luc Servat, 61, Mill Valley
28	537	10:40	Hunt Moore, 66, Petaluma
29	557	10:58	Brandon White, 46, Half Moon Bay
30	539	11:12	Charles Noyes, 63, Berkeley
31	543	11:39	Jeff Pfeiffer, 61, Windsor
32	555	11:54	Christina Stiny, 31, Petaluma
33	517	12:00	Robert Farr, 46, San Francisco
34	506	12:30	Charles Caffarella, 62, Santa Rosa
	514	12:30	Martin Ebert, 63, San Francisco
	526	12:30	Julius Imperial, 42, Montara
	547	12:30	Robin Rothrock, 58, Santa Rosa
	554	12:30	Frankie Sottile, 69, Santa Rosa
39	523	13:22	Doug Heirich, 57, Palo Alto
40	512	13:23	Robert Crystal-Ornelas, 31, Santa Rosa
	530	13:23	Sean Lamb, 43, Montara
42	516	13:52	Robert Fadely, 52, Sebastopol