



## WELCOME LETTER TO NEW AND EXISTING MEMBERS – JANUARY 2008

The Philadelphia Triathlon Club is very excited for the upcoming 2008 season as we celebrate our first year anniversary under our new name and logo. This year marks the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Annual Kick-Off meeting. The club has experienced tremendous growth over the last year as triathletes from all over the tri-state area are extremely interested in being associated with one of the premier multisport clubs in Philadelphia. Our membership now stands at well over 200 members, with over 40% of our club members being with the club for less than 2 years. This growth in membership is reflective of the growth of our sport not only in Philadelphia but across the United States. Our mission is to provide our membership with the best possible framework for them to advance, at whatever pace they wish, in achieving their individual training or racing goals. We also like to have fun at the same time, coordinating race tailgates, social events, educational clinics which are all part and parcel of the Philadelphia Triathlon Club.

As we do each and every fall, we step back and reflect upon what worked well in 2007 and how we can carry that momentum into 2008. At the same time, we challenge our board members to focus our energy and talent on the things that matter most to our membership. With that in mind, I think you will be very encouraged with a full menu of new and exciting programs we have this year such as the “regional based” training coordinators, a rock climbing adventure, the Jim Thorpe “training weekend” and a full line-up of monthly speakers focusing on educational topics in the world of triathlon and duathlon. The word about PTC is spreading, now we can highlight our club and team sponsors with a brand new lineup of Philadelphia Triathlon Club clothing gear that will be showcased at our upcoming meeting. All members will have an opportunity to order clothing in addition to uniforms, which will remain with SUGOI for the 2008 season. As always, we have a great keeper gift for all members who register for the 2008 season. We are excited to offer our members the foundation of a strong multisport community with an amazing amount of knowledge and experience. Our members are what make our club the best. We share a passion for our sport, and we meet some great individuals.....friends for life most often..

As with any great experience, there is always time for change. The Philadelphia Triathlon Club is well on its way to being a premier multisport club and a recognized name in our community. As the club grows, we need people to step up and take us to the next level. As President of the club for the last 4 years, it's my turn to step down and let the next generation of our membership to build upon the great success this current board has achieved. The PTC board has unanimously voted in Frank McCartney as your new President effective for the 2008-2009 seasons. Frank has demonstrated his commitment to the club over the last few years and is intimately involved with the triathlon community in our area. Joining Frank in the Vice Presidents role will be Adam Alper. Adam has served on our current board the last few years and has great enthusiasm and energy. Also rotating out with me is Paul Neimeyer. Paul has been a crucial member of our club since its beginning. He has dedicated many hours to the club and we thank him for all his work. Our club has been built with people like Paul. As we move to the next level, I urge all of you to “reach out” and volunteer for ONE event or training program in 2008. You can make the club great, we need your talent. A special thanks to PK, Andrew, Marcus, Barclay, Keith, Sue and Gretchen for making it all worthwhile...

Christopher McHugh

President ----Philadelphia Triathlon Club