

HER

Gala weekend of cycling in Tuam

THE roads to the north of Tuam will be alive with the whirr of racing bike wheels and aglow with the bright colours of the riders' helmets, shirts and shorts at the weekend.

For D. H. Burke Cycling Club are this week preparing for their annual weekend of cycle racing, one of the most popular events in the cycling calendar. It attracts top cyclists from all over Ireland and indeed a number from overseas.

This is the first year for the Club under its new sponsor, D.H. Burke Supermarkets, and the the programme of events is as follows:

Saturday, 14th: Under-age competitions start at 2 p.m. The Egan Cup race for seniors and juniors starts at 4 p.m. The route for this race will be Tuam, Dunmore, Cloonfad, Ballyhaunis, Claremorris, Ballindine, Milltown and finishing in Tuam on the Milltown Road. The u-16 race will be Tuam, Dunmore, Milltown, finishing Milltown Road. U-14 and U-12 will be Dunmore Road, Browns Grove, Heaney's Cross into Tuam. There will also be skills and sprints competitions for the u-12s and u-14s before their road race. The skills competition takes place in Abbey Trinity car park.

Sunday, 15th: Under-age competitions start at 1 p.m. The A.C.C. Bank Grand Prix for seniors and

juniors and u-16s starts at 2 p.m. The route for this race will be the same as previous years — Dunmore Road, Marley, Milltown Road, Tullinadaly Hill, Shop Street and Bishop Street. Under-age racing will be u-12 on the Marley route and u-14 on Browns Grove.

All races start on Dunmore Road and finish on Milltown Road.

There is prize money of £1,800 over the two days.

The Club is grateful for the generous sponsorship and support of the business people of the town and surrounding areas. This active and successful club caters for 35 riders, mostly under-age. It looks promising for the future with so many interested young hopefuls who have their hearts set on bigger things for the future and they certainly are enjoying every moment of it all. They will be taking part in the All-Ireland competitions in Kanturk later this month.

The residents in the areas where races are taking place are requested to be extra careful on the two days. The club appreciate their co-operation in the past.

As well as making it exciting and enjoyable for everybody the organisers are taking no chances when it comes to ensuring that with everybody's goodwill safety of riders and the general public will be a priority.