



# Hunter Mountain Bike Association (HMBA)

## Committee Meeting Minutes

Date:	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2010
Location:	Club Macquarie
Meeting Started at :	7:05pm

### *Attendance Record*

**Present:**

*Joel Davies  
Keith Bruce  
Steven Pryor  
Brad Mertens  
Dallas Barham  
Mark Welsh  
Colleen Kehoe  
Tim Butler  
Ross Cairns*

**Apologies:** *Lenny Allen, Wayne Bower, Dean Kozlik, Ron Chapman*

**Chair:** Keith Bruce

**Minutes:** Mark Welsh

### *Minutes of Previous meeting*

- Minutes presented by Keith and accepted by Steven.

### *Business Arising from Previous Meetings*

- Ongoing issues from last meeting
  - Forms – incident forms
  - Asset Register.
  - Rick has prepared 4 more signs and lots more signs need to be made (wording to be confirmed) and positioned around the tracks
  - **Club flyers** - Booklet Information map, directions, calendar, website details.  
Rick Kehoe suggested putting together some flyers and posters for Awaba to leave in bike shops. These might include directions, photos etc to advertise the mountain bike park and the club.
  - Club needs to develop a marketing strategy for relevant sponsoring of the track eg naming rights to a bridge or advertising on a bridge.
  - **Toilet Block** – correspondence from Lenny, following discussions with Forestry around a permanent toilet block places the proposed block in the back left corner of the car park

near the trail head. All agreed that we need to work closely with Forestry and start thinking about a management plan for it, as all maintenance/cleaning of the toilet block will need to be carried out by the club.

**Sep 09 update** - Looking to contact the contract cleaner for the state forest toilets and obtain details on costs for them to clean the club toilet as well as the Forestry toilets. Also looking to use same design for toilet block as that used by State Forests.

### *Correspondence In*

- Tim – Survey received from Peter Grezl. Joel to put a link on the website for members.

### *Correspondence Out*

- Nil

### *Treasurer's Report – Jane Butler (via Tim)*

- Balance at end of March 2010 - \$33,570
- Total income for month - \$23,447
- Total expenses for month - \$17,063
- DH State round prize money cheques not presented yet. Jane to advise which cheques not presented at next meeting so they can be followed up.
- Looks like a cash positive result from the DH State round.
- End of month balance - \$39,954

### *Publicity Officer Report – Mark Welsh*

- Two media releases sent to newspapers & TV in Hunter/Central Coast areas. One pre & one post DH State round.
- Two newspaper stories generated prior to the DH state round. Newcastle Herald and Lakes Mail (Morisset).
- Two newspaper stories generated post DH state round. Newcastle Herald and the Newcastle Post.
- Expect a further two stories, after discussions with The Star, Maitland Mercury, and the Lakes Mail.
- Will do another release after the Stromlo State DH round.
- Will draft something for the website for Trenton Day & Cameron Ivory's nomination to the Australian Junior XCO World Cup team for 2010. Final team to be announced in June.

### *XC Report – Steven/Keith*

- Race went well.
- 82 senior riders, and 3 juniors
- Area just past the timing tent for riders to finish on worked well
- Some negative comments regarding the distance from carpark to start area received.
- Interesting to note that with the new trail added last race specifically for A & B grade, the average race time went up for A grade from 1 hour 32 min to 2 hours 10 minutes.

### *DH Report – Colleen Kehoe*

- 43 riders
- Self drive buses worked well – we will do this again.

- We will get two buses for the next round (+ Tim's bus) as we expect more riders to attend after the positive comments from the DH State round.

### *Awaba XC Track Build Report – Ross Cairns*

- No XC build – was diverted to DH build day in April.
- New jump has been barricaded & B line is in use until further notice.
- Trail build to continue with the current plan for the balance of 2010 until complete. Further areas will need to be scoped & approvals gained etc.

### *Awaba DH Track Build Report – Rick Kehoe (via Coleen)*

- Several build days in lead up to the DH state round.
- Rick sent his thanks to the XC crew who assisted.
- Great feedback from riders and officials from the DH State round re the track condition and how well the armoring & new work has held up.

### *Social Ride Report – Brad*

- Ron has busted his shoulder (welcome to the club) and won't be riding for a while
- Waiting for Lenny to arrange authority to hold a social ride at Killingworth. Apparently most of the trails are still in good condition.
- Ross and Brad will organize a date for the first social ride of 2010.

### *DH State Round – Coleen*

- Congratulations in particular to Colleen, Rick & Tim for their organisation & making this event run so well.
- 181 entries in total, with 3 withdrawals for 178 riders.
- Apparently the date clashed with a race in Vic which will have drawn riders from the southern areas of the state.
- Only a couple of injuries (collarbones) + 1 ambulance for the young fella who broke his thumb & got carted out on a spinal board...
- Overall great feedback from competitors and officials.
- Buses were slow. Apparently they were stopping for a chat part way down the road which was slowing turnaround times. Remember this for next time.
- Tim needed to be more flexible in his role as he wound up stuck at the start & was not able to coordinate anything else.
- The split practice was well accepted & worked well.
- Radios with varying power levels were a problem.
  - Next time perhaps the stronger radios could be left at the top three marshall points to ensure reception to the bottom & top.
  - In particular, marshalling points B (Top rock garden) & C (Stairway to heaven I think) were the worst for reception to the race finish area.
  - Lesser power radios were able to be used comfortably from below the road gap.
  - Club will look to hire radios the next time we hold a similar event, and do a trial run the club round before hand.
- Coffee man and Toronto Rotary BBQ were very happy with the business that they did.
  - Next year, we might situate them on both days in the car park.
- Gary (the Commissaire) advised that we need to put together a contingency/emergency plan that can be used for all events at Awaba. This should include Ambulances, Rescue helicopter, fire brigade, evacuation plan, marshalling points etc.

- The club will look at putting its own volunteer coordinator in place in future events after taking on board what was involved at this event.
- Marshalls needed to be rotated more frequently
- Online entry through the MTBA website worked well. All riders should be encouraged to get their licenses in this way to ensure smooth entry into events like this, where manual licences may not have been processed by the clubs.
- Important to note that there was an issue with the online registration & setting the closing time as midnight. Better to use 12:01am or another specific time as it didn't close off when we expected.
- A third first aid officer will be necessary at future events. Not a paramedic, but a senior first aid officer who is able to sit in the tent at the bottom of the track & dispense bandaids & clean a few grazes.
- We agree that the club must have at least one race Commissaire for next year.
- Thanks to Rick Boyer & Dallas for arranging such a fantastic lot of prizes.
- Pre-organisation of which prizes to go with which division etc would make things easier at the end of the event next year.
- MW to draft a letter of appreciation to all the event sponsors from HMBA.
- There were over 100 number plates left over after the event. HMBA are charged for all 300, at \$1 each regardless of how many are used. Colleen will hold onto them & hope we can find a use for them in the future.

## *General Business*

- Keith – Joel to add a line to the website re family club memberships. Any enquiries need to be funnelled directly to Stu M.
- Keith – Next XC race to follow the same race format as March. There will be a b line built around the new pinch climb, but this may not be ready before the May race, according to Ross.
- Steven – Steve & Keith will not be at the May race so either Ross, Tim, or Mark will need to learn the registration system prior to that. Mark will do the timing for April & May races.
- Ross – Suggests running a club night race this year as a trial. This would be a standalone race & not count towards the club point score. September & October were suggested as good times of year for this. To be held on a Saturday night – Ross to put forward a date.
- Ross/Brad – Suggest the club run a “Super D” race. Is a race for both XC & DH riders which is primarily, but not exclusively DH, and would involve shuttles & a ride time of 8 – 10 minutes. CORC ran one recently & apparently got a couple of hundred riders along & it was very popular. Ross/Brad/Tim/Darren Chapman to scope out a suitable trail (apparently there is one they are looking at near The Pines in the Watagans (Sawmill/Mandalong)). Sounds like a great way to get DH & XC riders together riding their bikes. Lenny will approach State Forests & National Parks for permission once a trail has been settled on.
- Ross – Dirtworks (Importer) are keen to support a build day for the club. They'll bring along some demo bikes & put on a BBQ at an upcoming build day – poss June. Ross to coordinate.
- Ross - Hunter Womens Ride are planning to ride Awaba socially 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Apparently some of the girls are interested in racing but would like to know more about Awaba & the club.
- Joel – Web is improving. Lenny is doing a lot of work. Breakaway cycles logo/link still needs to be added. Joel will follow up with Lenny.
- Brad – Brought along a sample jersey from the Aust Single Speed Championships last year. Looks really good. Approx \$20 each for the club. He needs a design and an “EPS” file of our logo for the printers – which Colleen will supply. A competition to design the jersey was suggested and Tim will mention to all at this weekends club round.
- Steven – Reminded that he still doesn't have an up to date club member list so he can get the point score sorted out. Keith will chase down a list for him. There was discussion around some

riders that were MTBA members but not members of any MTB club riding at NSWMTB & HMBA events – especially in DH. Tim will look into this.

- All agreed that Coleen & Rick K should get their State DH fees reimbursed for their efforts.
- Steven – Needs a list of volunteers/marshalls from the DH State round so that they could receive the next club race free that we offered. (Very organised SP!)
- Steven – Will post in Rotorburn forums for pre-registration to club XC races to see if that will help speed up the race registration process.
- Dallas – Suggested that with the increasing numbers of spectators at the major DH events, a spectator walking bridge would be worth looking into for safety reasons at the “Kehoe Bridge” point of the DH track. Rick to look into it.
- Dallas – Reminded us that we need to decide on sponsorship rates for bridges & features at Awaba with signage. He has some companies he’d like to approach.
- Dallas – Before we look to host an XC State round we need approval for more car parking areas from State Forests.
- Dallas – Gary (DH Race Commissaire) mentioned that we need to reduce the gap between the main car park & the finish/marshalling area.
- Brad – Keen to add features (skills stuff) like seesaws & log rides etc within the current beginners loop. For discussion at the next meeting.
- Keith - Gary (DH Race Commissaire) suggested that we speak to someone at Centennial Coal as they have senior managers who are into mountain bike riding. They may be willing to sponsor us with some building equipment – like a culvert for a trail cross over or similar?
- Tim – Suggests that we need to concentrate on getting the car park situation sorted out sooner rather than later.
- Tim – Has spoken to Chris Watson from Wannaride, who is interested in looking at Awaba for future 8 hour events. Apparently there are car parking difficulties at Ourimbah, but we would need to be able to cater for around 500 riders.
- Mark – Suggests that committee members need to attend at least two meetings a year to hold a post. Needs further discussion & would need to be voted on at a general meeting.
- Mark – Suggested running Dirt Crits racing at Killingworth if access could be renegotiated. Spoke to Lenny about this some time ago.
- Brad – Suggested some alternate sites for XC racing/riding – needs further discussion.

Meeting Closed at 9:45pm.