

AWMTB

Minutes for the general meeting held on 7/09/2010

Meeting opened 6:35pm

Meeting 18, 2010 Commercial Club Albury

Attendees: Andrew Edwards, Mark Sullivan, Andrew Bassingthwaighe, Matthew Vogel, Anthony Cheeseman, Paul Bristow, Danny King, Brad Spinelli, Tony Pincan, Elliot Van Brummalen, Jayne King, Zac Wicks, Grant Dean, Brette Sturt, Trevor Tracey, Brock Cremer, Calvin McKinley, Doug Cropper (proposed Barranduda trail representative) .

1. Club Sponsorship Arrangements

Current sponsorship agreements expire at the end of the calendar year. Current agreement sees ten sponsors give \$500 each, which gives the sponsor one naming right event for each of two years. The club reserved the right to seek other naming right sponsors for larger events such as the 6 hour. Ant questions whether we want to continue with the same arrangements.

Trev suggests \$250 per year, suggesting that two years is too long.

To cover the cost of new signage should new sponsors come on board, initial sponsor agreements should cost \$350.

Ant proposes four questions;

- 1 Do we still want ten sponsors?
- 2 Sponsor agreements for one or two years?
- 3 Cost of sponsorship?
- 4 Will there be ten club races next season to allow ten naming rights events?

After discussion it was determined that;

- we would seek renewed interest from the ten existing sponsors.
- Cap the sponsors at ten, but less would be fine.
- \$250 per year for old sponsors, \$300 per year for new sponsors, however if a sponsor wants to sign up for two years (\$500 old, \$550 new) then this would be possible.
- Club policy of not seeking alignment with a local bicycle store through sponsorship will remain. However, bike store sponsorship of major races still attainable.

2. MTBA Commissaire Training Course

It will be a MTBA requirement from next year onwards to have a qualified commissaire at ever club race. Presently we have one commissaire. Ant has arranged for MTBA national level instructor to attend the November DH race to train and assess a maximum of four (?) people.

It is agreed that this is something that the club must do, and at \$85 per participant, the club will cover the costs of accreditation. At the meeting there was strong interest of participants, who will attend will be determined later.

3. State Affiliation

This is an issue that was raised by Doug Rose as it affected his children. He discovered that a club needed to be affiliated with a state body for a rider from that club to be entitled to earn state championship points. Currently we are by default affiliated with NSW (as our MTBA address is Albury), but given our geographical location, most people will attend more Victorian state races as generally these are held in closer proximity to us than the NSW races.

To circumvent this issue, and allow club members the chance to earn Victorian state points without them needing to switch clubs, it is proposed that we change only our MTBA postal address to Wodonga, leaving all other correspondence with our current Albury address.

After discussion, all in attendance agree.

4. Murray CMA and ACC Nail Can Hill Open day October 3.

The Murray CMA and the ACC have proposed and are organising a Nail Can Hill Reserve Open day, creating and highlighting awareness and extended knowledge of the ecological values of the reserve. The CMA have asked the club to be involved, by promoting responsible and sustainable mountain biking, and to lead tours of the trails in the Range Road area. They have asked if we would run a BBQ, with them providing the food.

This would be casual day, emphasizing the social, recreational and sustainable side of mountain biking and our club.

5. Uniform Orders

At the meeting there was no knowledge of what extra gear was required to fill an order.

Ant suggests that the club buy extra gear to have on hand. Danny agrees.

It is determined that if we did this that we should just order jersey's in a few common sizings.

Also determined that a prominent notice needs to be placed on the website to attract more orders, leave it for three weeks then place the order.

6. IMBA Affiliation

International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) is a sustainable trail advocacy organisation that is not concerned with racing unlike the MTBA. Ant suggests that we affiliate with IMBA to promote ongoing trail advocacy. All agree, Ant will arrange. Club affiliation costs \$110. Individuals can also purchase IMBA membership for \$45, or \$25 if MTBA membership current. Personal IMBA membership gives you insurance for recreational riding.

7. Danny King

Banner

Danny suggests the club purchase a banner that can be displayed at events and races, both at home and when away. Flags also an option. It is agreed that \$500 will be allocated for such a purchase.

Container

Danny raised the issue of the container once more to store club gear on site, rather than at various places all over town. Driving range the ideal location, but when/if this license is granted is uncertain. Container costs \$2500, all want it, but we need a location.

Union Rd Dirt Crits

Danny has sought permission from the ACC to utilize land adjacent to the lawn cemetery at the end of Union Rd to hold dirt crits on. Awaiting confirmation. If this successful then it could be a potential location for a container.

8. Trail Work

A concern has been raised regarding club indemnity, when on trail work days we receive assistance from volunteers who are non-members of the club. Generally, these volunteers have been under 18 of age.

It is suggested that we grant club membership to these kids (not full MTBA membership) for 12 months, which will protect us from them suing the club should they have an accident.

This will hopefully get these kids more interested in the club, expose them to the club emails and newsletters, with the hope that they continue their association after the initial year of their own accord. There was some resistance to this and much discussion followed.

However, it was passed that all trail work volunteers, regardless of age, receive free club membership for 12 months.

9. Social Rides

The above discussion led to further discussion as to whether the club should offer free membership to social ride participants to get them involved also. It was determined that this still would not cover non-member participants insurance, and that they would still be required to purchase a day license.

It was determined that for social rides conditions would remain the same.

10. Club Membership Base

Ant has a strong desire to build the club membership base, thus giving the club greater clout when it comes to advocacy and funding issues.

He feels that possibly 90% of the recreational riders on the Can are non-members, yet they benefit from our trails and the work that goes into them. However, he feels that there is little incentive for such people to join the club as we offer little outside of racing. He challenges all of us to be creative, and to consider measures that will make club membership more attractive.

11. General Business

September club race

Brad is organising the next club race to be held on 26th of September at Hovel Tree Park. Event will be part of ACC Bike weekend, and will run from 10am onwards.

It will run in conjunction with a come and try mountain biking ride through Padman Park and the enchanted forest.

It will form round 1 of the club XC championships.

Accounting software

Bass would like to purchase decent but user friendly accounting software, so that future treasurers will be easily able to manage club accounts. He suggests an online version of MYOB, costing \$20-30 per month.

All agree to go ahead with this motion.

Downhill Activities

- November Downhill event progressing well, Mark will be looking for volunteers when the time comes.
- Anna has a group of interested girls that will complete a downhill clinic with Shelly Kamearvar. The aim of this is to run the clinic the week prior to the race, build the confidence the participants, and encourage them to compete in the race the following weekend. Places will be reserved for such competitors up to a few days out from race day should they decide to compete. Mark thinks Anna has ten interested girls.
- Mark has been approached by an organised group of kids for permission to rebuild the dirt jumps at Kalianna. He is wary of this request given the ACC's stand on dirt jumps at present, but is also aware that no action could lead to jumps being built elsewhere around Nail Can Hill. After discussion it is determined that the club is willing to assist these kids to approach the ACC with a request to construct a suitable facility, however, we are not prepared to do it for them. Should we be granted permission for the driving range land, we would be more inclined to push for such a facility in this precinct.

Social Rides and Activities

- Horey keen for a trip to Canberra on the 2-3 of October, but have not heard anything further on this so unlikely.
- Trip to Tumut trails on October 10th.
- Three day supported social ride 13-15th of November in the Mitta area. Rough itinerary, Granite Flat – Eskdale Spur – Tallandoon – Dartmouth – Granite Flat. 50-60 km per day.
- Social night gathering after November 20th club race.
- Mt Buller weekend 27-28th of November which would include all styles of riding and lodge accommodation.
- Supported Downhill social ride this weekend at Mt Beauty, limited to 20, all places filled, thank you Brette Sturt for organising.

Baranduda Trails – Presentation by Doug Cropper

Doug used to build and ride downhill on Mt Baranduda 10 years ago, but became sick of the trail being demolished and being told not to ride there by Parklands Albury-Wodonga.

Over time he frequented the area less and less, until recently he ventured back up there, found more trails and was riding when he was approached by Anthea ?? from Parklands AW. She suggested he approach Parklands officially to seek permission to utilize the area for sustainable mountain biking.

He did this, but was informed that to proceed an agreement needed to be with an affiliated club, not with a small group of individuals.

Hence Doug contacted the club, met with Ant and Mark at Baranduda to show them around, and finds himself pitching the possibility of creating a serious DH venue on Mt Baranduda.

He feels that a new trail would need to be created, providing a course of approximately 5-6 minutes of continuous downhill. A suitable 4WD track already exists to provide an ascent route, and a large base area would serve as a suitable staging area.

Doug's initial negotiations have progressed well with Parklands AW, to the point where a memorandum of understanding has been mooted which would involve the Parklands AW, the AWMTB's and Doug and his team (who would all become club members) overseeing future construction and maintenance.

This is a great opportunity to work with an organisation such as Parklands AW and Baranduda Landcare (who in principle support the notion) who appear to WANT to work with our club.

Question posed, Do the AWMTB's want to pursue this possibility?
All in attendance agree that we should, and that it seems like a fantastic opportunity for the club.

Meeting closed at 8:20pm.

Next meeting to be held at the Commercial Club at 6:30 pm on Tuesday the 5th of October.