



THURSDAY NIGHT RIDES 2018

March 1 , 2018

Report by Ron Milbanke

Despite the disappointment of the Jentry postponement, we had a good gathering of riders for this evenings event. Fifteen arrived in good time for the race brief, while Justin has assumed Sven's mantle of turning up Justin Time. I understand Justin is to visit Sven next week to ride some big hills up in the Hawkes Bay. Lets hope Sven is expecting him.

Peter deemed that there were to be two different laps, a short and a long, and that each rider was to complete two short laps and as many long laps they could fit in during the 50 minutes time allotment. To confuse the issue for spectators, the riders could choose when to do their short laps.

So first to appear after a short lap was Warren with Jimmy right on his tail. Warren then rode his second short lap while Jimmy chose the long option. First to complete the long lap on lap one was Jack with daylight to Merrick, then more daylight to Cam and Justin. Merrick reported that Cam had come off, and Cam confirmed this adding that Merrick had run over him. Tis a brutal sport if you annoy Merrick.

Jack continued to shine throughout the evening with Justin the only rider to better Jack's long lap time, he did this on lap five. Jack claimed the fastest short lap time on his second lap. Jimmy opted out of a fifth lap while Jack, Justin, Merrick and Cam all went the distance. Everyone else succumbed to the clock which was shining brightly in the gathering gloom. We will need to start earlier as daylight becomes an issue. Further down the field riders were recalling last weekends winery challenge and comparing notes on their hydration options. I hope the kids weren't listening, mixed messages would confuse.

The battle between Alana and Eugean saw the pair trading positions with Eugean taking over the lead on the first of their long laps. Alana struck back on their final lap leaving Eugean something to ponder over his refreshment of choice at his establishment of choice.

Ahead of these two Matt, Peter and Warren completed four mixed laps, as did Stephen Keith and Owen. Ceridwen and Hugh managed to pack all their enjoyment into three laps. The concensus was that this was a fun night played out in a fine warm Marlborough evening.

So we are hoping for more of the same so that the tracks at Jentree are in good nick for next Thursday. A reminder that entry fee for Jentree will be five dollars with a sausage included in the cost of entry. Justin L. has had lots of help preparing some great tracks so it would pay to make a special effort to get to this one.

O.T.R