



THURSDAY NIGHT RIDES 2017

November 2nd, 2017

Report by Ron Milbanke

Greetings All

Peter created a testing short course for this evening's ride. With access to the MTB park proper still restricted to Prima One, the canvas was small. There were a couple of interesting features with a grunty climb and a sharp turn to negotiate. The quicker riders managed 12 laps so the grunting got louder as the evening progressed.

Bailey continued his good form, a result of lots of Kms under the belt, and Connor came for a play. These two were together after lap one with Jack within striking distance just a couple of seconds adrift. Connor temporarily disappeared on lap 2 leaving Bailey and Jack to fight it out.

Damian and Ian were having their own battle for third and fourth and Jimmy and Warren were in close company early on for the next two slots.

We have been accustomed to Jack's early speed but this evening saw a more sustained challenge and Bailey had his work cut out to fend him off for the 50 minute duration, Jack has also been putting in some Km's judging by this performance.

Ian got the better of Damian by getting faster as the laps ticked by, another sign of fitness. Warren succumbed to Jimmy but this was probably due to jetlag and fatigue from his great result in the Aussie Cape to Cape four day event. I think he said there were 80+ in his class and he had a single digit finish, with a few pro riders on the entry list, good stuff Warren.

Among the young guns joining Jack were Logan, newcomer Gareth and Jaymie. Logan was having pains in his ribs from a fooling around incident earlier in the week. It must be the first time Logan and Jimmy caught up since their close encounter about a year ago. Logan hit a cattle stop badly gashing his knee and Jimmy carried the wounded soldier out to his mother waiting in the carpark. All healed now and the medics must have injected a growth hormone, he is about two bike sizes bigger.

Gareth improved as the laps became more familiar and raising his seat took almost a minute off his lap times towards the end. Jaymie has the age old problem of sharing his time between several sports with athletics and softball also on his itinerary. Geoff escorted him for a lap before engaging overdrive.

Alana and Ange represented the fairer sex with Alana completing 9 very smart laps.

Next week we will be at the recycle centre for a blat around and across the Taylor River. The ford has been repaired and the water has receded allowing several possible crossing points. Hope to see you there.

O.T.R.