

Minutes from the Christchurch Singletrack Club 2018 Annual General Meeting

Date: **Sunday 26 August 2018 5:30 pm** - Location: Christchurch Adventure Park

Attended by: Craig Tregurtha, Brian Smith, Steve Moffatt, Matt Doogue, Charlotte Doogue, Justine Marshall, Andrew Marshall, Flynn Marshall, Jake Marshall, Nikki Bligh, John Thornton, Sara Taylor, David Plew, Rebekah Tregurtha, Graeme Woodward, Joel Tregurtha, Murray Anderson, Sam Anderson, Jennifer Tregurtha, Sarah Crawford, Paul Massie, Ingrid Cooper, John Pearce, Glenda Ryan, Scott Keir, Gordon Burnett, Jason Turner, Lee Robertson, John Sutherland, Jordan Sutherland, Bevan Pratt, Mike Nixon, Graeme Marshall, Glen Duffield, Matt Boulcott, David Lovegrove, Digby Symons, Katie Symons, Hector, Christina and Walter Symons, David Jones, Richard Morley-Hall, Bridget McMillan, Craig Tolson.

Apologies: Laurence Mote, Graham Allan, Reta Trotman

1. Approval of the minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting

The minutes from 2017 were received as being accurate. Moved Matt D, seconded Graeme M

2. Chairman's Report

Firstly, a big thanks to CAP for allowing us to use the facilities here for our AGM at no cost. The staff here have been great at reaching out to local clubs. Rebekah, Craig and I attended the MTBNZ South Island Summit in Chch which was a great opportunity to have input and also hear about the direction and plans for MTBNZ. We were also pleasantly surprised to hear that our club was the winner of the Cycling NZ MTB Club of the Year. What a fantastic result and a reflection of the amount of work put in over the year.

Membership

Our total membership for last year was 250 people. A good increase on the previous year's numbers which results in great events and funding for trackbuilding. We continually have ideas for tracks and events and it's the membership strength that helps these ideas come to reality!

Christchurch Singletrack Club Facebook page currently has 2910 followers. This is an increase of nearly 400 over the year and reflects interest in the broad range of MTB information that gets posted.

Racesingletracks Facebook page has 437 followers. Limited mainly to schools racing and information relating to the March series.

Races / Events

We started the season with the announcement that our club would be hosting the MTBNZ South Island XCO race. SIXCO. This meant that each of our events leading up to February took on a bit of a planning role with new tracks and courses being trialled.

We usually kick off with **Short Track** events however these were not held due to the closure of Siberia from the fires.

A series of 4 evening **Mini XCs** started in mid-November, based from a new location in the upper dog exercise area at Halswell Quarry Park. The rangers were keen to keep bikes away from the Findlays picnic area and also avoid bikes going through the native regeneration area leading into C2. It has resulted in more set up work as we don't have the natural gully line to lead into a race.. We have more tracks available for racing so we were able to vary it each week but marking out is now a bigger job

It was all worth it with up to 113 turning up to race - doubling the numbers from the previous year and creating a real buzz around the start / finish area.

It was amazing to see the international class riders like Anton Cooper and Ben Oliver along with other top riders turn up for our local races, especially when there were so many young riders competing and being inspired by them. There were lots of kids and perhaps the best thing to see is the number of parents and kids riding in the races, sometimes in the same grade. Also great to see some groups organising takeaways after the races and hanging around discussing times, effects of age, and possibly crashes. That's what it's all about!

On January 23rd we ran a **Reverse Enduro** for the ones that love to suffer! 58 keen climbers took on 5 short stages (they're short when you're not riding), making their way from the bottom of Upload to Siberia. I was doing the timing at the end and the general feedback that most riders managed to pass on was "WTF", "Why would I ever ...", "See you next year ..."

On the 4th February we hosted the **South Island XCO MTB Championships**. We had a strong field of riders competing with a good amount of attention going towards the rivalry of Anton and Sam. The spectators came out and enjoyed an action packed day with great racing in all of the grades. The feedback after the event was extremely positive and centred around the atmosphere created by so many spectators lining the course. Rebekah in particular had made a big effort to look at access points and tracks to enable spectators to get into the tight course and with the benefit of our compact race circuit, you could see racers multiple times on each lap. The addition of the women's race was well received.

The general theme of feedback from spectators and many riders was that it was the best race they'd been to in years. If we can build on this and 'double' the atmosphere for future races at this level then we will definitely have a race that you won't want to miss!

As with any major event, we had a post event debrief that identified some areas that we are keen to work on for future events.

Singletracks Coaching with Cycleways was held in October and had about 60 riders complete 3 skills sessions with the help of coaches from Cycleways. Lots of good tips were passed on and we'll look to do something similar in the next couple of years with a different group of riders coming through, probably based more around beginners as it's hard to cater for the full range of skills.

Schools Racing has become a significant part of the clubs activities and ran on Wednesday afternoons for 5 weeks through March. Again we saw an increase in the numbers participating. Around 240 were registered and up to 200 raced each week. These riders ranged from relative beginners to experienced and fast racers.

With the improvement of tracks for racing, and the regular competition we're seeing a lift in the level of racing with some intense and close race finishes. At the beginning of the series we needed two race grades riding the easier loops and by the end more riders had taken on the more technical courses.

Day one started with staged time trials that utilised 4 race loops, usually an 'out and back' or 'up and down' if you consider Upload and Download, a popular one to do multiple times!

Weeks 2-4 were graded races using different extensions to the main loop each week.

Week 5 finished with age graded races for the Canterbury Secondary Schools Championships. Thanks to Anton who turned up to present the prizes to all of the grades.

Also a thanks to Cycleways, Camelbak, Southern Trust, Torpedo 7, Chch Adventure Park, and Ground Effect for supporting the schools events with prizes etc.

Our feedback from the events continues to be very positive and we're busy planning for next year's series.

Trackbuilding

Trackbuilding is a large part of the club activities and took up a lot of time last year making sure we had the right length race lap for staging an XCO race. Most sessions were led by the Tregurthas and myself, with a small regular group of builders and at times up to 30 people. Tools and managing can get a bit stretched with big groups but we do really appreciate all the help as things happen fast!

The focus over the last year has been on building new tracks at Crocodile XC MTB Park. Key tracks over the last year have been Upload and Download, Uppercrust, Crocpot, and Mish Mash. Storm repairs at Living Springs and continued work by Graham Allan on the Taramea Loop on Montgomery Spur have also carried on through the season. Craig and Dave will provide a trail building update later on.

Club Equipment Improvements

As we continue to develop the events we stage we have had greater equipment and tech requirements. The club has invested in 8 new radio and vests for course marshals, and a PA system that were put to good use for the schools series. We've also just ordered an electronic timing system that will make the lap races easier to manage and results easier to process. Barry the e barrow has also been a great purchase to assist with track building.

Award - Graham Allan

In July this year Graham Allan received a community services award for his leadership in the development of Montgomery Spur and for the many years coordinating volunteers maintaining the CCC cross country track network on the Port Hills.

Volunteers

With the increase in numbers racing and the tracks being built we are increasingly looking for volunteer support. This is a big thankyou to everyone that has sat out on the course for hours during races, marked out courses, and built tracks. Schools racing alone requires the help of up to 15 volunteers each week.

Although every bit of help is valuable, the most amazing help is when someone can take on the responsibility of a role on a regular basis.

This year I would like to recognise the help of Brian Smith. Our club Treasurer and previous Chairman, Brian is not worried about the glory jobs when it comes to volunteering! I've hardly seen a track building session where he hasn't turned up, got a grubber and said "Just tell me what to do...". At all of the Mini XC races, SIXCO, and all of the Schools races Brian would be out on the remote parts of the course, marshalling for hours. He is now retired so we're hoping he can continue to fit the volunteering into his schedule!

In Summary

The year has been extremely positive with great events (including club races, SIXCO, and Schools Racing), increased participation, new tracks, and more exciting plans!

Clubs from all sports around the country face declining numbers and continual challenges keeping their focus relevant. I think we have a good balance of providing some great competitive racing that is convenient, cheap, and accessible, with the provision of more tracks that can be enjoyed by everyone whether they are training, racing, or just cruising and having fun.

3. Financial report for 2017-18 year Christchurch Singletrack Club Inc

Income	2016-17	2017-18
Subscriptions	2990.00	3325.00
Donations/Sales	2346.5	2974.35
Event Fees	8456.00	12852.00
Grants	7600.00	5975.00
Interest	666.57	751.07
	\$22059.07	\$25877.42
Expenses		
Events	11492.74	11256.56
Equipment	357.87	4996.19
Construction	12241.35	5838.81
Donations		1050.00
Operations	612.73	628.59
Affiliation Fees	975.67	1064.88
Refunds	45.00	0
	\$25725.36	\$24835.03
2017-18 Excess Revenue over Expenditure		\$1042.39

Statement of Financial Position

Brn Fwd from 2016-17	\$3177.87
Revenue 2017-18	\$25877.42
Expenditure 2017-18	\$24835.03
Balance	\$4220.26
Balance in current account	\$4220.26

Investments

	2016-17	2017-18
Transpower	\$8000.00	\$12451.12
Other	\$20790.51	\$17000.00
Other 1	\$7000.00	\$7151.65

The investments mature in October 2018, January 2019 and April 2019. Another \$6000 of the "Transpower" grant was used to continue work on the Taramea track (Montgomery Spur). This leaves \$2000 of this grant to complete work on that track.

Comments

Revenue Was up on 2016/17 by \$3600 due mainly to increased event fees (SIXCO and Singletracks Schools racing).

Expenditure It was another big year for expenditure. Events SIXCO and Schools racing \$11k plus, new equipment almost \$5k (1x E-barrow, 8x radios, 2x scrubcutters) and Montgomery Spur track building around \$6000

4. Election of Executive Committee members for the 2017-18 year.

Chairperson: Murray Anderson, Moved Rebekah T, seconded David L

Secretary: Rebekah Tregurtha, Moved Matt D, seconded Murray A

Treasurer: Brian Smith, Moved Mike N, seconded Bevan P

Committee members: Graham Allan, Sara Taylor, Craig Tregurtha, Matt Doogue, Andrew Marshall, David Ffowcs-Williams, Nikki Bligh, and Matt Boulcott. We accepted the resignation of Pauline Cooper and Scott Emmens.

5. 2017-18 trailbuilding review

1. **David Jones gave an update on Montgomery Spur** – some data indicates that it is the busiest track on the Port Hills. David became a trustee of the Port Hills Park Trust and discussed a new line being put in to the Summit Rd from Rapaki and potential for mountainbiking on Tussock Hill Farm. The only objection to more building is that it is “unsightly” David said it would be good to get more younger people on the trust.

2. Living Springs

Craig reported that areas that are destocked get overgrown pretty quickly – Craig Phillips, William Griffin and Pauline Cooper have taken over most of the routine maintenance now. Over the past year there was a significant rainfall event which washed out two of the bridges on Zanes.

3. Halswell Tracks

Craig gave an update on the progress at Halswell’s Crocodile XC MTB Park and the plans for the coming year or so. Over the past year CrocPot, Download, Upload, Upper Crust and Mlsh-Mash were built. They have been designed to give a variety of XC riding and provide numerous race configurations Considerable time (7 sessions!) was spent mitigating a spring that sprung up in the middle of Lower Deviation

Focus continues to be on doing as much as possible in the forest and several new tracks have been initiated.

This work is in addition to the trails being built by Allister Davies.

6. General Business:

Events this season – dates (and some events) to be confirmed

- Gold Segment series
- Short track racing (Siberia) – Sunday 11 Nov
- Crocodile XC racing – Tuesdays, 6 Nov, 20 Nov, 4 Dec, 18 Dec
- Reverse Enduro hillclimb event – mid-week in Feb/Mar

- XC event at Living Springs – Feb/Mar
- Singletracks schools racing – 5 Wednesdays, starting late Feb
- XC racing following one or more of the Wed schools events
- SIXCO 3 February 2019

Murray introduced the Gold Segment Series

- Club members
- 10 Strava segments (search 'CSC Gold Segment')
- 1 September – 30 June
- Compete in your own time
- Monthly leaderboard updates
- Overall annual winners for each segment

XC segments

- McLeans Island
- Living Springs
- Crocodile XCO
- Port Hills endurance

Sprint segments

- Taramea
- Bowenvale
- Witches Hill

Climb segments

- Rapaki
- Kennedys
- Greenwood

Graeme Woodward agreed to coordinate the series.

National Champs

Rebekah discussed plans to help support getting riders to go to the National Championships.

Over the past few years we have been disappointed at the small fields competing at the National Champs. We would like to show our support for developing the sport of mountainbiking in New Zealand so we have set aside \$1000 to pay for the entry fees for the best riders from our club across a range of categories to attend the National Champs. If every club sent their best riders to the champs the competition would be a lot more meaningful.

Signage

A request was put out for someone to take on the task of establishing useful and consistent signage at the Crocodile XC MTB Park. Murray has done great work on improving the maps.

7. Trophies:

The following trophies were awarded this year:

- Men's Club Champion – Anton Cooper
Women's Club Champion – Reta Trotman
- Hillclimb Men's Champion – Ben Oliver
Hillclimb Women's Champion – Hannah Miller
- Top School Girls – Cashmere High School
Top School Boys – Christchurch Boys High School
Fastest Male – Ethan Rose
Fastest Female – Courtenay Ross

The formal part of the meeting was followed by an interesting and informative talk by Dr David Plew, mountainbike coach.

Meeting ended at 7:40 pm