



**Minutes of MTBNZ 2016 AGM held 22 May 2016 at Waipuna Lodge, Auckland and Summary of the MTBNZ Workshop held 21 May 2016.**

**Attendees:**

| <b>Name</b>                       | <b>Club</b>                          | <b>Meeting</b>        |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Gil Peters (President)</b>     | <b>Rotorua MTB Club</b>              | <b>AGM + Workshop</b> |
| <b>Chris Arbuckle (Treasurer)</b> | <b>Mountain Biking Otago Inc.</b>    | <b>AGM + Workshop</b> |
| <b>Kim Hurst</b>                  | <b>PNP</b>                           | <b>AGM + Workshop</b> |
| <b>Tom Bamford</b>                | <b>Manawatu MTB Club</b>             | <b>AGM + Workshop</b> |
| <b>Malcolm Thomas</b>             | <b>Rotorua MTB Club</b>              | <b>AGM + Workshop</b> |
| <b>Gareth Osmond</b>              | <b>Tauranga MTB Club</b>             | <b>AGM</b>            |
| <b>Anna Haycock</b>               | <b>Tauranga MTB Club</b>             | <b>AGM</b>            |
| <b>Tony Jump</b>                  | <b>Tauranga MTB Club</b>             | <b>AGM</b>            |
| <b>Andrea Murray</b>              | <b>Huxster MTB Trust/Bike Wanaka</b> | <b>AGM</b>            |
| <b>Anne Tyas</b>                  | <b>Auckland DH</b>                   | <b>AGM</b>            |
| <b>Chris Tyas</b>                 | <b>Auckland DH</b>                   | <b>AGM</b>            |
| <b>Jamie Greenway</b>             | <b>Bike Wanaka</b>                   | <b>AGM</b>            |
| <b>Richard Legget</b>             | <b>Cycling NZ</b>                    | <b>AGM</b>            |
| <b>Jon Haslar</b>                 | <b>Auckland Grammar Sport</b>        | <b>Workshop</b>       |

## 1. Pre AGM Workshop

### a. National Series

A brief review of the NZ MTB Cup (National Series) 2016 was provided. Challenges with the Series were noted, including the prohibitive expense of UCI anti-doping requirements for C1/2 sanctioned events. Concerns were raised about the very tight timeframe in which the series was delivered, which may have impacted on participation.

A revised compact, high quality format was proposed for the National Series 2017. It was acknowledged that the events must provide competition truly representative of National racing. The structure of a minimum of two double header weekends (with practice day on Fridays and qualification/racing on Saturdays and Sundays) was recommended, with one double header race in the North Island and one in the South Island for each code (DHI and XCO). This would provide racers with a four race National Series for each code held over two weekends, optimizing rider, club and organizer resourcing.

It was acknowledged that the National Series events must be of a sufficiently appropriate technical nature. The evolution of each code internationally means that finding venues where XCO and DHI can be co-located is challenging. It was recommended that the Series should move away from enforcing combined XCO and DHI venues if it assists the practicality of the delivery of the National Series. Dates for all events should be de-conflicted to allow riders to maximize participation across disciplines.

The addition of the National Championships as a final fifth round to the National Series was discussed and was seen as beneficial.

It was proposed that Regional awards would be recognized with Champions of the North Island and Champions of the South Island acknowledged at the conclusion of each weekend of racing. It was proposed that Age Grade podium-getters receive product prizes and prizemoney must be guaranteed for the top three finishers in the Elite Men and Elite Women categories. Jerseys should be awarded for Overall National Series Champions across Age Grade and Elite categories to promote and reward the significance of the achievement.

The quality of delivery of the National Series 2017 must be consistent in the areas of presentation and promotion, venues, courses and travel access. Dates and venues must be confirmed by end of July 2016 for announcement in August 2016. Dates should avoid conflict with the UCI sanctioned rounds of the MTB Australia National Series to ensure maximum participation of our top Elite racers is achieved in the NZ National Series while providing opportunity for those racers to pursue UCI points in Australia in preparation for international racing.

Online entries should be encouraged wherever possible.

The National Series will be held in January and February 2017 and should build towards the pinnacle national event of the season, National Championships.

Hosting UCI C1/2 events as part of the National Series remains a mid to long term goal of MTBNZ but will not be pursued in 2017 due to the prohibitive costs of anti-doping.

It would be expected that MTBNZ provide commissaires, medals, jerseys, MTBNZ branded banners and potentially assist with prizemoney. MTBNZ would also provide Event Guidelines and assist with organizational support.

MTBNZ should liaise with CNZ about becoming host agency for National Championships 2017. (*Action: Gil Peters, President*)

b. Secondary Schools Championships

The structure of the Secondary Schools Championships was discussed. It was agreed that a “soft” National Series structure should be continued to allow college/school racers to gain familiarity with the structure of National races.

It was discussed that Secondary Schools Championships have previously been held in October or March (within school holiday timetables) and should ideally be timed to feed into the National Series and National Championships in 2017.

c. NZ Crown

It was discussed that Kashi Leuchs has indicated an opportunity for MTBNZ to acquire NZ Crown. This platform could easily provide a qualification or ranking system, which has been highlighted by DHI racers as being an issue at National Series events. NZ Crown allows accumulation of points for local, regional and national events as well as UCI points, so covers a broad range of events for all abilities as well as good coverage of events across the country.

The financial and manpower costs of NZ Crown was discussed. The site requires 10 to 12 hours per week to maintain the site, input results and communicate with racer organizers. Running costs of NZ Crown are estimated to be around \$18-20k per annum. It was agreed that MTBNZ must ensure that there is the capacity to guarantee meeting the ongoing maintenance of NZ Crown given the degree of investment required.

Potential opportunities for revenue streams via NZ Crown from advertising were discussed and seen as beneficial.

The development of awards to recognize rider achievements were discussed and considered beneficial. These awards could include Male and Female Rider of the Year and Endurance Racer of the Year.

d. Insurance

Liability insurance for all MTB clubs wishing to take up the CNZ insurance package will now need to be affiliated to MTBNZ in order to access the comprehensive CNZ insurance cover. This is seen as an area that MTBNZ can add value to clubs given the increasing costs of liability insurance from the commercial market in the current environment. This may also encourage an increase in MTBNZ’s membership base.

e. National CX Championships

The National CX Championships have previously been run as a mix of UCI sanctioned and non-UCI sanctioned events. There is currently no clear pathway for the CX discipline under either CNZ or MTBNZ.

It was proposed and agreed that MTBNZ could act as host agency for National CX Championships should the race organizers seek to pursue a UCI sanctioned event. CX National Championships race organizers must accept that all riders competing in a UCI sanctioned event of this caliber hold current valid racing licenses.

f. Other Business

(i) *Legacy Issues*

The ongoing impact of legacy issues on MTBNZ was discussed. The MTBNZ Secretary role remains vacant. It is a priority for this position to be filled to strengthen the communication capacity of MTBNZ. Kim Hurst (PNP) confirmed her expression of interest.

(ii) *Athlete Development Pathway*

The Performance Development Centre in Rotorua is near completion. Athlete Development Pathways are being established under the High Performance arm of Cycling NZ.

(iii) *Trail Advocacy*

TrailFund is now the primary body for trail development and advocacy. It was agreed that MTBNZ should seek to build a collaborative working relationship with TrailFund and clarify responsibilities of both parties to ensure MTBNZ clubs and members have a clear pathway to access support for advocacy issues.

(iv) *Core Business*

The core business of MTBNZ was discussed. It was proposed that following the establishment of TrailFund, MTBNZ's primary role is to act as the advocate of the competitive arm of the sport and ensure the existence of competitive pathways in New Zealand for the development of athletes in the sport. A three year Strategic Plan should be constructed. The MTBNZ Constitution requires updating given the changes that have occurred since it was last updated in 2009. It was agreed that it is critical to improve the awareness of MTBNZ activities among the club membership base and seek to provide better value for those affiliated clubs moving forward.

## 2. AGM

**Welcome:** Gil Peters.

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

**Apologies:** Howard McConachie (Gravity Canterbury), Jeremy Christmas (Cycling NZ/Rotorua MTB Club), Mark Sprosen (Auckland DH), Scott Wright (Bike Wanaka), Marco Renalli (PNP)

Gil welcomed attendees to the AGM. In accordance with the MTBNZ Constitution, representation of ten clubs is required for a quorum. As only seven clubs were represented and no proxies were received, AGM proceedings were adjourned.

Gil advised that an SGM would be held in June with notice provided in due course. Meeting transferred to a General Discussion Workshop.

## 3. General Discussion Workshop

### a. Financial Position

Chris Arbuckle (Treasurer) presented an overview of MTBNZ's financial position. Financial records are now in order. Ninety percent of revenue is from club membership which consists of 22 affiliated clubs (a significant increase from 13 affiliated clubs in 2014). There are 52 potential clubs and MTBNZ should seek to expand its membership base by delivering improved value to clubs.

(i) *Brief Summary of Current Financial Position 2015/16 (to be finalized 30/6/16)*

Income – membership \$13k, National Series \$2.4k.

Expenditure – National Series \$11.5k, World Championships 2015 Team support \$5.7k.

Cash - \$3k.

*Expenditure to support the World Championships team in 2016 will be financed under Cycling NZ which will assist in strengthening MTBNZ's financial position.*

### b. Membership

(i) *Administration Costs*

Administration costs are currently zero and are entirely underpinned by volunteer efforts. Gil Peters (President) and Chris Arbuckle (Treasurer), along with several Executive members have subsidized the running costs of MTBNZ since assuming their positions by wholly covering their personal expenses. It was agreed that MTBNZ is currently in a precarious position and it is critical for progress to be driven by the Executive to move MTBNZ to a sustainable position as a matter of high priority.

(ii) *Membership Fees*

MTBNZ affiliation fees were capped last year to encourage uptake. There are 6 large clubs who form the bulk of the membership. It was acknowledged that membership should remain cost effective for both parties and adding value for club members must continue to be sought. Cycling NZ agreed that it is acceptable

for clubs to provide demographic numbers rather than full membership details for large clubs with a predominantly recreational base who may otherwise be dissuaded from affiliating due to member privacy concerns.

(iii) *Donations*

MTBNZ receives a limited number of donations from non-club entities.

(iv) *Enhancing Value*

It was agreed that it is crucial for MTBNZ to improve the value offering to its membership base. Communications should be addressed as a matter of priority. The MTBNZ Secretary role remains vacant and should be filled expediently. Kim Hurst (PNP) confirmed her expression of interest for this role. The CNZ Ride Leader Programme may be another area to add value to affiliated clubs. Manawatu MTB Club and MTB Otago have both recently established very successful skills programmes and the CNZ Ride Leader Programme may compliment those areas of growth well. Sponsorship opportunities should be sought to provide additional benefit to the membership base.

(v) *Advocacy*

MTBNZ provides an important advocacy role to Cycling NZ.

(vi) *Core Business*

The core business of MTBNZ was discussed. Since the establishment of TrailFund, MTBNZ now largely provides a conduit for the competitive element of the sport.

c. National Series

The National Series 2017 was discussed. The discussion mirrored that held during the Pre AGM Workshop on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015.

*Please refer to 1a for further details.*

d. NZ Crown

NZ Crown was discussed. The discussion mirrored that held during the Pre AGM Workshop on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015.

*Please refer to 1c for further details.*

e. Communication

It was discussed that the current MTBNZ website is not fit for purpose and its use has been suspended. The development of a robust website that meets the requirement of members should be prioritised and implemented within no more than a 6 month time period. It was agreed that the MTBNZ Facebook page would be developed as a reliable resource of information in the interim. It was agreed that it is important for MTBNZ to enhance its media presence and improve communication streams with clubs and members.

f. XCM National Championships

The interest in establishing an XCM National Championships was briefly discussed. It would be beneficial for the National racing calendar for this event to be UCI sanctioned, however this adds to the administrative and cost burden.

g. Athlete Development

Athlete Development Pathways are currently being created. The Performance Development Centre is nearing completion in Rotorua. Squads will be formed by invitation and this structure will provide an intermediate step to High Performance carding. The club representatives present expressed interest in MTBNZ creating a resource regarding the criteria Cycling NZ are likely to implement in the identification of athletes so they can prepare suitable club members accordingly.

**Kim Hurst**

**Acting Secretary**