



President's Newsletter February 2019 – Mike Sim

With the season in full swing and several of our National Championships having been run plus a Track World Cup, and with more still to come, it is an opportune time to reflect and also highlight what is coming up for Road & Track in the next few months.

Events

In November, we again had the *Vantage Criterium Nationals* in Takapuna. Well organised by the events team at Cycling New Zealand and managed on the day by a great team of Commissaires, this was another very successful event supported by a large and enthusiastic crowd of spectators feeling the breeze as riders raced by them. Feedback from riders was also very positive and an inner city “Crit Champs” such as this in New Zealand’s largest city is a great way to widely showcase our sport to the public.

The Vantage Elite & U23 Road Nationals again took to the streets in sunny Hawkes Bay but for the last time after a 4-year run. Again, living up to its reputation as the sunny capital of New Zealand we saw some exciting racing and very impressive results with U23 riders claiming both the women’s and men’s National Champion jerseys. For the public to be able to see most of our professional cyclists in person rather than on the TV or internet from the other side of the world is truly worth the effort it takes from organisers, volunteers and officials to bring road racing into an urban area. Expressions of Interest for running the next few years of the Elite & U23 National Road Championships went out at the end of 2018 and responses will be considered and announcements made soon.

After just over three years since we did it the first time, New Zealand again hosted a round of the *Tissot UCI Track World Cup*. Not quite as big as 2015, there were still nearly 40 nations represented with some very exciting and close racing. New Zealand took out the Best Overall Nation Award winning 5 of the 12 events setting new records in the process. With a tremendous amount of work before and during the event from the CNZ Events Team, and a large group of volunteers and officials, things ran smoothly, and a high bar has been set for the return of the event in Dec 2019, just seven months out from the Tokyo Olympics.

The Vantage Elite & U19 and the Age Group Track Nationals are back in Cambridge from the 7th – 10th March, completing a very busy period for the Waikato region. With inspiration from the world class riders seen at the World Cup, including our own medallists, there is bound to be more fantastic racing to be enjoyed by spectators, riders, volunteers and officials.

To complete this season of championships, in mid-April we head to the beautiful south, to Timaru, for the *Vantage Age Group Road National Championships* where riders get to ride for their club. With some great roads, a strong cycling community and plenty for supporters to do, and a short

work week after Easter with Anzac Day, there is great incentive to be there to close out our road season.

It has been a very busy season, the success of which is possible through the huge efforts of the events team at Cycling New Zealand, the race organisers, all our officials and the many other volunteers. On behalf of the road & track cycling community we give thanks and gratitude for your contributions as without you these events just wouldn't happen.

Cycling New Zealand Conference Weekend, AGM & Awards Dinner

After all the excitement of racing, in May our focus turns to the management and direction of our sport. While we can interact with our members in a huge number of ways throughout the year, the **Cycling New Zealand Conference weekend and AGM** remains very important as a time that the NSO Cycling New Zealand, and the member organisations, Road & Track, MTBNZ, BMXNZ and Schools Cycling, and our members, can come together to discuss what we are doing and where we are going.

We return to the North Island this year, with the Conference weekend and AGM being held on the 25th and 26th May at the Avantidrome, Cambridge. As we did last year, attendees can travel on Sat morning, the **Road and Track Council** will run a **workshop** on Saturday afternoon, the **Cycling New Zealand Awards Dinner** will be on Saturday night, and the **CNZ Road & Track AGM** will be on Sunday morning followed by the **Cycling New Zealand AGM** late Sunday morning with an expected finish around lunch time to enable attendees to head home with just one night away.

Centres, please start identifying your delegates and make flight and accommodation bookings to attend and contribute to the discussions on where our sport should be heading and how to get there plus enjoy a great evening celebrating the successes of the last 12 months.

If you are wishing to attend this weekend please contact faye.christensen@cyclingtonewzealand.nz to note your attendance. Closer to the event a full programme will be put up on the Cycling New Zealand website and communicated through their newsletter.

The Road & Track Workshop (25th May)

Saturday afternoon of the Conference Weekend we will again hold a CNZ Road & Track Workshop and we welcome suggestions for topics of national interest for discussion, particularly related to building a sustainable future for our sport. For example, membership, events and the Club/schools licencing initiative.

What else is on your mind that is of national interest? The Council wants to hear from our members and welcome your input. Please send any topics to m.sim@gns.cri.nz **before 31st March**. We have only a few hours for the workshop so this submission deadline will give Council time to prioritise a few topics, advise the country what those topics are, and so allow us all to consider them before the 25th May workshop.

2018 National Awards (presented at the Cycling New Zealand Awards Dinner 25th May)

Our National Awards are a great way to thank and reward the many people that make our sport happen and to recognise outstanding achievements. The awards are listed below.

We would love you to nominate people who you believe deserve any of the awards below. To make this easy for you we have set up an online platform for you to use to nominate people. Please click on this link to do so <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XTWR93>

Closing date for nominations is the 17th March.

- ❖ **Malayan Cup**- Outstanding contribution to the sport of cycling. Generally, for the last season but not limited to just one season. Can only be won once.
- ❖ **Shona Smith Trophy**- The person lifting the profile of women in our sport over the last 12 months.
- ❖ **Coach of the Year**- Outstanding coaching achievements in the last 12 months.
- ❖ **Face of Cycling**- Athlete bringing recognition to the sport through their endeavours during the year.
- ❖ **Event of the Year**- Outstanding event of the year.
- ❖ **Club of the Year**- Club that has done something extraordinary this last year.
- ❖ **Masters Athlete of the year**- Outstanding master's athlete of the year (male and female).

The Awards Dinner is a special night where all the cycling codes come together to recognise outstanding contribution and success in our sport. Anyone is able to attend so if you would like to attend, please email faye.christensen@cyclingsnewzealand.nz to book your seat.

Look forward to seeing some of you at the conference weekend for a great discussion on the future of our sport.

Yours in Cycling

Mike Sim
President
Cycling New Zealand Road and Track

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