

Newsletter

15 April 2017



Duty Roster

15 April, Yarra Glen

Tony Curulli (R), Ray Russo (TC), Rob Lackey (TC), Keith Wade, Alex Randall, Brett Morton, Daniel Ives, Max Michelson, Peter Morris, Darren Rutherford

22 April, Club Criterium Championships, Casey Fields

Tony Curulli (R), John Cochrane, Barry Ellem

If rostered for duty, you must be at there at least 1 hour prior to start time. It's your responsibility to find a replacement if unable to do your duty, then advise Andrew Buchanan, tiptop2@optusnet.com.au

Editor: Nick Tapp
nick.tapp@detail-ed.com.au



Just a regular week's racing at METEC this week. Look inside for race reports and photos. This Saturday the action is at Yarra Glen, and the following week, on 22 April, it's the Club Criterium Championships at Casey Fields. For those relatively new to the club, championship races are run in five-year age groups, rather than the usual grades. They are only open to Eastern members, and you must have completed at least three races with the club (on Saturday, Tuesday or Wednesday) since 1 November last year to qualify for the Criterium Championship. More information on the Club Championships can be found on the website at easternvets.com/calendar/.

The Spring Classics are not even finished yet, but it's time to put the Club's Tour de France night in your diary. Saturday 22 July is the date, the Kilsyth Club is the place, and there's a great program taking shape. More details in due course.



B Grade was the biggest bunch on Saturday. Photo: Mark Edwards



Graded scratch races, METEC, 8 April

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd
A Grade (11)	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	Rob Amos	Phi I Smith
B Grade (15)	Peter Morris	Colin Doherty	Chris Ellenby
C Grade (12)	Rob Giles	Dean Niclasen	Rob Lewis
D Grade (8)	John Cochrane	John C. Wilson	Keith Wade
E Grade (9)	Clive Wright	John Eddy	Jim Swainston
F Grade (3)	Laurie Bohn	Rod Goodes	Michael Waterfield

A Grade

A good turn-up of quality riders in A Grade, including most of the fast finishers. (Yes, that includes J-P, who *is* a sprinter – just not the fastest sprinter!)

The pace was on from the start, with the whole bunch rolling through, thus keeping attacks to a minimum. A few attacks by Phil Smith and Roy Clark didn't get too far away. B Grade had been lapped three times before the 30-minute mark, after which Phil launched another strong attack. Rob Amos and J-P were quick to react, working hard to establish a gap, Roy also bridging across a couple of laps later along with Peter Howard and Chris Hughson.

Phil then put in another of his attacks just after they made contact, taking Peter and Chris off the back and out of the equation. Roy became a passenger, the form not enough to roll turns with the others. Phil continued with his attacks (he really is Eastern's own Philippe Gilbert) but Rob and J-P responded each time, despite Phil hoping that J-P would do the team thing and let him go.

The bell ringing 10 minutes early put an end to Phil's tactics, with J-P easily taking out the sprint despite leading out from Rob and Phil. Roy rolled

across in 4th, and the rest of the grade were scattered around the circuit.

Rob Amos



Rob Amos (left), Jean-Philippe Leclercq and Phil Smith got into the winning break in A Grade. Photo: Mark Edwards

B Grade

OK, I write with reluctance as Mark Edwards's excellent prose from last week still plasters a smile on my face and my acumen for the written word





One of John Thomson's solitary sacrifices. Photos: Mark Edwards

somewhat lacks such wit. Since Mark's efforts to prove the pen mightier than the Cervelo saw him today hiding behind a camera instead of a bigger rider, I thought I should step up and fill in the gaps in his impressive pixels. So here goes ...

Fifteen started, we rode around and around, a bell rang and I won. They tell me Colin Doherty survived for 2nd on a machine from another dimension! And the ever dangerous Red Menace, Chris Ellenby, hung in there for the minor placing. That is about it, however during the 'riding around and around' part of the race there were several attacks, usually solitary sacrifices by the likes of John Thomson, Chris and at least one other – sorry, I'm at a loss as to who else got away as it was all a bit of a blur after working too hard to bring back John.


There were a couple of collaborated attacks early, which I think I covered half-heartedly due to my fear of running out of steam. However, through more arse than class, we all seemed to be more or less back together by bell time. Maybe four or so of us had a bit of gap at this stage but, as I said, clarity, logic and strategy were long gone. The sprint was late. I sat second wheel, and since I had no plan, I

just waited. We rounded the final sweeper with no reaction, but not long after, the inevitable sound of rubber complaining against tarmac alerted me that Colin had decided to wind it up. I responded as he drew level and threatened to pass. Somehow, I found another kick in me and with a favourable draft on his left I managed to scrape in for a win.



Colin (left) and Pete slug it out.





The banter after the race was all about A Grade for me. I am holding onto the thin hope that this was just the usual codswallop handed out to the victor and I am still good for a few more B Grade starts. However, methinks the handicapper may have a different impression. If so, thanks go out to all of B Grade. My somewhat short stint in B over the last year or so has been some of the best racing in my ~15 year race record. So many solid and safe riders, all with different sets of strengths and tricks in their repertoire. When I was forced out of C, the B induction was short and sharp, I was constantly dropped on any course with a hill (Gruyere is the Antichrist and Yarra Glen is purgatory), but with more kilometres and more races, I found that I could hold my own, at least on the flatter courses, and especially if the wind left us alone. I think a few years back I had similar anguish when being promoted from D to C. So, maybe I can repeat this in A? No, I am dreaming!

Thanks to all who made the race possible today.

Pete Morris

E Grade

Back to our 'old faithful' METEC, with a bit of heat and a bit of wind making a reasonably hard day. Total number virtually the same as Casey the week before. Our Es were out in force, with nine facing the starter and the unfortunate Ray Watts caught on the Monash. METEC is best described as being like a country road, bumpy with a dead surface. Our group is a mixture of sprinters and stayers with a couple who can do a bit of both. God, no doubt, made sprinters to frustrate the strong people, and vice versa.

Barry Ellem always likes to get us under way with a few solid laps. We were a pretty even crew, so no-one proved to be a breakaway threat, which was a huge relief to me as last time at METEC I lost two laps. It was pleasing to see how well Andrew Rutherford and Susan Williams were riding in the bunch after a couple of months' racing. Barry Beachley also showed he is getting the hang of it.

As we neared the finish, it was obvious that Clive Wright and John Eddy were taking a keen interest

in proceedings. I moved to the front approaching the last corner and tried to sustain my run for as long as possible, but canny Clive made a decisive move about 100 metres out, hotly pursued by John, and hung on by a nostril. I hung on for 3rd while Tony Lateo tells me he made up quite a bit of ground.

The presentation format made for a good variation. Another enjoyable and safe day.

Thanks to all.

Jim Swainston



*The red hats head for the line, with Jim on the right.
Photo: Mark Edwards*

And a correction from last week ...

I had Ian McGeoch pegged as a Northerner, mainly because he was in the next postcode when he cruised across the line, but my sincere apologies, Ian. I was told a few times you are one of us, the very best of us. So very well done, old chap, and thanks for the lead-out!

To any of you marauders heading across Fitzsimmons Lane, Chandler Highway and Warrandyte, I would like to apologise to you too, but, well, you know ...

When a handsome young man with a very thick French accent steps up to register at Northern Boulevard and says 'D Grade' – Oh la la!

Mark Edwards





Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Kew, 12 April

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1 (7)	David Holt	Phi Cavaleri	Agostino Giramondo (N)
Division 2 (15)	Darryl Beovich (N)	Chris Ellenby	Russell Wheelhouse
Division 3 (6)	Dean Niclasen	Kevin Mills	Neil Cartledge
Division 4 (8)	John Eddy	Clive Wright	Barry Ellem

Future events

Eastern Vets

For other events, please refer to page 1 of this newsletter, or go to <http://easternvets.com/roster/>.

Note: Graded Scratch Race entries are accepted on the day up to 15 minutes before the advertised race start time. Handicap entries close the Tuesday before the race. Riders entering a handicap MUST pay the entry fee regardless of participation. Fees are due on race day; entrants will NOT be allowed to start in any EVCC race until fees have been paid.

No late entries will be accepted for either scratch races or handicaps. Entries to handicaps can be submitted to the handicapper via email or TeamApp or on any race day prior to the event.

Training rides

Day/Time/Place	Route	Style
Sunday mornings Beach Road Ride. Leave 8.00 am sharp. Meet at Peanut Farm Reserve, cnr Blessington & Chaucer Sts, St Kilda	Ride along Beach Rd to Frankston. 10 min stop. Then ride back to St Kilda (approx. 65 km)	Social ride, coffee back at St Kilda
Saturday mornings (7.30 am) and Sundays/public holidays (8.00 am) Meet at Ringwood Clock towers, Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood	Maroondah Hwy to Carlton for coffee, then return	Fast social





Sponsors



BikeGearNow

