

Newsletter



Duty Roster

Saturday 21 July, Gruyere

Tony Curulli (R), Ken Saxton (TC), Andrew Nielsen (TC), John Macleod (TC), Bernie Evans, John Cochrane, Chris Hughson, Dave Worland, Mark Wallace, Garry Wishart, David Pyne

Saturday 28 July, Yarra Glen

Richard Dobson (R), Walter Savini (TC), Rob Giles (TC), Sean Hardy, Nathan White, Craig Oliver, Dave Cheslett, Glenn Newnham, Clive Wright, David Holt, Brad Jones

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



Interclub rivalry went on hold last Saturday for a round of graded scratch races at Casey Fields, beginning with 'last rider missing out' for C Grade – the day's largest bunch. Results and reports are inside.

We face an uphill battle in more ways than one when the Tour de Metro (Eastern vs Northern) resumes at Gruyere on Saturday. Northern leads the series by 124 points to 83 at the halfway point. It's still up for grabs, but we need a big effort – and the first step is to be there on the start line in force. Racing starts at 2 pm and the registration desk (on Killara Road, outside the footy oval) will close at 1.45 pm sharp. Don't forget your tail light! See also 'Social notes' in News etc. later in this newsletter.



Mountain goats, come race at Gruyere!

Graded scratch races, Casey Fields, 14 July

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
A Grade (14)	Phil Smith	Chris Hughson	Perry Peters	--
B Grade (10)	Ian Smith	Mark Edwards	Nick Tapp	--
C Grade (18)	Rob Truscott (1st GSR, 2nd MO)	Adam Dymond (2nd GSR, 3rd MO)	Franc Tomsic (1st MO)	Dean Tune (3rd GSR)
D Grade (12)	Harry Hibgame	Ken Allan	Bryan Bull (N)	--
E Grade (4)	John Eddy	Pat Ruys	Ron Stranks	--
F Grade (4)	Laurie Bohn	Clive Wright	Rod Goodes	--

B Grade

By Mark Edwards

Casey is not everyone's favourite circuit. That's fine by me. The wind can sometimes be unkind but hills are always cruel, especially after browsing and grazing and sipping for a couple of weeks in Nice. With little chance of rain or sun or wind or warmth, it would be a fine day to roll around.

We started without B+ers C. Ellenby and D. Niclasen. Those white helmets are not quite as scary as their Syrian counterparts yet they still terrorise me. Nice to see the other Ian Smith back rolling with us and Paul James looking to test himself. We had a few push off the front early, mostly big Doug. I had a couple of surges to see if I could get someone to come for the ride, or at least soften the legs of those annoying sprinters, but the whole pack kept pulling me back.

Having tried and failed, I decided to sit in for a while – just as Dougie (again!) slid off and Nick Tapp tucked in. There was a bit of awkwardness as everyone wondered who would chase, and when. A few surges and fades, no-one keen to do a lot of bridging work and then get skinned. Meanwhile, our two leaders were going out of sight – no mean feat at Casey – and the kickers were thinking about 3rd.

I like Tappy, as fine a bloke as he is fine, and Doug, he's come to my rescue with last-minute bike fixes, he's towed me around here and there, and he's always smiling. Apart from playing for the Pies, he's all good. I'd always be happy for either of them to win, just not quite as happy as if it were me! Since I couldn't get across alone, I decided to boss a rolling chase. I dug in for a bit, rolled up to a speed I doubted the two away could match, and started 'encouraging' turns. A few were a bit tentative, a couple were tired but everyone had at least a crack.

I'm not sure in what order, but the chase group was whittled from eight down to four as Morris, James, Crowe and Suter wilted, leaving the fab four, Mackie, Smith, Matt White and me, rolling turns and gaining, little by little. Up ahead they lifted, but we soon enough got to about 50 m behind. I called off the chase, thinking we would let them dangle. It's a cruel game. We shadowed and freshened up as much as we could until it was nearing time. I thought we should try to blow by in one sharp attack, called it but most were not enthusiastic. I had a crack but no-one else came so I rejoined. I was just thinking how strong, how tough, how handsome and how *fast* we all were, and how impressed our women would be, when A Grade blew by with the former Bs comfortably sat on, and then I felt a bit meh.



I could do that too, if only I were faster and stronger ...

Still, there was three envelopes for six riders to be decided. I called I was going to go early – a mind game and actually my intention, but the pace wound up too fast. I was sitting in counting chickens, wondering if I should zip up to show the logo, when Smithy lit up and took off. He looked like he jumped the gun as he had about a furlong before anyone could respond. I was a bit anxious about pedalling around the U-bend, but not enough to stop me. As we straightened up for the slight uphill dig, we were all fighting for 2nd as Smithy powered away without a by-your-leave. I got over Nick, who just got over Matt for 3rd. I would have been happy for us all to get a place, especially Doug as he had worked so hard for so long. Another day.

An after-podium beer always tastes better. We stood around in the weak winter sun reliving the ride and talking tactics for next week. Thanks to all involved for another great day.



The B Grade podium: (L-R) Mark, Ian and Nick

E Grade

By Pat Ruys

It was great to see my coach Stef (Trivelo) at Casey before the race started and that race was interesting, to say the least. First lap was neutral, rolled down the hill and I couldn't believe that I dropped the others; I was pedalling backwards so John Cochrane, Ron Stranks and Ray Watts could catch up. When they rolled past I just sat on the back until the start/finish line.

The race was on. I didn't want to just sit on so I went to the front straight away. For the next three laps I was on the front the whole time, with the others just sitting on. As we crossed the line for the fourth time around I wanted to get off the front. I even slowed down to 18 km/h, but still no one passed me. So I thought, what the hell, I might as well keep going. With the pace up, at the bottom of the hill I slowed down a bit for the right-hand turn and finally the three shot past me.

Just what I wanted, a bit of a breather, but it didn't take long before they were 50, then 100 and maybe even 250 metres ahead of me. I was dropped on a flat course. I just couldn't believe it at first, but my motto is not to give up so I dug in and with the encouragement of my coach on the start/finish line I pushed on. It took me at least four laps before I caught the three but, typical me, I didn't just sit on, I went straight to the front. I was warm now so I kept the speed up and didn't bother slowing down. John jumped on my wheel. I kept my head down and didn't look back. As we came up to the right-hand turn before the finish line I said to John that we had dropped Ron and Ray. For the next six to 10 laps I kept the pace up, our lead was growing over the other two, and not once did I ask John to do a turn.

We got the bell at 44 minutes. I don't know why I did it but I slowed down a bit on the last lap, still on front coming around the last right-hand turn. We sprinted for the line and I think John beat me by about half a wheel. Even though John beat me over the line, still extremely happy with the result because I made the race my own and rode on my terms. Ron came in 3rd and Ray was 4th.





Don't forget, Eastern mountain goats (riders), Gruyere this weekend and Yarra Glen the following weekend. Your club needs you to help us retain the trophy. Northern are in front at the moment, but let Eastern shine with your greatness, win and place the first five over the line.

F Grade managed four starters, being Michael Waterfield, Rod Goodes, Clive Wright and myself. After watching the C Grade miss and out event, away we went in a clockwise direction, which provides a different outlook on the Casey circuit. I was thinking maybe a different race plan, but race plans no longer count for us 80-year-old F Graders. The four of us soon settled into a steady rhythm, working turn for turn right up to the final bend, when Clive jumped away so I engaged the short-twitch muscle fibres (according to Dr Waterfield) and reached the line just ahead of Clive, with Rod 3rd.

Thanks to all officials and other riders for a good safe afternoon.



The place-getters in E Grade: (L-R) Pat, John and Ron



Older and wiser? (L-R) Clive, Laurie and Rod

F Grade

By Laurie Bohn

What a great day (weather wise) to return to racing after sorting out some minor health problems and my wife having a complete knee replacement (major).

Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Yarra Boulevard, 18 July

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1a (4)	Russell Newnham	Fraser Short (N)	Robert Young
Division 1b (7)	Nick Tapp	David Rooke (N)	Chris Ellenby
Division 2 (6)	Ian Smith	Richard Dobson	Roman Suran
Division 3 (9)	Ken Allan	Simon Bol (N)	Peter Gray
Division 4 (2)	Barry Rodgers	Laurie Bohn	--

Thanks to referee Mark Edwards, first-aider Michael Waterfield, Dean Niclasen and helpers.



News etc.

Social notes

This week Helen Edwards (right) is supplying about 40 cups of hot soup (pea and ham, cauliflower and cheese) with a plain roll after the race. She is asking for a gold coin donation (or more) for [The Wellington](#), a community house in Collingwood. We don't have enough cups so, if you can, please bring your own.

Helen is having a go on the Social Committee and will be keen to meet and greet and take suggestions for what activities you might like to happen. She is a rider (ask her about California, New York, Copenhagen, France, Edinburgh, Berlin) but has no interest in racing herself. She is keen to encourage other partners to get involved. It doesn't have to be in Lycra.



Special resolution meeting

A reminder that there will be a special resolution meeting at 7 pm on Wednesday 8 August at the Maroondah Sports Club, Mount Dandenong Road, Ringwood, to consider and vote on the following changes to the EVCC constitution:

Rule 11 & 1. Amendment of the constitution to allow a change to the club's name.
In summary, to rename the club as the Eastern Cycling Club.

If you cannot attend, you can appoint a proxy to vote for you by completing a proxy form, which is available on the website in the links/documents tab and at the end of this newsletter. The member you appoint as your proxy must attend the meeting and give the form to the secretary 30 minutes before the meeting.


Dispatches – they're back!

John Williams is well under way on his European adventure in three stages: riding solo and self-supported from Barcelona to Luchon in the Pyrenees; spending 10 days with our friends from Croydon Cycleworks in Luchon, climbing many of the iconic Tour de France ascents, including the mighty Col du Tourmalet; and finally, riding from Paris to Edinburgh, catching up with friends from the UK. You can follow his progress by going to <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/z0c0deqzjsuzmbs/AABS567ZVADGMvxpRLEeXNHJa?dl=0>. Here is just a snippet.

Not many people would know this, but my great great grandfather, Edgar J. Williams, was one of the early settlers. There is a family tale that has been passed down through the generations about when he arrived in Australia. He and the other men worked day after day chopping down trees to clear land to live on and cultivate. Edgar and another fellow, Kelly was his name, were

clearly the strongest axemen, and it was decided one day to find out who was truly the champion. Subscriptions were collected for a prize pool and both men were allocated separate sections of woodland and a time limit of 8 hours. As it happened, while they couldn't see one another, they could each hear the other's axe blows. Around 10 o'clock, Kelly noticed that Edgar's





blows had ceased. He must be having a break so Kelly thought to redouble his efforts to establish a lead. Around 12.30 and 3 o'clock the same thing happened. By the end Kelly was confident he must have won. He had indeed established a considerable pile of lumber. Yet, as it turned out, when he saw Edgar's pile, he had to agree it was significantly greater, so the prize and bragging rights went to my great great great grandfather, Edgar J. Williams. Ned, as most people called Kelly, later approached him and asked how he did it, especially as he took so many breaks. 'Ah, that would have been when I stopped to sharpen the axe', replied Edgar.

Edgar later returned to England. 'Couldn't abide the cold fizzy piss they call beer, and the flies', he was quoted as saying. He also muttered something about cheating bastards, ball tampering and abrasive paper, though at the time nobody had a clue what he was banging on about. Anyway, the rest, as they say, is history.

Why am I sharing this story with you now, you may be wondering? Well, I'm sharpening my axe! I am 2 km from another freakin' summit, and I am completely stuffed.



We always check our facts here and, when asked, John replied that the story '... may have been embellished a little over the generations, but I believe the basic facts hold true. Little did I know, I was only 400 m @ 4% from the summit so, once sharpened, I made it easy. I checked my GPS later, the temperature was 35°C.

Helmet covers

A reminder that there are helmet covers missing in all colours except purple. If you find one among your kit, please do not wash it, as they are not colour fast. Just return it to Peter Gray or at the desk on race day.

Track 'n' Treasure, 25 August at DISC

Visit <http://vic.cycling.org.au/News/track-n-treasure-2> for more information.

Please contact Madam Secretary if you have something to sell and we will organise a club table (\$40).

Check-in and set-up are between 10 am and 1 pm on the day of the event. The event will be open for patrons to attend between 4.30 and 7 pm.





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 or Wednesday before the race, as advertised. Riders who enter a handicap *must* pay the entry fee regardless of whether they participate. 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 before the event.

Northern Vets

For details, go to <http://northerncycling.com.au>.

Sponsors



PROXY VOTE FORM

I, the undersigned, _____ (name)

of _____ (address)

being a member of Eastern Veterans Cycling Club,

hereby appoint _____ (name
of appointed person)

of _____ (address)

or, failing him/her, the President for the time being of the meeting, as my proxy to attend and vote on my behalf at the special resolution meeting of the Eastern Veterans Cycling Club to be held on

_____ (date of meeting).

Signed on _____ (date of signing)

_____ (signature)

To amend the constitution to change the name to Eastern Cycling Club

YES

NO