

Eastern Cycling Club

13 April 2019

Newsletter

Duty Roster

Sunday 14 April, Bazalgette Dve
Tony Curulli (R), Roman Suran,
Craig Stannard, Paul Anderson

Saturday 20 April, METEC
Andrew Buchanan (R), Craig
Stannard, Anthony Netkow

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

Banner photo: Pete Morris

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

The 2019 Club Criterium Championships at Casey Fields last Saturday attracted 57 riders, who battled the usual Casey breezes as well as their peers in age. Results are inside, and some of our favourite correspondents have returned to the keyboard to report on their races. Tuesday racing is of course done and dusted for another summer, and Wednesday at the Loop was cancelled this week after the course was judged too wet for safety.

Racing this coming weekend is at 9 am Sunday morning at another new criterium circuit, at Bazalgette Drive, Dandenong South. As usual, you can enter on the day, or ahead of time via TeamApp.

Also inside, it's been a long time coming and you won't want to miss the big reveal of the new club kit, with details of how to get hold of your set ...



All the podium line-ups from Saturday's Club Criterium Championships at Casey Fields. Results are inside.





Club Criterium Championships, Casey Fields, 6 April

Age group	1st	2nd	3rd
Women			
45–49	Kym Petersen	Veronica Vandenbroeck	--
50–54	Dale Maizels	--	--
60–64	Sue Sharples	--	--
Men			
40–44	Nathan White	--	--
45–49	Andrew Mapstone	Perry Peters	--
50–54	Paul Webster	Glenn Newnham	Jean-Philippe Leclercq
55–59	Steve Ross	Phil Cavaleri	Ray Russo
60–64	Kevin King	Rob Amos	Nick Tapp
65–69	Mark Edwards	Chris Ellenby	Peter Webb
70–74	John Thomson	Geoff Miller	--
75–79	Harry Hibgame	John Eddy	Clive Wright
80–84	Laurie Bohn	--	--
85+	Rod Goodes	Michael Waterfield	--

Men 60–64


By Nick Tapp

It's no secret that Club Championships bring us up against riders we might never otherwise face in a graded scratch race. In many cases, who will occupy the final podium is all but a foregone conclusion and the rest of the field are on a hiding to nothing. With this in mind, before the start of our race, Hylton Preece put about the idea of a half-hour of mercy – rolling turns, no attacks, that sort of thing. Nuh-uh. It took roughly half a

minute after the end of the neutral lap before it was on in earnest. As befits a couple of youngsters, newbies in the group, Rob Amos initiated the first surge and Rob Suter was not slow to respond. Also quickly onto Rob A's wheel was Kevin King. The scene was set for a hard afternoon at Casey Fields.

It took a number of tries before Rob and Kevin finally got the gap they wanted. Once that happened and they were away, the main bunch settled into a pattern. Rob Suter would sit on the front for a while, until someone felt obliged to give him a break. More often than





not, that someone was Dale Maizels, reminding us that there were two other battles going on in our bunch. Kym Petersen and Veronica Vandenbroeck were contesting the women's 45–49 race. As the lone woman in the 50–54 age group, Dale didn't need to beat anyone to win, but came through regularly to do a turn on the front, even so.

Stephen Barnard and Hylton were going strongly and stuck their noses into the wind as well, and Ian Smith bravely took off up the road and held a gap for a while. I did the odd spell of work but mostly concentrated on sticking close to Rob S's wheel, which was hard enough for this lightweight.

When the bell lap finally came, I went to the front. I was feeling relatively OK and thought suddenly that Rob deserved a chance to freshen up for the sprint. Even so, probably not the best tactical choice. No one else seemed keen to take over so there I stayed, keeping half an eye out for a long attack, which I figured was most likely to come from Rob. With the wind behind us down the back straight, I gradually increased the pace. If someone did attack from the back, I wanted to be ready. Still no one came, and I made it through the final corner in the lead.

Ahead of us in the middle of the road was a lone straggler. I clicked up and went to the left, and here came Rob, head down and streaking up the right. No idea who else was in contention, but in any case the tactic would have been the same: go hard. And it worked.

Congratulations to Rob Amos and to Kevin, who got him in the sprint for 1st. I feel no shame in finishing 3rd behind those two. Hard luck to Rob Suter, the strongest in the race besides Kevin and Rob. And well done to everyone else. It was a safe, hard race, and you can't ask for much more. Except maybe a few more minutes of mercy.

Men 65–69 (I)

By Mark Edwards


The age group Club Championships is a biggie for me, a chance to race with peers rather than be tortured by the kids. I time up with two long rest days. I'm a good rest, it's my best cycling strength, and watching four Sophie Marceau movies back to back gets me excited, perhaps a little too much.

Our marriage counsellor said I should pay my bride more attention, or at least some attention, and take her places. I was already going to Casey so I thought, give her a proper Cranny treat – even better, our 42nd Anniversary Big Day Out. The seniors' discussion on the drive down, about daylight savings reversal and early airport alarms, is finally resolved with Sue Sharples's advice. Just set the oven alarm. Crisis averted.

But back to the race. The ranks of veterans 65 plus are thinning faster than the follicles. Our roster boy Andrew B. proves us old riders can still be cunning by putting serial winner Ken Mayberry on duty. We all heave a sigh of relief and move up one place. Thanks, Andy.

There's Webby, a meticulous man, today forgotten his kit bag, looking glum and sheepish and ready to go home until mates rally round. His big boy pants are switched for Dale's Aust. title kit, so he's in. It's me, A.B., Webby and – just up – Johnny B. Good Williams and Chris Ellenby. Hang on – Chris Ellenby? No fair. Check the birth certificate. The multiple A Grade winner, serial attacker and nationally placed brute, up against a ragtag bunch of club mugs? A bunch of retired Shetland ponies up against Winx.

We need to talk more about Ellenby. He haunts my cycling dreams. So he was an elite runner on Scholarship to Southern Baptist University. So he's a scratch golfer. So he works with supercomputers in some front for



the CIA. So he married a European model. He's chiselled from bluestone. Maybe he's a cyborg? He's been knocked off, fallen, broken bones, totalled bikes, gone under cars and missed like three days. He doesn't bleed or blink. I must take a magnet next time.

Apart from all that, and the legs, the lungs and the form, he's just like the rest of us. He's eased into Saturday with just the lazy five races in the week, combined with hard training rides in between. He's shaved, oiled, waxed, tanned, dyed and glinting in the sun. I look at my wife of 42 years and look back at Chris. She's prettier but it's scary close. This could hurt.

We roll away at pensioner pace, everyone doing a false turn while keeping one eye back for that vicious swoop, like riding in a monster magpie season. I do a lap and roll to the back and notice he's left a big hole for me to drop into. I'm not having it. I know I can cover a couple of attacks but not how many, and there's always one more. Attack, catch, retreat, repeat. We do a little polite dance of no after you sir please no you I insist, while the others roll well away up the road and start swapping turns. I'm not concerned. I really am concerned but I pretend I'm not, more for me than for him. I'm cool but more chilli than cucumber.

I'm still holding my only trump when we start working together, clawing them back, until he tries to skin and drop me. Wait, what? Fair enough, I knew it was coming, that's racing – but I'm definitely not gonna take another turn now. We can finish last and second last or else tow me back please Mr Chris. He does, steadily, with a touch of sad face. When we near the catch, in a newfound Philadelphian spirit I offer to blow by, and we try it downwind but those other old buggers are ready and straight on. All back together. Ho hum.

Chris is a good sprinter and a handy climber but his strength is his strength. He goes long, like boring long. If he gets four lengths, he's

gone and we're gone too. We all know that but it's easier to know how to stop him than to actually stop him. He starts in with his left hand – repeat surges. He's cool and cruel. It's written in our faces. I let Webby bridge time after time and roll across in his wake, but there comes that time when it's one too many. Andrew is first to go. J.W. on limited and interrupted prep is clinging on. I give Webby every opportunity to climb back on, I'm willing him across but it's not gonna happen so I have to kiss and drop and cross alone. Poor old Chris. If he wasn't so good I might have felt sympathy for him there in no man's land. He has to keep going or the others will be back – and I'm on a free ticket. Afterer he says he wanted a longer race, and windier, a proper man-shedding Casey buster. That would have done me in.

The bell lap comes early. The sprinters Webb and Williams are too close to play track games so Chris has to keep going. He's pulled 98 per cent of the load so far, I figure what's one last lap? Down the long straight I've got one unspent big kick saved but he hasn't so I get to roll over the line easing down. One for the little guys.


The strongest man hasn't won. We all know that. That's crit racing. I'll take it with just a hint of guilt and no shame. He forgives me but won't forget. It's filed away. He'll keep punishing me. Long may it continue.

Thanks to all. I love it.

Men 65–69 (II)

By Peter Webb

The Club Championships in the 65–69 age group (read reasonably old farts) was always going to be tough given that the contenders included one A Grader, three B Graders and one C Grader. Chris Ellenby had just moved into our age group and was clearly the strongest. Mark Edwards was the fastest, I



was the oldest (I think), John Williams was the cagiest and Andrew Buchanan was the bravest.

We started off at what can only be described as a lethargic pace with everyone keeping a eye on Chris. About ten minutes into the contest, John and I tried to nick off, this possibly being our only chance to beat Chris and Mark. Well, we got about 300 metres break, but when this pair decided to work together the advantage was quickly reduced. Andrew had been spat out at this point and was no longer in contention. Chris and Mark attacked again and I was spent, declaring to John that I couldn't bridge the gap to them. He did a massive turn to put us nearly onto them. I recovered and then pushed hard to try

to negate the losses. John was now spent and dropped off a bit. The bell rang and it was a race between Mark and Chris for the gold medal. Mark was always going to be quicker than Chris and that's the way it went. Mark 1st, Chris 2nd and me a very distant 3rd.

Postscript: I had a senior's moment and didn't put my racing gear into the car. Thanks to John Thomson for the jersey and mega thanks to Dale Maizels for the knicks (no jokes, you people). Dettol and a 3-hour wash will do the job.

The thing I take from today's racing is that, while we are all very competitive, we really appreciate being able to enjoy each other's company and respect our individual abilities.

News etc.

New kit finally arrives

Attention all members, your committee is excited to announce that the final design of the Club's new kit was approved during this week's meeting of the General Committee. After months of engaging with suppliers and reviewing various kit designs, we will be partnering with The Pedla, who have produced a quality design that is classic yet contemporary and brings to life the new branding of the club. This is a fantastic step forward that we are sure will please all current members and position us to attract new ones.

Launch

Major sponsor Croydon Cycleworks will host a MEMBERS NIGHT on Tuesday 7 May at 7pm. You will get the chance to try on a sample for size and feel the quality that The Pedla is known for. Make sure you put this date aside now in your diaries – a night not to be missed!

To help the launch and to raise funds for a new canopy for the club registration tent in the new club colours, we will be running a raffle with a new club kit (jersey and bib shorts) as 1st prize. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or three for \$20 and go on sale at Dandenong South graded scratch races this Sunday. The winner will be drawn on the MEMBERS NIGHT. Other door prizes will be available too.

The combined kit (see over) comes in at \$289 (\$124 for the jersey and \$165 for the bib shorts – and yes you can order just the jersey if you want). This price is heavily discounted and is based on a bulk order of at least 50 units.

If you can't make MEMBERS NIGHT but want to take advantage of the discount, pre-orders and payment will be available ahead of 7 May. More information on this will be available later.





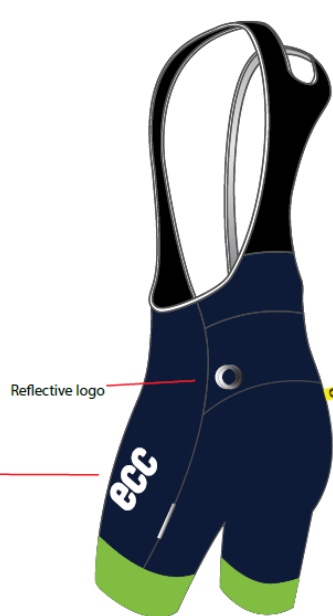
FRONT



BACK

Reflective trim

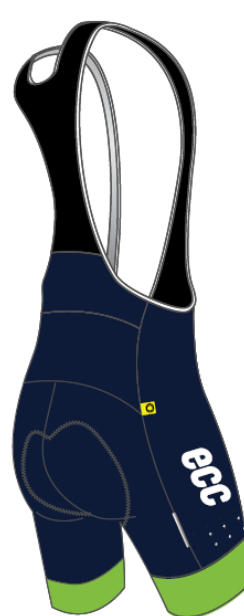
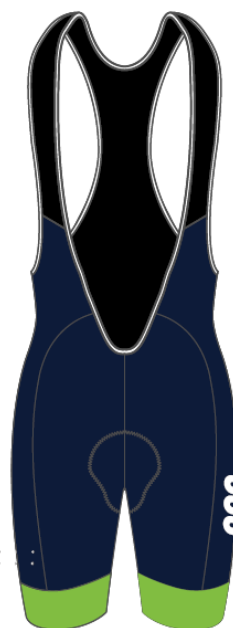
Reflective tag



Reflective logo

Logo heat transfer

Reflective dots



Logo heat transfer

How to order after the members night

We have partnered with Croydon Cycleworks to order and stock kits in the CCW shop on our behalf.

Any future orders after 7 May will be at a normal recommended retail price (RRP) and will be approximately 25% more expensive, so we urge you to be a part of this initial order.





Future events

Eastern CC events

Please refer to page 1 of this newsletter, or go to <https://easterncycling.com/roster/>.

Note: Graded scratch race entries are accepted on the day up until 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 ECC 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 CC events

For details, go to <http://northerncycling.com.au>. Please note that Northern has a new start time of 10 am for road races. Start time for criterium races at National Boulevard remains unchanged at 9 am.

VCV events

The VCV invites you to be part of the the following Veteran races to be conducted over the next four weeks:

20, 21 and 22 April: AVCC Championships. Hosted by VCV

Entries close Tuesday 9 April. This earlier date is to allow adequate time to produce the programme and organise the medals for each Championship event

Enter here: <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=33743>

Thursday, 25 April: Top Tech Panels Benghazi Open. Hosted by Northern Cycling

Entries close Thursday 18 April. NOTE: This is not the usual Tuesday deadline because of Easter and Thursday race date. Scroll down to see a flyer for this event.

Enter here: <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=33731>

Sunday 5 May: Brennan/Hall Memorial. Hosted by Warrnambool Veterans Cycling Club

Entries close Tuesday 30 April. NOTE: Change of venue, back to the traditional course at Wangoom. No nasty hill at the start of each lap!

Enter here: <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=33732>

More information on each event can be viewed on the VCV website:

<http://www.veterancycling.com.au/events.html>

Get your entries in on time so you can be part of some exciting racing.





Sponsors





Northern Cycling proudly hosts the

40th Anniversary of the

Top Tech Panels Benghazi 77km Open Handicap

Anzac Day, Thursday 25 April 2019 Race start at 1pm

"The richest, toughest race on the veterans calendar"

Entry fee \$25 Transponder hire \$5

Entries via the VCV website until Thursday 18 April

**Registration at the Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve, Woodend-
Lancefield Road, Lancefield, Victoria**

Start in McMasters Lane

This is an aggregate points race

\$3050 Prize Pool -Winner \$800

**Presentations and refreshments at the pavilion after the race –
please join us.**

At a Northern Veterans club meeting in 1979, it was agreed to stage a handicap race on Anzac Day. It was also agreed that the race carry the name 'Benghazi' inspired by the battles for the Libyan city of Benghazi during World War II. The race celebrates the ANZAC spirit and it is in their memory that veteran riders from across the state converge on Lancefield to contest this monumental race.



Information and entries:

www.veterancycling.com.au

www.northerncycling.com.au