

Newsletter

31 March 2018



Duty Roster

Saturday 31 March, Casey Fields

Jim Swainston (R), Craig Stannard,
Troy Drinan

Sunday 8 April, National Boulevard Northern Vets

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, tjptop2@optusnet.com.au

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Continuing something of a run of bad luck with the weather, last Saturday's VVCC Open 60 km handicap at Newham had to be called off. With rain soaking the course, the tough call was made in the interests of rider safety. Entry fees will be refunded less a \$5 administration fee. The race has been rescheduled to Seymour on Saturday 23 June, and more information will follow in due course.

This Saturday we race at Casey Fields. Racing commences at 2 pm, registration closes at 1.45 – and don't forget your tail light! In addition, the AVCC National Championships take place at Maryborough over Easter. Then, on Sunday 8 April at 9 am, the annual Dave Ryan Memorial Criterium between Eastern and Northern Vets will be held at National Boulevard. Dave was a much-loved member of both clubs, and the round is hosted by Northern, who currently hold the trophy. Come along and let's win it back! There is no Eastern race on Saturday 7 April.

The Croydon Cycleworks Summer Twilight Crit Series, aka Tuesday nights at METEC, wound up this week. Results and more, including the final series top 10, are inside.



David Richards from Croydon Cycleworks with the summer series top three at METEC on Tuesday

VVCC Open 60 km Handicap, Newham, 24 March

No racing due to bad weather.

Croydon Cycleworks Summer Twilight Crit Series, METEC, 27 March

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
A Grade (14)	Chris Hughson	Richard Abel	J-P Leclercq	Daniel Hulbert
B Grade (12)	Darren Woolhouse	Brad Jones	Dean Niclasen	Max Kornhofer
C Grade (14)	Darryl Blanchett	Bob Lewis	Brett McInnes	Chris Beard
D Grade (12)	Geoff Mackay	Rob Castellani	Dean Tune	Chris Norbury
E Grade (3)	J.C. Wilson	Harry Hibgame	--	--

Series aggregate results		Points
1	Richard Abel	144
2	Darren Woolhouse	125
3	Peter Gray	112
4	Chris Hughson	106
5	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	98
6	Geoff Mackay	96
7	Dean Niclasen	86
8	Darryl Blanchett	74
9	Paul James	72
10	Brad Jones	70

Grand finale

By Adam Dymond

What an awesome night for the final race of the Croydon Cycleworks Twilight Crit Series. We had great numbers again and many spectators coming out in support.

The 2017–18 series once again went to ‘the King’, Richard Abel, with another dominant performance. Well done, Richie, and you certainly keep the A Grade boys on the rivet every time you race.

Second place was taken with a sensational effort by Darren Woolhouse, who went up to B Grade last year and has been up the pointy end most weeks ever since. Great comeback after your challenge last year, mate.


The podium was rounded out with a very solid performance over the whole season by Peter Gray.

Chapeau to the top three in a series full of quality riders across all grades. Well done also to all riders who placed in the top 10. In particular it was great to see some new faces featuring.

Huge kudos and thanks goes out to Peter Mackie. Many don't realise that Pete sacrificed his own race every week as he volunteered to be Race Referee for the whole series. So not only did Pete handle registrations, handicapping, pre-race brief, post-race presentations and points tally, but he also found time to yell at most of us when required. We can't thank you enough, PAM!

Thanks also to Shelly Timson, who was there every week without fail for First Aid. It's pleasing to report that we didn't need Shelly's services all season.





Also thanks to Pete Gray, who came early every week to set up the course and bring the race numbers, pack up etc. Also thanks to Pete's right-hand man on registrations, Chris Norbury.

Last but by no means least, we are very grateful to David Richards from Croydon Cycleworks, not only for sponsoring the series but also for attending every week, with help from Big Nick Thompson to present ride of the night. CCW tipped in more than \$4000 of prizes over the series, which is a massive commitment for a local small business. As a club we need to reciprocate and support CCW, so please get behind our major sponsor for all your cycling needs, including coaching and 'Grand Tour tours'.

As Pete Gray said, see you all in 26 weeks, looking forward to next season already.

C Grade

By Peter Gray

Deliverance

There was a buzz of excitement in the air as C Grade rode their obligatory 'neutral' lap before the final race of the Tuesday evening summer series.

Someone in the bunch asked, 'Why do we ride a neutral lap?'

Forth came the reply, 'It gives us an opportunity to plan the outcome!'

Ha! Ha! Sure it does!

Tonight's 12 starters largely represented riders who have regularly competed in C Grade throughout the series and therefore it could be assumed they were pretty familiar with each other's capabilities and tactics.

Arguably, any of the group could have performed well at a B Grade level and, in fact, several have ascended to the higher grade, including Darren Woolhouse, Sam Bruzzese, Brad Jones and recent visitor to Australia, Max Kornhofer.

Following the neutral lap, Craig Stannard got things moving at the front by knocking out a nice tempo for about the first four laps. Craig is probably the strongest rider in the grade and was one to keep an eye on. From there, Adam Dymond made several

surges to try to shake some lemons from the tree, as did Peter Ransome and Ron Chapman. But none were detached.

The first serious attacks came independently from Brett McInnes and Steve Barnard but no one was going to allow a breakaway to establish, solo or otherwise. Craig returned to the front several times for a lap or two, then Darryl Blanchett inadvertently became stuck there for a few laps, prior to the E and D Grade bell.

Throughout our race, the majority of riders were continually pressing up towards the front end. At times this produced some close riding, particularly on bends and overtaking manoeuvres. Their skill level was commendable. It was to make for a compact and exciting finale.

I think Ron was at the front just before our bell lap, followed by Peter R. and Peter Gray (me). I could clearly see the 'C' board being displayed about 100 metres from the finish line, and final lap confirmation started to be rung at 50 metres.

As if to make up for missing his usual 'bell lap stealth attack' in last week's race, Paul James launched a premature one this week. I immediately chose to go after Paul and hopefully get an easy draft to the 'bump'. However, closing the gap took a big effort. Paul was spent by the time he crested the bump and I wasn't clear of the pursuers as I had planned. Peter R. and another rider overtook Paul and me as the bunch entered the 'S' bend.

I was happy with a third wheel position going into the final bend, but could sense others approaching on the outside. It was time to put 'pedal to the metal', but instead of experiencing an acceleration, my motor stalled, leaving yours truly up Ship Creek without a paddle, watching half a dozen lycra-clad helmsmen zoom past and sail off into the sunset.

Congratulations to Darryl on his 1st place and an ever-consistent Bob Lewis in 2nd. Working hard all race for their minor placings were Brett in 3rd and Chris Beard 4th in a close finish.

Well done to all.





Wednesday criterium, the Loop, Yarra Boulevard, 28 March

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1 (8)	Stephen Lane (N)	Tony Hallam (GSC)	Fraser Short (N)
Division 2 (13)	Peter Morris	Greg Foster (N)	Ray Russo
Division 3 (5)	David Griffin	Simon Bol (N)	Andre Weber
Division 4 (3)	John Eddy	Barry Rodgers	Susan Williams

Thanks to Stephen Barnard and the usual band of helpers.

Future events

Eastern Vets

For other events, please refer to page 1 of this newsletter, or go to <http://eastervets.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 www.northerncycling.com.

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