

Newsletter

28 July 2018



Duty Roster

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

Saturday 4 August, Casey Fields

Andrew Buchanan (R), Grant Farr, Tony Kimpton

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, tip2@optusnet.com.au.

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Day 3 of the Tour de Metro (Eastern vs Northern) at Gruyere last Saturday saw, if not a complete reversal of fortunes, at least a move in the right direction. We took the day overall by 51 points to 43, and Northern now leads the series by 166 points to 134 going into the final round at Yarra Glen. Look inside for results and race reports from Gruyere and an update on the individual series points standings.

Racing in round 4 at Yarra Glen gets under way at 2 pm this Saturday and the registration desk (on Glenview Road, opposite the entrance to the cemetery) will close at 1.45 pm sharp. Every rider makes a difference, so don't think you can't. And don't forget your tail light!

Please take the time to read the 'Social notes' in News etc. later in this newsletter. Mark and Helen Edwards will be waiting for you at the fire pit after the race at Yarra Glen with more hot treats for a good cause.



A Grade passes the finish line during Saturday's race. Photo: Steve Ross

Graded scratch races, Gruyere, 21 July

Grade (E/N)	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
A Grade (8/7)	Richard Abel	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	Michael Borowski (N)	Lawrence Lee	Mark Seddon (N)
B Grade (20/5)	Anthony Netkow	Paul Firth	Troy Morgan (N)	Paul Webster	Darryl Blanchett
C Grade (23/7)	Terry Hollibone (N)	Craig Stannard	Rob Truscott	Craig Frost (N)	Tim Crowe
D Grade (11/6)	Alex Muhia (N)	George Goodrope (N)	Simon Bol (N)	Bill Mackay	Brenton North (N)
E Grade (7/2)	Kellie Murphy (N)	Paula McGovern	Colin Mortley	Susan Williams	Pat Ruys

A Grade

By Phil Smith

Bad signs at registration – I was the only Eastern A Grader among seven Northern entries. Fingers crossed that more Eastern riders will turn up later.

At the start line I was pleased to see the ranks bolstered by Richard Abel – big-time winner at Gruyere! Eastern riders had eventually turned up in pretty good numbers and the percentages were now looking good. I am pleased Ken turned up, otherwise I think I would have been the oldest in the field; the young Northern guys looked like they had had just started shaving!

I had to change my race plan in this race, it was all about getting maximum team points. I put in a few attacks for decoy or solo breakaway, but I was constantly reeled in by the Northern boys and then the speed dropped and the bunch reformed until the next attack. J-P was having a quiet day due to a health problem, but we were hopeful that he would be okay for the final sprint.

It was not until the last three laps that things started livening up. Northern rider Scott Riddell went on a solo breakaway (I think to get a head start on the hill) and was pursued by Dan Hulbert. These two riders got a bit of a break and the bunch seemed uninterested in chasing.

For the last few laps I had noticed Northern riders tiring, and I made an error in judgement – bad move – and attacked on ‘heartbreak hill’. My attack thinned out the bunch and softened up the sprinters, but the downside was that it reeled in my Eastern team mate, now on a solo break. With bunches between us, I was unaware we still had one rider off the front – bring on team radios! I did apologise for my tactical slip-up after the race.

On the last lap, and the last hill, the bunch was thinned to six riders, but Dan’s solo break came to an end at the top of the hill. After the descent, I stayed out of the way of the ‘real sprinters’ and got to view the sprint from behind. J-P took off early, Richard Abel and Michael Borowski on his wheel. Michael had a heart-stopping chain drop (hope it’s not the same issue that I had with flexy S-Works chain rings) and lost his momentum. Richard got 1st, J-P 2nd, Michael Borowski 3rd, Lawrence Lee 4th, with Mark Seddon (Northern) doing a late charge to take 5th.

Good result for the team, good riding from everyone! Especially well done to Lawrence for surviving the last two laps of hard attacks and getting valuable points!





Richard Abel leads the way in A Grade.





B Grade

By Nick Tapp

This was a tough race, a different beast from B Grade at Gruyere back in mid-June. It was Eastern vs Northern, of course, so you'd expect that. And it was at Gruyere, where we go to toughen up. Even so, what a difference a month makes.

After some chat during the week, we had plans for a tactical race, and with numbers weighted our way we had options. But in the end it was a pretty brutal race of attrition, typical Gruyere, somewhere between a regular B Grade club race and an A Grade one in intensity.

There were attacks, but I don't remember any of them being given much rope, which meant a lot of scrambling to stay in contact. The roll of the names of the departed grew longer: Peter Webb, Mark Edwards, Perry Peters, Colin Doherty, Steve Ross, Darren Woolhouse – all gone by halfway, as well as some Northern riders.

Paul Firth was contributing to the pace, as per the plan, making National Boulevard breakaway machine Troy Morgan work to follow him. Nathan White, Chris Ellenby or Darryl Blanchett took over whenever Paul needed a break. I set myself the task of sticking to Troy's wheel for a few laps so Paul Webster could look at something else for a change, but I was finding even that a stretch.

Lap 6, up the hill, off it went (again!), and now it was me heading for the exit. By the top I was on my own, but lap 6 felt like too soon to bow out, so I dug in and chased. On lap 7 they must have gone up the hill a bit slower because the gap came down to 30 or 40 metres by the top. Pushing on down the other side, I saw John Blyth getting back on his bike after a mechanical and urged him to jump on. Here was a chance to do something useful. A couple of hard pulls each brought the back of the bunch within reach, and just at the finish line we finally made the junction.

Back on felt good. Staying there, that was still hard. Dean Niclasen towed me on again at one point before he too said his good-byes on lap nine. Going up the hill for the 10th time, it was a

now familiar story. I reached the top alone again (naturally) and either knew or decided that chasing wasn't going to work this time. But I was determined to finish so I rolled around for another lap and a bit, with an equally determined Col Doherty for company towards the end.

The joker in the pack was the guy in dark blue kit with blue and green flashes. We all thought he must be from Northern; they presumably thought he was one of us. I wasn't there so I don't know exactly how the finish panned out, but the mystery rider in dark blue kit was first across the line, ahead of Paul Firth. Northern's Troy Morgan finished 3rd, Paul Webster conquered some hill demons to finish 4th and Darryl was 5th. When the identity question was finally settled, and the guy in dark blue kit turned out to be Anthony Netkow, a new Eastern member riding his first race with us, that became a very satisfactory result. Welcome, Anthony, and well raced, all!

E Grade

By Pat Ruys

I was looking forward to racing today on one of our toughest courses. There were two riders from Northern, Kellie Murphy and David Drew; for Eastern we had seven – Colin Mortley, Peter Shanahan, Susan Williams, J.C. Wilson, Paula McGovern, Ron Stranks and myself.

Six laps we had to race, and we were all together until we turned left into Medhurst Road up the short sharp hill. I was already off the back, but before we turned left into Killara Road I had passed Ron. I got onto J.C.'s wheel. J.C. was on Peter's wheel, but I could see Peter couldn't hold the next wheel and the gap was opening. So I dug deep and went around them both and sat on the back of the five leaders, but the pace was a little quick for me and I couldn't hold on. So the chase was on, by the time we came back to the climb on Killara, they were all still together and I was still chasing. They weren't that far ahead of me and then I thought that I heard a crash within the bunch. It was David's bike – he had broken his derailleur hanger and his race was over. He was so lucky that he stopped without bringing any of the bunch down.





So two laps down and four to go. Over the next two laps I was still off the back but was getting closer on the climb up Killara Road each time. I said to Garry Wishart that I would catch them on my final lap, Garry was encouraging me each time at the top of the hill while he was marshalling. At the end of lap 4 we got the bell a lap early. I could see that Kellie dropped Colin, Susan and Paula as they turned left into Medhurst Road. I dug in really deep that last lap and nearly caught them on the Killara Road hill, but by the time I got to the top they were gone.

Kellie from Northern won, 2nd was Paula, 3rd Colin, 4th Susan and myself 5th, very happy with my result after chasing mountain goats that can

climb so much better than me and I have so much respect for them.

Now don't forget this week is the final race of the Tour de Metro series, last weekend we won on points. We are only 32 points behind and last weekend there were 94 points up for grabs, so let's put a huge dent in that number this weekend. Hills and me don't mix – I'm great going down but slow going up – but I'll still be out there trying my hardest, and I hope you will too. The first five placings get points, let's hope that we can retain the trophy. Either way, I personally have really enjoyed the competitive commitment of all the riders from both clubs.

Tour de Metro individual aggregate standings

Men		Women	
Terry Hollibone (N)	21 pts	Kellie Murphy (N)	13 pts
Alex Muhia (N)	21	Paula McGovern	5
Paul Webster	18		
Ian Bishop (N)	16		
Mark Seddon (N)	14		

Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Yarra Boulevard, 25 July

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1a (6)	Fraser Short (N)	Russell Newnham	Tony Kimpton
Division 1b (8)	Nick Tapp	Gavin Plummer	David Rooke (N)
Division 2 (8)	John Hasouras (N)	Emma Andrews	Doug Page
Division 3 (6)	Peter Gray	Ken Allan	Susan Williams
Division 4 (3)	Michael Waterfield	Laurie Bohn	John Eddy

Thanks to referee Stephen Barnard, first-aider Petra Niclasen, Dean Niclasen and helpers.



News etc.

Social notes

Mark Edwards

Thanks to all for \$84.40 raised for The Wellington Collingwood from last week's soup and bread.

This week it's meatballs, tasty cheesy Italian meatballs in real tomato sauce, and we are upping from 40 serves to 50 after a sellout at Gruyere. We will again be asking for a donation, whatever you think is fair, or whatever you can afford. If you can bring a bowl and a fork or a spoon, please do, it makes life easier for Helen.

The fire pit will be on again, this time we will keep it hot for some time after presentation, hoping a few of you can join us to talk social ideas.

Upcoming social events – possibilities

Thanks to a tip from Pat Ruys I have booked tickets for the Big Bike Film Night (right) in the city at 6.30 pm on Sunday 26 August. It's general seating, come along and join the fun. Book and buy your own tix [here](#). Let us know if you are coming, we'll try to organise something around this.

The recent survey identified a broad range of social possibilities, cycling and non-cycling.

There is a bit of a divide between younger, busier riders with work, families, time issues etc. and those of us, a bit older, who have been there and done that and now have more time and fewer responsibilities.



On the bike stuff:

- Social rides – a number suggested more social rides. Can I ask anyone interested to suggest what days, lengths and types of rides would suit? For those of you able, there is a big group that converges from all points Tuesday mornings at Southbank around 9.45 for a coffee or two and a chat. It's not just Eastern riders, but you will most likely know someone.
- Would anyone like to discuss options for semi-casual meetups (Cycler?!), app based, a WhatsApp or Facebook group (possibly separate from the Club Facebook page)?
- A few members ride mountain bikes here and there. Is there an appetite for more organised or semi-scheduled mountain bike rides?
- Remember that club sponsor Croydon Cycleworks hosts shop rides for varying abilities – all welcome.





- Many of us ride with our partners. Is there a way to get a few of us together?
- In September, in the four weeks leading up to the METEC Twilight Crit Series, to get a bit motivated we could think about group training/pace lines at Hawthorn velodrome with perhaps a snag afterwards.

Off the bike stuff:

- We are thinking vaguely about a once a month social session, a couple of casual responsible drinks, possibly a meal. Hopefully with partners. Anyone interested?
- There will be an Awards Night later in the year, more to follow

Helen and I are still feeling our way, asking for suggestions, all things considered. We are keen to get anyone else involved who is interested. You can contact Helen at 0408 437 409 or HelenEdwards55@gmail.com, or Mark at 0418 310 092 MarkEdwardsmac@gmail.com or look for a fire pit after the race.

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

John Williams advises that you can now follow his exploits in Europe from a blog, which means easier access, better viewing on your phone, more content and pics, less download, and auto notifications of new reports (if you choose to follow). Check it out at <https://abarelyfunctioningcyclohollic.wordpress.com/>.

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>.

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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