

Race report:  
Broken Hill Mountain Bike Club  
Race 1: Wentworth Road.

The Broken Hill Mountain bike Club kicked off its race season with its first event on Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. The race was held on the club's Wentworth road track and attendance was right up there with 23 competitors nominating. Sunday's conditions were perfect for mountain bike racing and all the competitors enjoyed the cool conditions and slight southerly breeze.

The race begun as usual with a bunch start for all competitors, the bunch quickly strung out as Brian Devlin and Benny Goodman took off at a scorching pace. Dave Clarke has decided to give the outer senior men a chance this year and will leave with a handicap of 2 minutes from the start and try to reel them in. Dave almost pulled it off this time and rode through the field to finish in 3<sup>rd</sup> place outright. The win in the senior men division eventually went to the evergreen Benny Goodman by only 5 seconds from the hard charging Royce Beck.

Senior Men (3 Laps): 1<sup>st</sup> Benny Goodman 38:21, 2<sup>nd</sup> Royce Beck 38:26, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dave Clarke 39:23

The Sport Men category remains very competitive despite the graduation to senior men of Royce Beck and Tony Hepburn. This category is full of guys that really enjoy their riding and there are some real improvers here. Gnarly Steve Kelly is carrying some real form and won the class with Tas Johnston and Clyde Thompson hot on his heels. The training over the off season is really starting to pay off for these guys. Sport Men (3 Laps): 1<sup>st</sup> Steve Kelly 43:29, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tas Johnston 45:24, 3<sup>rd</sup> Clyde Thompson 47:46.

Being only one competitor in the Women's Category Jo Lenton was racing not only against crashes and mechanical failures but also against the other competitors in the bunch start. The lap times Jo turns out are very good and I'm sure she loves beating some of the guys!

Women (2 Laps): 1<sup>st</sup> Jo Lenton 36:27

A good roll up of Junior Girls saw the Lenton girls take out the first 2 positions with Kirstie first and Alexis second, Beth Attard came in 3<sup>rd</sup> and Abi Beck 4<sup>th</sup>. From all reports these girls have a great fun ride and do quite a bit of talking as they get around! These girls putting in some real effort and taking inspiration from the likes of former local club member Bron Ryan will see them go from strength to strength.

Junior Girls (1 lap): 1<sup>st</sup> Kirstie Lenton 28:22, Alexis Lenton 28.53, Beth Attard 29:11, Abi Beck 35:44.

In the Junior Boys event the old stager Cec Fraser rode a quality race being hotly pursued by Corey Sammit, both boys finished strongly, their natural fitness is the envy of all the senior competitors. Special mention should be made of Cec's effort to win his class after spending a night through the week in hospital for a suspected snake bite is definitely worth a mention!

Junior Boys (1 lap): 1<sup>st</sup> Cec Fraser 16:36, 2<sup>nd</sup> Corey Sammit 20:14h