

MTBO Development Forum Agenda

When and Where

Date: Saturday 20th October

Time: 4:30pm

Place: Maddies Room, Kingston Hotel, 73 Canberra Av, Kingston

This forum aims to discuss ideas to grow the sport, support technical standards, enhance event quality, promote good ideas and resolve pain points for organisers and participants.

Agenda Items for Discussion	Who
Welcome and Introduction	
Increasing Junior Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools series Junior coaching Local council park events 	
Promotion of MTBO Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socail Media channels Facebook, Twitter, etc Websites, Club, State National, Councils, other Bulletins to members and casuals – Mailchimp Videos – Youtube, Facebook Facebook boosting (promotion) MTB clubs Junior/Schools Development officers Local Media outlets invited to events Sponsorship from local businesses 	Refer to paper from Greg Bacon
Event Formats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score courses attract Adnevture racers Score course benefit newbies (no MP's) Blended courses – sequential + scatter Sequential Stages – Splint running into Middle Local park series targetting newbies 	Refer to paper from Greg Bacon
Families and Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enourage groups/teams on Score courses Encourage kids with 'Kids ride free with a (paying) adult.' 	Refer to paper from Greg Bacon
Event Locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universities Schools Showgrounds Council Parks Enertainment Venues Sporting Venues 	
Rules – Ride Anywhere	See below for notes from Leigh Privett
Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MapRun MapRun Live Tracking TracTrac Tracking Live-It-Live Tracking 	
Knowledge Transfer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-skill elite riders as coaches Compile a training guide 	

Pain Points in NSW: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lack of suitable MTBO areas in Sydney • landowner obstacles (especially NPWS) - fees, paperwork, admin • crowded event calendar 	Ian Jessup
Pain Points – National <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUS-NZL Challenge rules • AUS-NZL Challenge Selection process 	Craig
Mapping Symbols for allowable riding on open areas	Richard Robinson
Course Length <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variation in course length between event. 	Richard Robinson
Wins, tips and good ideas for organisers and riders.	
General Business	

Notes from Leigh Privett

Ride Anywhere reasoning -

1. eliminates cheating
2. gives more route choice (or in some instances less)
3. aligns with rules in Scandinavian countries
4. may encourage more 'pure' orienteers, partic. foot o orienteers who consider mtbo a bit 'off' such as when the next control is nearby and u have to follow some circuitous route to get there
5. more pure foot o maps can be used for mtbo

Notes from Ori Gudes

- 1) Dual events seem pretty good way to encourage new Foot Orienteers to try MTBO, last April, Ian led some very successful events;
- 2) Perhaps, establish urban/ semi urban MTBO series targeting newbies;
- 3) More sponsorships and involvement of local bike shops in promotion and sponsoring prizes;
- 4) involving other cycling clubs to promote MTBO, for example Randwick Botany Cycling Club (RBCC) is already doing this as per my kindly request;
- 5) Treat ourselves as real athletes (which we are!) make sure presentations are being done with a podium and in non-rushed manner, and invite local journalists or photographers for national events, this will increase our exposure;
- 6) Encourage elite and experienced MTBOers to do coach courses, therefore expand the capacity our sport to train, mentor and teach others;
- 7) Create a book / or a website resource that captures everything we know about MTBO and will include tips and tricks of how to improve MTBO skills;
- 8) Encourage knowledge-sharing culture by asking riders to share their GPS files to applications such as Livelox or similar if this is too expensive?

Notes from Richard Robinson

1. Mapping Standards – Whilst the IOF might choose to argue there are no universal mapping standards for MTBO and some that do exist are unhelpful. Some examples:
 - a. In NZ they use the dotted green track symbol for an “allowable route” that is not a track on the ground whilst in the recent WWMTBOC in Germany they used an orange line for the same purpose. In Australia we don’t have an equivalent
 - b. In Australia and NZ we use a bright yellow (clearing) symbol to denote a place where there is no clearing but you are allowed to cross from one track to an adjacent track
 - c. Manmade objects and fences are shown in grey which is basically impossible for we more mature people to see when riding

2. Where you can and can't ride. Again this varies from place to place and even event to event in the same location. Examples include:
 - a. In Australia we can only ride on the tracks, the bright yellow and the orange.
 - b. At the recent WWMTBOC in Germany it was not permitted to ride on the bright yellow, only the tracks and the orange but the orange was sometimes an open area and sometime an "allowable route".
 - c. In some European countries you are allowed to ride anywhere on the map
 - d. In Czech you can go off track but must carry your bike with the wheels off the ground
 - e. In the 2017 Czech 5-Days you were not permitted to ride on the bright yellow in the Sprint but were permitted to do so in all other races.

3. Course Lengths, particularly for older women. In Australia and some other places, Czech seems the most significant, the course lengths for particularly older women (W50+) seem to be ridiculously short. The winning times are clearly set out but the courses are set on the basis that more competent competitors will not act their age and enter a longer (younger) class. This becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy as they then do enter a younger class to get a decent ride. The forthcoming Australian Champs is a case in point where either the M60 (my class) is way too long or the W50 (Tamsin's class) is way too short. In our European events this year we have been generally on the same or very similar course (except the Sprint in Czech where W50 was under 8 minutes with no navigation) yet at the Aus Champs W50 is generally two courses shorter than M60.