

MONDAY NIGHT RACING COMMUNIQUE:

Category changes for Race 4

Taking into account the movements in the first 3 races the categories are looking robust and most riders seem happy in their current group. Quite a few riders are on the cusp of progressing to the next category up but are happy to stay for now.

Further changes – up or down – are possible throughout the series. Please remember that to contest for series category winner, riders must contest a minimum of 4 races in their final series category.

Cat 1: A tough group to break into and hard for the developing riders to stay in the fray for the whole race, especially with the long lap in play! No self-nominations received to move down categories at this point.

Category 2: Stu Crooks moving to Cat 1.

There are many other strong riders in Cat 2 and some have indicated they aim to move up later in the series. At present the cat is competitive and offering challenging riding for all.

Category 3: No changes.

There are a range of abilities in Cat 3 and on the long course it is regularly splitting into bunches. This provides opportunities for all: the front group are developing a hard, competitive rivalry and there are plenty of opportunities to hone race craft for the up and coming U17s. The speed has increased and so has the challenge for the riders fighting to stay with the lead bunch. Several in this group could compete in Cat 2, watch this space.

Cat 4: Artem Piatine, Jordan Shilton, and Will Tasker moving to Cat 3.

Cat 4 is a large group with many strong riders. These 3 riders look ready to move up.

Cat 5: No changes.

Moving up from Cat 5 is largely self-regulated. As new riders join the series they often try Cat 5 first and then judge their own ability and whether they would like to move up categories.

Social riders: We note that some very new riders (with no race experience) are joining Cat 5 and finding that it is a little too competitive. With this in mind we encourage new riders to let the race management team know when they sign in, or even better before Monday Night. We can then organise a guide rider, or offer a Social, non-racing grade.

Notes on Rules

Two issues of note from the first 3 races which need to be emphasised.

As per **Rule 14** in the **MNR regulations**:

“When racing, Riders who are dropped from their category group may complete the race with another group but must not actively participate / influence the results of that race”.

This also applies to riders participating in lower Categories than they normally race in due to injury or illness. **We strongly advise against doing this** – get fit and strong and then come back and smash your Category!

If you join another Category, you must sit on the back. And, do not use this as an opportunity to bridge up to riders in another Category.

Crossing the centre line on corners, even into oncoming traffic!

This is rampant. We will be taking a hard line on this, be warned! We are realistic and realise that at times it is actually necessary to cross the centre line when racing. But intentionally using the wrong side of the road just to get the "race line" will not be tolerated, especially at corner 2. There is traffic coming from 4 directions. Disqualifications will be play from R4.