

**2016 AGM Road Committee Report. Matt Dunstan, Michael Greaves, Tom Kaminszky, Paula Hasler**, with support from Louise Kennedy and Steve Hurring.

### **Goals for the year 2015-2016 season**

- To re-invigorate the Road racing programme with new formats of racing and a more sustainable schedule
- To offer an inclusive programme that would try to cater to all Club members, from beginners through to Elite level racers, all grades and all ages
- To offer some development opportunities in both racing and social training rides
- To attract new members
- To make running the Road programme more sustainable – revisit strategies for recruiting volunteers, improve documentation and recording of results, less racing, but more targeted.
- Improve social media presence through Race posters, Race write ups, publishing results.
- Celebrate achievements and acknowledge our support network.

### **Successes for the year**

In looking at these goals we think that we have achieved a lot, but still have more work to do.

A snap shot of our successes:

- **Race Programme:** incorporated varied race formats, tried to avoid date clashes, moved from predominantly Saturday racing to a Monday Night series during daylight savings, and a focus on a major “classic race” most months, supplemented by some other Saturday races which fitted in with other commitments such as the recent Club Road Nats. Moved the start time for winter Saturday races back so that races were finished by midday – freeing up the afternoon.
- **Winter Tour de Otepoti:** a points series format that kick started our new approach. 4 races in June / July 2015 which offered a chance to try different race formats and build skills – a flat TT, a Criterium, mass start Hill TT and Circuit race. From here we started to build our numbers and bring in some new riders, which carried over into Monday Night Racing.
- **Monday Night Racing:** has been very popular – numbers average over 50 per night, with up to 70 riders. Retention of riders has been great, and the competitive approach to the series fantastic. We now have a solid cohort of riders in each grade. The series has offered something for everyone: sharp, attacking circuit racing to hone our Elite riders; a chance to develop skills and speed in the lower grades. A sense of community has developed - part of the fun is catching up with friends and rivals before the race, and a warm down lap or commute home afterwards. A number of MNRacers meet up for other riding opportunities, such as a weekend Taieri ride.
- **More active social media and Web presence and information shared:** race promotion, race results, race write ups, and information sharing.
- **Increasing Membership:** Over **30 new Club members** coming from the MNR Series.
- Solid participation in the **Classics and major handicaps.**
- **Otago Champs:** participation increase on last year.

- **2016 Club Road Nationals:** massive participation and amazing results from the Club. Sense of Club culture returning.
- **Other Achievements:** CO riders qualifying for the Amateur World Champs, competing in Calder Stewart Elite Series, Age Group Nats, Schools racing, Major Tours etc.
- **Social / training ride initiatives:** Dudstoun Wheelers, Weekend Taieri rides, Sportifs / Poker Run etc.
- **Funding gain as a Club:** enabled the purchase of road bikes for hire, and new STMS equipment.
- **Financial sustainability:** achieved by running the programme on the “smell of an oily rag” and can-do attitude. In building numbers at races we have increased race income.
- **Celebrating achievements:** through social media, post-race gatherings, and prize givings.

### Challenges for the year

- **STMS.** Critical for the race programme, and our biggest challenge. Currently only 1 member with full STMS training willing to submit TMPs (Steve Hurring) and one TC (PH) for course set up. Have been trying to recruit a paid STMS position. Would be fantastic if there are any Club Members or supporters who would be interested in undertaking training to assist with this.
- **STMS requirements and the new H&S protocols.** Makes races harder to resource and means that we have had to enforce safety rules more than in the past. Makes it difficult to use some of our best courses.
- **Recruiting volunteers.** Still one of our biggest challenges. Pretty well sorted for Monday Night Racing, but harder for the bigger races. Can take several hours per race to contact and confirm marshals, despite our roster system. Many thanks to everyone who has helped out this year. We would be very happy for any help in the coming year, big or small 😊
- **Meeting the needs of everyone.** This is always going to be a tough one. We think we got close to offering a programme that we could sustain financially and with available volunteer man hours, which provided some hard racing, and catered to all abilities. Again, it would be fantastic to get some more help this year, and we would love to hear ideas for what people would like to see in the programme.
- **Rider/public relations.** Something we all need to be conscious of as riders and Club members.

In the coming weeks the incoming Road Committee will be meeting to finalise a winter programme. Now is the time to feed through ideas. See you out racing and riding!