

## Junior Division Convenors Report 2015

Firstly I like to thank the many parents who have help contribute to the running of the club over the last year. Without your help our children would not be able to perform as well as they have.

Our track riders continue to excel at national level with many getting individual metals. Our U17 boys are particularly strong and this was highlighted by gold medals and NZ records in both the team sprint and team pursuit. Individual medals winner were U15 Emily Paterson 2 Silver, 1 Bronze, Keegan Knipe 1 S 1 B. Ellesse Andrews 2 G + NZR TT & IP 1S. Mitchell Morris 1S. Corbin Strong 1G 1B. Sam Miller 1G. Teams U17 boys Pursuit of Kain Bowls, Corbin Strong, Hamish Keast, Samuel Miller Gold + NZR and sprint of Corbin, Kain & Mitchell Gold + NZR.

The U19s also came home with a good haul of medals. With individual medals Bradly Knipe with 1G, 2B, Hamish Beadle a bronze, Tom Sexton silver and Emma Cumming silver. Our girls team sprint of Emma and Makayla Smith silver and our boys of Beadle, Sexton and Knipe getting Gold. The remainder of the team were not far off medals. I should note that Cycling Southland won the Points Shield for a record 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row.

With the exception of Makayla these riders are all members of the NZ U19 track team and will soon be joined by Sam and Ellesse who are moving up from the U17 ranks. This is a great representation from a club our size and we should be very proud of this fact.

The Baxter & Neilson Omnium series continues great racing environment for our riders to hone there skills. A big thank you goes out to those who managed and run this series and again I acknowledge Baxter & Neilson for their ongoing support.

Our junior road riders also performed well on the national stage. A small team riders travelled to the North Island for the TA tour and then on to Hastings for road nationals. They were U17s Hamish Keast, Sam Miller and Corbin Strong, and U19s Tom Sexton and Hayden Strong. With the exception of Sam, all were the first year in their age group. Hamish underlined his time trialling strength with good performances in the TA and nationals and at one stage having the Yellow jersey at TA. At TA the other 4 riders finished comfortably inside the top 10 with Hayden and Corbin winning the KOM title in their respective grades. In the nationals road races our riders road strongly and were generally never far from the front of the race. The highlight was Sam's gold in the U17 race.

Overall our riders accounted for themselves very well both on and off the bike and this is a great credit to the club.

For the second year in a row we have not seen as many new riders come into the club. This trend is a concern. Last week's Friday club track session did see some flyers stay on for racing. So the challenge here would be to retain these riders and turn them into club members. This issued is being pursued with Cycling Southland and we are looking at ways to attract new members.

The financial position of the club remains very strong and we continue to look for ways to reinvest some of this money back into our club for the benefit of all our riders. Fundraising continues as a way to help offset the individual cost travel and cycling in general.

Alan Strong  
Junior Convenor