



## **BSCC senior road racing results page**

Race name: Windermere handicap

Date: 2nd May 2009

*Editors note: report written from fourth scratch.*

Saturday's race saw beautiful conditions waiting for 39 riders, blue skies and only light winds. The race comprised of seven groups, with limits off solo at 33 minutes, a tough and lonely ride with the next group off at 20 minutes.

Fourth scratch (off at 9 minutes) set off at a solid pace, however, what started with nine riders was down to five by mid-way through the second lap with Cuthberts Road taking its toll. Some of these dropped back to third scratch and worked with them to re-surface later in the race. By the third lap the remnants of the preceding three groups had begun to be either picked up with a couple hanging on and taking turns where possible. The five remaining originals members of fourth scratch (Stewart, Canny, Haire, Clark and Walker) worked well with little needing to be said. However this was not enough and turning onto Cuthberts Road on the third lap, visible several hundred meters behind was third scratch.

It was not until after the Cuthberts Road climb on the fourth lap that third scratch caught up, at the same time scratch managed to get onto second scratch. (Read comments below). Starting the fifth and final lap the tone was set very early when the group was driven into the gutter with some 10km to go. From then on there was minimal contribution to the lead barring a few people. The tempo was lift coming off Cuthberts Road and it was set for a show down of the big sprinters. Les Bilney was first to up the speed, again with most responding, knowing it was to be a final sprint – all the while most not realizing that the race was infact for second place with the winner crossing some 90 seconds ahead. Scratch was not visible at this point, and just how close they were becomes evident below.

The sprint finish saw some jostling between riders but sure enough the big sprinters came to the fore. The finish was almost upstaged however by the spectacular self destruction of Mitch Brogden's rear derailleur not 10 meters past the finish.

The final places were:

|                 |               |                |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Darryn Murphy | off 20 minutes |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Joel Hossack  | off 6:30       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Mitch Brogden | off 6:30       |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Jason Haire   | off 9 minutes  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | Stuart Brien  | off 6:30       |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Peter Canny   | off 9 minutes  |

Fastest time went to Rob Doyle.

*Editors note: below report written from scratch*

The scratch bunch got off to a flying start and quickly settled to what seemed a hectic rhythm and within half a lap we were one man down as the pace took its toll. It was on lap four of the five that the scratch men made contact with 4:15 minute bunch (2<sup>nd</sup> Scratch) only to get a couple of turns from them. On the last lap an attack from Jay Bourke reduced the numbers to about half but also disrupted the organization in the chasing scratch bunch, which at this stage had the main bunch in sight, but they were still what seemed at least one minute up the road. On the final stretch of road leading to the sharp left hand corner Weightman, Gullock, Orr and Bourke all put in a last effort to get across but missed by five or so seconds.