



BSCC senior road racing results page

Race name: Victoria Park Criteriums

Date: 24th Feb 2010

A Grade

1st Rhys Gillett
2nd Jay Bourke
3rd Tony Mirabella

B Grade

1st Lewis Piccoli
2nd Stuart Brien
3rd Shannon Gration

C Grade

1st Hugo Toliday
2nd Peter Hayes
3rd Peter Kyatt

D Grade

1st Jason Selmon
2nd Emma Bilston
3rd Molly Hegert

Race description:

A Grade

A smaller A Grade field raced for 30mins this week. Attacks came immediately, as riders knew that by using the wind to their advantage, it may be possible to sneak away from such a small bunch. The main break of the race saw Rhys Gillett drive away with Ciran Conaughton on his wheel, while James Crafter bridged soon after. This breakaway threatened to run away with the race with 20mins still remaining, such was the strength and consistency of the turns into the wind by these riders. Harry Bade saw the danger and tried to cross the 200m gap, but he only made it halfway across until a combination of gusty headwinds and a cohesion of

maximum effort turns by those at the front of the race thwarted his attempt.

Meanwhile, elders of the club in Damien Kierl, Jay Bourke, Stuart Grigg and Tony Mirabella began swapping long turns with the man-child that is Charles Martin. Even Matt Smith showed himself at the front for a turn at setting the pace, such was the urgency in the chasing bunch. It was 6 chasing vs 3 out in front, but it took huge turns by Damien Kierl who protected the other chasers from the wind so they could hang on, until it was all back together with 10mins remaining.

Jay Bourke attacked immediately up the inside of the group while fishtailing in the gravel off the road. Gillett reacted easily while others suffered after using all their energy to chase Gillett for the past 20mins. Kierl dug deep to chase these 2 riders, making the gap. Bourke and Gillett were clearly threatened having one of the countries best sprinters in the break with them at such a late stage in the race as the cat and mouse games begun with each rider trying to break away solo.

2 laps to go and it was Gillett who slipped out of sight as the other 2 riders foxed and were caught by a tired peleton. At the bell lap, with Gillett well away, Bourke leap out of the peleton to give chase. It looked like it was too little, too late for Bourke however, as Gillett looked over his shoulder to gauge his effort to ensure a safe victory. Gillett won clear over Bourke while the peleton galloped across the line with Tony Mirabella winning the bunch kick for 3rd; but not before Kierl bent his aluminium frame while powering up for the final sprint, surely this was the performance of the night!

B Grade

Attrition. That's the best way to describe the B Grade Small Dog Criterium at Victoria Park this week. Ultimately it was youth that won the day with Lewis Piccoli triumphantly taking the prize from Stuart Brien and Shannon Gratton for third.

Half way into the 25 minute race there was no movement, no attacks, just hard tempo riding that wore down the legs of new comer Steven Richards as the average pace edged up to over 39kph. Shane Cody was keen to atone for last week's results and he hit hard along the back straight hoping to break up the bunch but Brien was attentively on his wheel and Shane Hayes worked hard to bridge the gap shutting down Cody's attack within a lap. A tough outing at the Ottway Odyssey race on the weekend and a series of counter attacks over the ensuing laps softened Cody's legs along with Hayes and Scott Bilney which saw them all drop off with about 4 laps to go leaving Piccoli, Brien, Gratton and Charlie Stebbing to fight it out for the prize money.

On the second last lap Brien pressed hard to build the momentum but hitting the last lap Gratton took over to keep the pressure on. As the 4 rounded the last corner, Piccoli had the sit on Gratton's wheel and his fresh legs allowed him to slip down the outside to take the race by half a wheel from Brien in second place from Gratton in third followed by Stebbing in fourth.

C Grade

An invigorating south east wind and a 25 minute plus two lap race set the scene for the riders as they rolled onto the line for the latest Small Dog C grade crit at Victoria Park.

The bunch once again a mixture of the young and not so young. Patrick Cosgrove took it upon himself to not let Hugo Toliday get to the first corner in front and this set the scene for a few very quick laps. Luckily for most, the sting of the hasty start took its toll and things settled down for a lap or two before Dave Peters and Aaron Blomeley took turns at driving hard on the front. These boys must have been in a mean mood as it took some painfully hard riding to stay with the duo as they ground out their turns. Fortunately they didn't want the front all the time and the speed dropped as others had a go although the pace and average was even higher than the previous weeks leg and lung burner. We must be getting fitter!

The two lap to go call heralded the start of the manoeuvring as riders looked to get closer to the pointy end and Callum Body, who must have been hiding in the bushes for most of the race, appeared near the front. The bell lap lifted the momentum even higher with the speed increasing to the final bend which was rounded at a stimulating velocity. With some likely podium contenders boxed in it was Hugo Toliday using great acceleration that jumped away from the bunch and headed for the flag. Pete Hayes found a gap and started closing in on Toliday but couldn't quite get past before they crossed the line, the big prize money going to Toliday. Peter Kyatt brought it home in third place ahead of the rest of the bunch.

D Grade

Coming soon