



BSCC senior road racing results page

Learmonth - Windmill

Date: 8th May 2010

*Phil Orr, BSCC handicapper, writes:*

I was in the perfect position to see how the winning group's ride unfolded. I decided I'd ride with the second limit group of Victoria Snibson, Emily Thompson, Michael Colville and Dominic Geoghegan. The idea here was to help these guys with real-time coaching on working together and understanding the wind: where to sit on the road to survive when the faster bunches come past. *(Other riders pay big \$\$ for this kind of coaching and don't get Phil's experience or patience! - ed.)*

The group were working well together. Dom found the pace a little hot and let go along Coghills Road. The remainder of the bunch got closer and closer to Sean Lee, who at this stage was on his own, with Jenny White, the other limit rider and the race leader, 500 meters in front.

Before we knew it, the 14 minute (3rd limit) bunch, driven by Gerard White and Killian Plastow, was 500 meters behind us. This little gap gave me enough time to give the second limit group some tips on how to deal with a passing bunch. They did exactly as I said: lifted, blended in and survived.

It was now the start of the last lap. This was when Don's and my handicapping started to make us look bad! *(One of the very rare exceptions to Phil's uncanny ability as handicapper to bring all the groups together at the finish. - ed.)* The combined front group was riding only 1.5 km/h faster than predicted, but this was fast enough to get them to the finish 1 minute ahead of the charging middle-markers group. The middle group was the combined 4:00 and 6:30 groups. The 4-minute bunch consisted of most of the crew who unsuccessfully chased Grant Gilbert in [last week's B-grade race](#). This bunch is very evenly-matched, and raced together most of last year, so they worked together very smoothly, and closed the 2:30 gap to the bunch in front in just over a lap. In the perfect conditions, on a non-selective course, the combined group was 15 or so riders, a little too large for the width of the roads, and so some of the smoothness went out of their chase on the critical second lap. This is where they lost the race. When corner marshal Gail Oliver gleefully told the group that the gap to the leaders was still four minutes with about 12 km remaining, massive turns of pace

from the ever-strengthening Charlie Stebbing, monster triathlete Shannon Gration, and the Jedi himself, Shane Cody, brought the leaders almost into view, but it wasn't enough.

The third race within the race involved the back two groups, who started separated by two minutes. The scratch bunch, driven by Ciaran Conaughton and Grant "Cancellara" Gilbert, caught second scratch half way through the second lap. All of the second scratch bunch contributed to the chase, but both groups in front had flown the coop. Ciaran, the pursuit specialist, took a flyer on the long, tailwind finishing straight, but "King" Keirl was having none of it, and took the sprint for fastest time by a [Cipollini-esque margin](#).

A big thanks must go out to our marshals, Kylie Zelle, Gail Oliver, Wendy Ross, Peter Kyatt and James Crafter, with a Chief Marshal of the Year award going to Simon Gillett in the new BSCC ute, for exemplary marshal and course management.

Official results - senior 54 km handicap:

- 1: Dave Peters (14:00)
- 2: Mike Colville (15:00)
- 3: Paul Crack (14:00)
- 4: Victoria Snibson (15:00)
- 5: Gerard White (14:00)

Fastest time: Damien Keirl (scratch)