

Presidents report 2018/2019 SCUM AGM

Wow, haven't the last 12 months gone past like a flash. The club has continued to flourish in the year just gone. Membership continues to grow, currently at 179 members. For a small regional club I think that's pretty good.

SCUM has one of the fullest race calendars around, even topping several larger metropolitan mtb clubs in NSW. And we run a very professional, organised inclusive and fun event, a fact of which I am very proud. Consequently, the event calendar has been pretty full on with events on every 4 weeks or less. It's been a good mix of traditional XCO style events, enduro races and the staged Flow X. The novice short track events held in conjunction with the XCO have been a popular introduction for new riders to get a taste of what MTB races are like. I'd like to thank all the people who have given their time to make this possible. There's a lot of work involved behind the scenes in order to make these races run as they do and without the committee members and other club members who regularly give their time it would simply not happen. Thanks to Scott Woods for ensuring the trailer makes it to each event and Grant Turner for keeping an expert eye on the computer systems. A big thanks to Duncan Miller who put in many hours of work into writing a new computer program to better run our Flow X events. This has allowed much more flexibility and the option to have multiple runs and use the fastest time in results. It's always heartening to see parents and partners dig in to help out at these events, all that extra help means a lot and adds to the great atmosphere at events.

One new initiative has been the development of the SCUM Junior academy. A big thanks to all involved, especially Lynne Vaughn, our coach and Kath Hopkins, club secretary, both of whom have made this possible. There have also been a group of keen assistants, helping out with each session and of course the parents willing to help get the juniors to their training sessions. The only problem has been a lack of spaces for those wishing to participate! Anybody who has been to an event lately will have noticed the increasing number of juniors joining in, which bodes well for the future of the club. We've also gone through the process of becoming an Active Kids provider, which will allow parents to use their Active Kids Vouchers towards Club/MTBA membership for school age children. Our junior scene culminated this year with the club fully sponsoring 7 of our budding riders to attend the James Williamson Junior Development camp in Jindabyne at the beginning of this month.

The trails administered by the club continue to shine, attracting large numbers of riders on the weekends, with all three trails being well utilised. The fourth trail, Cabbage Tree Lane, is still in the hands of State Forests and hopefully will be handed over to our club soon. A big thanks to Matt Kidd and Tony Conroy and the rest of the trail crew for their consistent efforts in keeping up the maintenance and continually improving the infrastructure on these trails. This is vital work and often goes unnoticed by trail users. Without the trail fairies we'd be on road bikes.

Our online presence also continues to impress, I don't think there are many clubs of any size that have such professional Web sites, Facebook and Instagram pages. A big thumbs up to Grant Turner for that success.

Behind the scenes the finances have been expertly controlled by Paul Nixon and the other committee members, Rosemary Morgan, Mason Mawer and Matt O'Hearn have kept the wheels rolling.

Into the future I see our junior presence continue to grow with the junior program going from strength to strength, a busy and diverse 2020 event calendar which includes a move to harness the growing social scene of Mountain biking to develop a broader membership base.

See you all on the Trails

Nick Smee
Club President