

# North Harbour Club

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## Club News

### Committee

The club is currently without a president or secretary. Brian Mumme , the previous secretary has sent an [open letter](#) to the members on this matter.

A committee meeting has been called for Wednesday 5th August at 7pm. Please contact [Lynn Murphy](#) if you want to join the committee and/or attend that meeting.

### NHCC Schools Tour - sponsored by Full Cycle

The weekend of 18th and 19th July saw the first Junior Tour to be held in Auckland for about 15 years. Nearly 120 young riders, mostly from Auckland schools but a few from as far afield as Kawerau and New Plymouth, turned up to race in the tour. It was cold and wet and windy but they did not let that deter them. Riders as young as 11 years old braved the weather in what was, for many, their first race. Trying conditions for even the most experienced riders.

The fields certainly had quality riders front up, notably several recent NZ representatives to Canberra including Courtney Hiley, Racquel Sheath, Dion Smith, Alex Mcrory-Bowick, Daniel Cross, Andrew Ranford, Hamish Elley-Brown.

The event was based at the Kumeu Hall for the first day's racing, beginning with a Time Trial. The course was began with a steep climb before settling into a course that was primarily downhill and flat, with a strong tailwind. As a result some very fast speeds were recorded. To give an indication the average speed for U15 girls was about 38km per hour over their 4km course. Surprises aplenty as a result of the testing course with many riders commenting on how fast their legs were spinning !!!

After a quick stop for some fuel and sustenance the Saturday afternoon Road Races started at midday. The circuit proved to be a challenge for all riders, wind gusts up to 40 knots, a little rain, some challenging uphill and then a huge downhill with a tailwind!!!!!! The races were split to small pieces after the first lap and soon it became a survival of the strongest, fittest and most determined to succeed. Tactics playing a huge part and the ability to draft. The NZ rep riders began to dominate in the U17 and U19 age groups and dictate the pace. The U15 girls' race was dominated by Devon Hiley.

On Sunday morning, dozens of eager riders and their parents waited for the Criterium at North Harbour Stadium in the cold and wet. Although there were signs of improvement through the morning, a heavy shower just on decision time forced us to cancel the race for the safety of the riders. We moved across to the Taupaki road race circuit with some trepidation.

The final Road Race was held at Taupaki on the Mc Entee circuit where the recent Auckland Half Distance Champs were held. A great testing course where many riders struggled on the notorious Mc Entee hill, causing major breaks across all age groups. With overall placings up for grabs the racing was intense and resulted in numerous sprint finishes to decide the final outcome. Several of the schools began to team ride in this race to secure valuable points towards the coveted NHCC Schools Trophy.

Prizegiving was held in the Taupaki Hall, many thanks to the generous sponsorship of Full Cycle. Overall winners for the inaugural NHCC Schools Junior Tour were:

- U15 Girls - Devon Hiley (St Cuthberts)
- U15 Boys - Josh Hunter (Sacred Heart)
- U17 Girls - Racquel Sheath (Whangaparaoa College)
- U17 Boys - Alex McCrory Bowick (Pakuranga College )
- U19 Women - Courtney Hiley (St Cuthberts)

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*Ray Sheath  
Race Manager*

### **2009 Winter Road Series**

Unfortunately the second race of the series was cancelled due to a lack of volunteers to run the race. The third race set off on Saturday morning in beautiful conditions. [Results](#) will be posted as soon as possible. The next race is on 9th August at Kumeu.

### **2009 Licences**

You should have renewed your licence for 2009. [Application form](#).

### **Auckland Centre News**

[Auckland 1000 Road Race](#); Sunday 30th August. Entries to be received by Monday 24 August.

### **Cycling NZ / BikeNZ News**

BikeNZ are currently calling for names for the upcoming National Road/Track Commissaires Course taking place in Hawkes Bay September 4-6th. [Application form](#)

### **Other events**

#### ***Waikato/BOP***

[WBOP Time Trial Champs](#); Saturday 5 September 2009

[Morrinsville Invitation Race](#); 12 September 2009

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