TOONUMBAR DAM REPORT

Thanks to an east coast low necessitating the rescheduling of last weekend's event which then in turn created a couple clashes with some notable other events, SQTA finally managed, after 8 years of trying, to hit a milestone none of us ever thought possible. That being that we finally hosted a field under 30 for the first time ever with 21 riders showing up for our Toonumbar Dam event on Sunday. This has been a subject talked about around many a campfire over the past 8 years and to finally get there was certainly quite the achievement and proof positive that you can still run a successful event with small numbers and go home with a contented smile on your face. There was even some talk of using this event as the selection process for our 2017 memberships as a way of bring everything back into perspective but some of those on hand were obviously missing some of their mates and as a result it was voted down........for the time being anyway! ©

The decision was made early 10 days ago to postpone the event what with the expected heavy rain due to arrive over that weekend and our Northern NSW farming members were vindicated when in fact it did arrive in force but it would appear Toonumbar got off lightly in the rain stakes as the creek and upper gullies were none the worse for wear as it turned out. Our northern NSW cousins once again did a superb job setting 10 almost all Division Sections reprising a few oldies that had been taken back by fallen trees and eking out another three further up the gullies so the small exclusive group that showed up for the day were more than over catered for enjoying the fruits of their labours. In fact most would agree that this event was probably the best event they had ridden in this absolute trials playground with the lack of riders only adding to the overall experience. Three of the four Sections set in the lower creek were classic SSDT numbers with plenty of constantly moving slippery rocks that never got any easier as the day progressed, guaranteeing the continual bleeding of points off everyone, and combined with the excellent upper gulley's we were absolutely spoilt for choice with not a word of complaint heard from anyone.

Due to having the luxury of only 2 riders per Section we decided, rightly or wrongly, to add another Lap to the day making 5 Laps the designated number and that one extra lap sure blew a few riders karma, both psychologically & physically, with fatigue being the main issue it seemed, but all managed to get them done in the end, creatively so for the Frith family, that consisted of both Michael's sons, Dan & Marcus, who have both returned after 18 or so years away from the sport, as well as his Grandson Cooper, who it would appear all inherited his go slow approach to trials riding! Thanks for the photos too Frithy. Pretty much everyone had a tale to tell at the BBQ wrap up but there wasn't one person who didn't agree that this event was one that will go down in the annals of SQTA folklore to be talked about around all future campfires to come.

Thanks to the Elaine Alford and Kerryn Hellyar for womanising the score tent for the day ably assisted, or should that read distracted, by Helen Green & Nerida Anderson and not wanting to sound like a broken record but happy to do so, Steve & Sharon Schneider for standing out there all day clicking cards for the rest of we unwashed! Thanks again to our NSW members who as usual did a fabulous job setting a trial worthy of a "Best Of" status and all those who, with military precision, enthusiastically pulled the Sections in at the end of the day. There's no hiding with a small group is there!!!!!!! ©

Anyway, a quick turnaround now so maybe see some of the rest of you in a couple of weeks' time for number 6.

TOONUMBER DAM RESULTS

Division 1

Sam Rogers 51
Dan Frith DNF

Division 2

Brad Schneider 21
Michael Frith 23
Greg Harding 28
Jason Duley 35
Harry Van Dijk 54
Tong Wong 74



Tony Green 27 Marcus Frith 35 Peter Alford 110

Division 4

Ian Rogers12John Barwick15Peter Gately37Matt Monk53Mark Green64

Division 5

Roger Galpin 12 Ian Duley 87

Division 6

Cooper Winterbon 10 Donna Woods 23 Russel Flack 52















