

## July 2014 Newsletter

Hi All

Well it's been a while since my last letter so I'll try to bring things up to speed. Unfortunately we never got the Nationals this year so with Canterbury having the NZGP title at their round of the nationals a few of us travelled north. There were good numbers in the post classic classes with riders from far and wide. Due to an over eager 1<sup>st</sup> cnr slow speed kitty litter get off, Sid Chaloner never qualified so at the back for race 1. I'd practiced with his closest rival, Eddie Kattenburg, on Fridays free practice and saw his weaknesses which I passed on to Sid but after 3 laps we could see Sid had the measure of Eddie but didn't want to show his hand too early. In some ways I wish he had. I'd just finished saying to Norm Mac Donald "watch this Sids going to take him" and UP UP AND OVER HE went then slam into the asphalt. Wow what a high side exiting the dipper. It's on YouTube if you're interested. Sid did some damage, broken leg below the titanium pin above the knee on the right leg plus the hip joint wasn't great either, as we all know he has had both hips done over the past few years hence the Ti pin. So the bike has extensive damage but like Sid, its rebuildable and parts are coming I'm told. John Beck had the RG humming for the GP and grabbed 2<sup>nd</sup> which I know he was real happy with. It's not fast off the line, but after that watch out and as we all know John is no slouch in the riding skills dept. I had a good weekend securing 1st place in the clubman's class plus 1<sup>st</sup> in the NZGP so I was rapt the new bike and motor are coming together. The numbers for SBK nats class were low going into the round but a few late entries boosted a diminished field, as always this class brings the talent to the track and never fails to entertain the riders and public alike. Suzuki's Dennis Charlett was showing his class and being this is his last year he wanted to go out on top which he did. Kawasaki's Nick Cole was putting the moves on and was forever a threat. Some superb riding was seen from the whole field. In the 600 class Jeremy Holmes was pushing hard on his Castrol Southland Honda and with Honda mounted Jake Lewis fresh from winning the European cup, we knew it was going to be exciting racing.

Sunday threw in the rain early so it was declared wet! Within a couple of hours the track was dry and the sun shone through but as it was declared wet our lights STILL had to be on! A few of us hurried to get them on board and working prior to our races!!!! Not a trap I will fall into again. The rain stayed away for 90% but towards the end the skies blackened and, leaving the track, large hail was dancing on the roof, the event finished just in time. From here on in the Southland Cup was next on the horizon, great support shown in all classes Bill Moffatt once again grabbed this series by the scruff and made it happen and still is. Next round is 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. Check the results out posted on the website. Thanks to all the flaggies, Andy and your crew, your services are really appreciated and without you we couldn't race! It looks as if all the support classes are now dropped from the nationals albeit development class. "The Riders have spoken" Greg at MNZ stated in his email. 300 odd riders submitted the survey MNZ conducted so if you didn't take time to fill it out sorry but there's nothing we can do now. Last year the SBK class was low in numbers and for a club undertaking the financial burden of a Nat Round I'm sure support classes will bring the much needed funds when Championship class numbers are diminished. Not all can or wish to compete at Nat level even if you qualify within the criteria racing at the back 2/3 seconds off the pace is no fun, but it does PUT more money to MNZ thru licenses and entry fees!!!! And boost numbers, could it be why they dropped the support classes? Hoping that some might step up. It amazes me that the very body

that advertises that they are for the Sport and Motorcyclists has locked so many out. I sent this to MNZ and got no Reply!

Re Nz superbike 2015 champs do I read clearly that you have dropped clubman's and any other support class from all rounds? Except development. If so a lot of riders have poured money and time into bikes over the years which are now worthless. A few may be able to move up to the Championship class and never be a threat ,there to just make up numbers and ride at the back! Putting money into the MNZ fund nothing more. We can't all be up at the top level, but we enjoy racing, so now the very Body that is promoting the sport is locking us out! How do we attract new riders with this scheme? Maybe a new name should be put forward.

Motorcycling Top Level Riders ONLY Nz inc

Oh FYI I did fill the survey out

Yours

Bitterly disillusioned Kevin Beaumont

By the way the Blog site MNZ has is ludicrous! You submit a comment and the moderator decides whether to post it online. So if your blog is not in line with their thinking, sorry it's not posted. What a crock of S.....T. So much for being able to have your say. It may be a while before we host another Nats round as most in the survey didn't want to come south! 300 odd riders have spoken for all that race and changed the future event make up. Hopefully they will see reason when clubs don't have the funds to host rounds due to low numbers and it will all come back to normal. Til then we can only hope!

Hope to see you all on Sept 7th

Cheers Beaker in Te Anau

### **Newsletter update**

Well I'm glad to see a reply and that it is up to clubs to make the decision re support classes  
This is the reply from MNZ Thanks for Greg responding  
Cheers Beaker

To answer your question, no, we haven't dropped Clubman's or whichever extra support class each club wants to run at the NZSBK2015.

The way it worked last year, Billy advised what national class rounds were to be held at each venue, then he added the development class as one of the support classes. The other available

support class was open to each club to select. Motorcycling Canterbury had a great response from Clubman's riders so I'd expect that they'll want to run the same again.

The club's and I are in communication over these and other details but that part hasn't been finalised yet...I expect that the support classes will be similar to NZSBK2014. I'll make sure MC and the other clubs are aware of your concerns.

Thanks for doing the survey, and apologies if the blog comments sounded like we'd be dropping Clubman's. I haven't been on the site since getting back so will have some comments & responses to put up.

Cheers, Greg