

## Race report. 8.09.2024. Small Topliss Course. 5 Laps: 36km. Self Graded Mass Start.

While the sun was out initially in Lepperton for the first race of the new season it was definitely still spring conditions with rain in other parts of town and clouds around.

25 starters for the first race of the season and there were a few returning faces which was brilliant to see. Simple course with left hand turns the whole way after starting by the church on Richmond Road, left onto Manutahi Road, left onto Kelly Road, left onto Richmond, over the bridge and back to the start finish. Whether it was nerves or the excitement of racing again earlier assurances of an easy first lap went of the window when the bunch hit Kelly Road. Speedos nudging 48km on the flat and the pace was pretty rapid.

On the second lap a small group broke off the front consisting of Glenn Kirk, Shaun Williams, John Woodward and Paul Duynhoven. This group would then stay away for the majority of the race. The pace started to tell on the remaining bunches with smaller groups forming on the road. Mother nature also spoiled with party with showers on laps four and five dropping the temperatures from about 18 degrees down to what felt like 10 degrees. Further attrition had occurred in some of the groups with splintering into smaller groups as the reality of trying to wake up racing legs took hold and the front of the race still cracking along.

For a variety of reasons a couple of riders pulled out early. Thank you to Paul Plumtree for shifting his vehicle down to the start finish for us.

With the raining easing off and then stopping it was more pleasant for the finish. Out in front Glenn Kirk won from Shaun Williams in a sprint to the line and take out A Grade. John Woodward rode strongly came in solo in third. Michael White had the best kick of the next group to take B grade and fourth heading in Simon Bishop and Kelvin Eden. Rob Gedye had an awesome ride to come in with this bunch as top C grader in seventh. Jesse Hofmans cleared away on the home straight from the C grade group, Peter Scrafft, Barry Marnoch, Nick Barrett and Tony Williams following close in behind. Klaus Ohlendorf and Tony Brownrigg were next in. Klaus being first D grader. Pieter Van Leeuwen was next in. Paul Hickford was the first and only Paul to finish on the day in a quirk. Similar times were had by Grant Dean, Kevin Locke, Steve Webber, Grant Wilson and Phil Marfell. Scott Chamberlain rode really well in his first race to finish a few minutes further back.

Thank you to Kelvin Eden for doing raceday secretary and Paul Plumtree for helping at the finish. Thank you to CJ Peters and Paul Tipler for marshalling the Richmond Road bridge. Massive thank you to Margy Weston for providing on-site STMS and checking the course. Thank you also to everyone who contributed to morning tea.

Hawera Road Cycling Club Inc. are racing next Sunday 15th from Okaiawa. Our next CNP race will be the first race in the points series Sunday 22th September.

Cheers PD.

8.09.2024			
Place	Name	Time	Grade
1	Glenn Kirk	53.50	A
2	Shaun Williams	53.50	A
3	John Woodward	57.5	A
4	Michael White	58.43	B
5	Simon Bishop	58.43	B
6	Kelvin Eden	58.43	B
7	Rob Gedye	58.43	C
8	Jesse Hofmans	59.47	C
9	Peter Schrafft	1.00.00	C
10	Baz Marnoch	1.00.00	C
11	Nick Barrett	1.00.00	C
12	Tony Williams	1.00.00	C
13	Klaus Ohlendorf	1.02.30	D
14	Tony Brownrigg	1.02.35	C
15	Pieter Van Leeuwe	1.03.54	D
16	Paul Hickford	1.03.54	D
17	Grant Dean	1.03.59	C
18	Kevin Locke	1.04.06	D
19	Steve Webber	1.04.06	C
20	Grant Wilson	1.04.06	C
21	Phil Marfell	1.04.06	C
22	Scott Chamberlair	1.06.34	E
	Paul Duynhoven	DNF	A
	Paul Baker	DNF	D
	Paul Plumtree	DNF	E