



Committee Meeting 4-2016

Date: 25th October 2016
Time Start: 18:30pm
Location: WestCycle Boardroom
Attendees:

- Alex Wade (AW)
- Jodie Stembridge (JS)
- Ben Pruden (BP)
- Vilma Fitzgerald (VF)
- Cathy Young (CY)
- Margaret McIlroy (MM) - via conference call

WAMBA's Vision:

Mountain biking is recognised as a mainstream, positive and family-friendly activity, where everyone is or knows a mountain biker.

And for Western Australia to embrace sustainable mountain biking as a leading recreational and tourism experience by delivering opportunities, maximising participation and sharing the benefits.

1. Agenda

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2. Apologies

- Bryan Stevenson
- Bret Watson

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes from 30 August 2016 (2-2016) and 27th September 2016 (3-2016) meetings were reviewed and unanimously accepted as accurate.

Update on items from previous minutes:

Prizes for Podium Winners of 2016 XCO State Series:

- The committee approved reimbursing Chris Park of PMBC the full cost of approx. \$280 for the medals for the podium winners of 2016 XCO State Series.
- The committee unanimously agreed to have a budget allocated to provide prizes for the 2017 XCO and DH state series podium winners, and XCO and DH state champions. GE and CX will also be considered.

Actions still outstanding:

Action: send an email out to the committee to review our current fees for each MTBA membership category and get approval for any changes (JS).

Action: update membership fees in the MTBA online members' portal as per committee approval (JS).

Action: AW and JS to look at whether it is possible to have additional generic email addresses for committee members to use when engaging with clubs (e.g. Treasurer@wamba.net.au).

Action: AW to explore what the costs would be of establishing a feedback page and report at next meeting.

Action: A PayPal account needs to be set-up for WAMBA, so that Trailforks website donations from any local trails (Perth metro/ outer metro area) can be paid directly to WAMBA. Once that has been established, AW is to liaise with Russell Bell (WA Administrator of Trailforks) to have trail karma links more appropriate.

Action: AW to draft policy for use of funds generated through donations via TrailForks and to update Peel, KMBC and Perth clubs about the changes.

Action: AW to reach-out to the CEO of MTBA in an effort to improve communications.

Action: AW to develop a budget for the trip, explore funding support with DSR and seek approval for expenditure at next month's Australian MTB Summit meeting. VF expressed an interest in attending, as she will be on holiday over east during this time.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and while the Cast at Bank is accurate, it was noted that BS is still working to get a definite breakdown on the Grants amount of \$13,630. As such, the report hasn't yet been approved. MTBA's affiliation fee of \$150 was approved to be paid.

The full Treasurer's Report from 28th September to 25th October 2016 is attached to the back of the minutes.

Account Balance

Balance at 28 th September 2016	\$29,695.02
Balance at 25th October 2016	\$21,005.02
<i>Total in</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>Total out</i>	<i>\$8,690.00</i>

Action: AW to discuss the latest Common Ground Invoice with Louise Wallace, because the amount does not track with the forecast in the budget.

5. President's Report

The latest President's Report from AW was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. The report was unanimously approved for inclusion in the minutes and is attached to the back of the minutes.

6. Trails Projects Update

BP emailed a brief update to the committee prior to the meeting:

South West MTB Master Plan

- *Bramley National Park* – as far as I understand, this is on track for end of October/ early November completion (9km in area between the rail trail and pines).
- *Wellington Dam (Potters Gorge Campground)* – new pump track and MTB area at campground.

Perth & Peel MTB Master Plan

- Document continuing to delay further, with a final draft due from Common Ground (CG) for review by the end of October.
- Original delivery for this document was planned for last year, with the updated (and approved) schedule having the document completed by June 2016.
- Don't expect this to be released until 2017 – we should discuss what impact this is going to have on fundraising activities ahead of the next local election cycle?

Murray Valley

- Concept variation for MV development and design for 'Green' DH trails have been completed by CG.
- Note that due to several delays (from CG and DPaW), the work was not completed in time to acquit the Lotterywest grant by its due date. Due to this delay, future funding streams from Lotterywest could be impacted.
- Once there was an approved schedule, the work was delivered as below:

- *Part A* – Due Thursday 4th August; delivered by CG on 11th August; DPaW review only received this week.
- *Part B* – Due Thursday 18th August; completed 4th October.
- Construction of the Green trail will be released for open tender. I have concerns regarding the conflict of interest that exists with CG employees on the PDMBC committee. I would like to table this as an agenda item – we may wish to provide advice to PDMBC on how best to manage this challenge.
- Remaining blue and black trails will be designed by PDMBC. Any construction activities will be delayed; however, because DPaW want parking and toilets in place prior to construction, this is not funded or planned for at this stage.

Albany

- Concept development completed for trails on Mt Clarence and Mt Adelaide – out for public comment by local authorities (closed 23rd October).

Mountain Bike Guidelines

- Further delays to final draft – DPaW don't appear to have looked at the document since our last discussions in May/ June. Don't expect to see this until Q1/Q2 2017.

7. Sport Development & Communications Update

JS emailed a brief update to the committee prior to the meeting:

State MTB High Performance Programme

Setting up a database of contact details for all junior riders identified in the high performance programme is proving to be more difficult than expected. Still waiting on some information before the first state squads are announced.

Junior Development Camp was held in Pemberton over weekend of 7th – 9th October. By all accounts, it was a huge success.

2017 WA MTB Race Calendar

Tony has given all clubs and event organisers until end of this month to submit dates for their 2017 races. A meeting has been set for Wednesday 16th November, to allow everyone to sit around the table and iron out any potential issues in order to finalise the calendar.

Unfortunately Peel were mistakenly missed from early email communications, and then the club was not contacted via their official club email so they were unaware of the deadline for dates. This has now been rectified, but it may mean that the meeting to finalise the calendar might have to be pushed out by a week or two.

We are also looking to use the November meeting to discuss this year's race season, how things could be improved for next year, as well as issues for WA surrounding the recent announcement by MTBA of the National Recognition of State Championships & State Series Events.

Mention was made of the need to look into the process of how DPaW award races/ events on their land.

WAMBA Communications Strategy

I finally had a meeting with Nina Williams about WAMBA's communications strategy. As there is so much to cover with regards to communication, she asked me to focus on what I thought were the 3 most important and urgent things. This is what I came up with and what I would like the committee to discuss at the meeting. It's nothing new:

1. **Communications between WAMBA and WestCycle** – to enable each organisation to have a clear understanding of their role in the partnership. Who does what? What are our different roles within mountain biking? Who says what and when? Who takes the lead in communications in specific matters? And other questions. . . .

2. **Communications between WAMBA and clubs** – to prove our relevancy to them and show how we can support them to the benefit of their members.
3. **Communications out to the mountain bike community** – there are only two things MTBers want to know:
 - a. Where can they ride? How and where to access trail maps.
 - b. Where and when are new trails going to be built? How much information can we/ are we allowed to put into public sphere to keep people engaged, as well as adequately managing expectations?

AW has also suggested communications coming back to WAMBA (not just going out) – feedback from the community. Nothing further was added to from the rest of the committee.

MTBA 2016 Annual Report – WA Report

As part of her role as WA rep for MTBA, JS submitted a report about what's been happening in the state over the year. This will be included in MTBA's annual report, which will be tabled at their upcoming AGM. A copy of the report is attached at the back of the minutes.

8. Agenda Items

No.	Item/ Status/Decision / Action	Who is Responsible
1	Feature Signage at Trails	Vilma
	<p>Background: In light of a recent serious accident at the Goat Farm by one of the DH Chicks WA girls, I would like to suggest that feature signage is put at features on trails like the ones at Whistler, where there is a sign that shows the type of feature ahead. This gives riders advance warning of what's ahead on the trail (e.g. if it's a kicker, a table top, a drop, etc). I will source images. I know there may be some people will suggest that riders check out a feature, but we also have a responsibility to put signage up as a guide/ warning.</p> <p>Discussion: It's a difficult one to solve with individuals testing their skills regardless. This type of feature signage not included in MTB guidelines.</p> <p>Action: Present a list of ideas/ suggestions to Goat Farm steering group and DPaW (VF).</p>	
2	Trails Development – Management of Conflicts of Interest	Ben
	<p>Background: As the peak body for MTB in the state, WAMBA has a key role to play in ensuring that the development of trails is undertaken in a fully compliant and transparent manner. I have serious concerns with conflicts of interest that exist within our community, and with how some work appears to have been tendered and awarded. Even if it's just the appearance of a non-compliant process or award this can be extremely damaging and could impact prospects for future funding.</p> <p>With the size of our community, conflicts of interest are inevitable, but it's how these conflicts are managed that is important to ensure that the broader community and those institutions we deal with can have confidence that funding is being spent appropriately, and that there is a true level of competition within the design and construction of our trails.</p> <p>The added benefit that this competition brings is a range of builders bringing their own distinct style and so ensuring variety in the trail experiences delivered.</p>	

	<p>Discussion: Community perception of conflicts of interest is paramount (whether they're real or not). Education of clubs – reminder of importance of acting in a compliant and transparent manner, and what they're governed by.</p> <p>Action: Produce compliance guidelines for clubs about managing pecuniary interest (BP).</p>	
3	Clubs Point of Contact	Jodie
	<p>Discussion: In order to provide some accountability for regular engagement with clubs, and a means of recording issues and ideas from the clubs themselves, I suggest we set up a spreadsheet that can be accessed by all of the committee (on Google Drive?).</p> <p>The committee suggested using either Yahoo or Fastmail as a new email hosting service.</p> <p>Action: Set up a Club Engagement spreadsheet and allow access to all committee members (JS).</p>	
4	WAMBA Implementation Plan	Alex
	<p>Background: AW has produced a draft plan, which was emailed to the committee a month ago for review. Feedback was sought on the objectives and strategies outlined. There are also going to be a few tasks falling out of plan in relation to establishing the costs of various activities, and everyone will have a part to play in bringing things to fruition.</p> <p>Discussion: BP sent his questions on plan through to committee prior to meeting, which were discussed and adequately answered. No changes to the plan.</p> <p>Decision: The implementation plan was formally endorsed by the committee.</p> <p>Action: A budget to be produced for the implementation plan (BS).</p>	

9. AOB

No.	Item/ Status/Decision / Action	Who is Responsible
1	MTB Industry Day – Friday 4 th November	Alex
	<p>Everything is organised and ready to go.</p> <p>Action: Align speech with WestCycle's (AW).</p>	
2	Mountain Bike Implementation Reference Group (MIRG) Meeting	Jodie
	<p>This afternoon I attended a MIRG meeting chaired by WestCycle and attended by representatives of DSR, DPaW and WA Local Government Association (WALGA). The intent of the meeting was to review the current status of the implementation plan for the WA Mountain Bike Strategy.</p> <p>A brief outline of what was discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WA MTB Strategy Year 2 Deliverables – Progress Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day (feedback and evaluation) – 4 clubs ran events. ○ Super Saturday MTB Count (progress report) – a trial run is scheduled to happen soon. ○ WAMBA re-affiliation process (Nov 2016) – Shelby is working with JS on a new online process. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Statewide Trail Status Update (discussion) – too much work involved in getting a report done any more than on a six monthly basis. ○ Australian MTB Summit presentation description – Peta will be delivering on behalf of WestCycle. ▪ Master Planning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ South West Mountain Bike Hub Project Business Case – a lot of work being put in by WestCycle and DPaW to get it submitted. ○ Perth & Peel MTB Master Plan – probably won't be finalised until mid-2017. ▪ National MTB Trail Standards and Professional Certification Framework – out for public consultation at the moment. ▪ Other Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DSR Industry Day (Friday 4th November 2016) ○ Trails Forum (Friday 11th November 2016) – presentation by Dave Willcox on Perth & Peel Master Plan. 	
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Meeting Close: 20:30pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday 29th November (5-2016) at DSR



Treasurer's Report October 2016.

Period 28 September – 25 October 2016

Income

Nil	\$0.00
Total	\$0.00

Expenses

Common Ground Trails – Remainder for Murray Valley	\$8,690.00
Total	\$8,690.00

Surplus / (Deficit)	\$(8,665.00)
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Cash at Bank	\$21,005.02
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Grants	\$13,630
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Operational		Strategic		Relationship	
Current period					
12/09/2016:	Met with Matt Fulton (WestCycle CEO)	10/10/2016:	Finalise implementation plan draft	5/10/2016:	Steve Bennett RE Industry Day
11/09/2016:	MTBA Annual Report (draft)		Policy 13 research	3/10/2016:	Clubs RE MTBA/State rounds
19/10/2016:	Mark Wardell RE Jarrahdale trails works		Drafted 2016/2017 objectives and circulated for comment	9/10/2016:	Attend Single Track Minds 4-hour launch and presentation
			Prepared communiqué for club presidents and circulated for comment		
Next period					
Find a secretary or share workload		Policy 13		4/11/2016:	Industry Day
				16/11/2016:	Race calendar meeting
Funding options to attend Australian National MTB Summit		Stakeholder communications		Meetings:	
				1. Shane Williamson (KMBC)	
				2. Steve Bennett	
Constitution		National Round Strategy		Follow-up Race Development Committee	

Policy 13 research:

Current stream inflow levels into dams are at 7%

(<https://www.watercorporation.com.au/water-supply-and-services/rainfall-and-dams/sources>)

State government position is that reliance on stream inflow into dams will decrease (<https://www.watercorporation.com.au/water-supply-and-services/rainfall-and-dams/sources>)

Stream inflow levels by dam are not readily available

Dams

1. Bickley pumpback dam
2. Canning dam
3. Churchman Brook dam
4. Conjurunup Pipe head dam
5. Lower Helena pumpback dam
6. Mundaring weir (dam)
7. North Dandalup dam
8. Sampson dam
9. Serpentine main dam
10. Serpentine pipe head dam
11. South Dandalup dam
12. Stirling dam
13. Victoria dam
14. Wungong dam

Bickley pumpback dam: Fed back into Victoria Dam for treatment

Lower Helena pumpback dam: Fed back into the Mundaring Weir for treatment

Dams will still be relied upon despite reduced stream inflow. In addition, strategies being explored to increase run-off¹ in certain areas

Dams currently being used to store water and this role will increase with plans to move water from dams that have high stream inflow to other dams

Consideration being given to using dams to store recycled water to improve the water quality

Source: (<https://www.watercorporation.com.au/-/media/files/about-us/planning-for-the-future/water-forever-50-year-plan.pdf>)
(<https://www.watercorporation.com.au/-/media/files/about-us/planning-for-the-future/water-forever-50-year-plan.pdf>)

Need to understand:

- Environmental Protection Authority's *Position Statement No. 9 on Environmental offsets*
- *Forest Management Plan 2014–2023*

Based on success of trials in the Wungong catchment area, consideration is being given to more intensive catchment management at:

1. Stirling Dam (Harvey);
2. Harris Dam (Collie);
3. Phillips Creek Dam (Manjimup);
4. Manjimup Dam (Manjimup);
5. Ten Mile Brook Dam (Margaret River); and
6. Big Brook Dam (Pemberton).

¹ See also <https://www.watercorporation.com.au/water-supply-and-services/solutions-to-perths-water-supply/dams/catchments>

Focus of catchment management is on improving run-off through management of vegetation but it has to be considered that these areas will be given a higher priority in terms of protection against perceived contamination risk.

Source: <https://www.watercorporation.com.au/-/media/files/residential/water-supply-and-services/water-forever-south-west/water-forever-south-west-final-report.pdf>

2008 Water report assessed mountain bike riding as low to medium risk identifying the following risk:

1. Pathogen contamination risk from people remaining in the area for a long period of time
2. Rubbish disposal from people camping in the area (Munda Biddi)
3. Increased turbidity from soil displacement
4. Spread of forest disease

By comparison, horseback riding received a high and low risk profile, trail bike riding medium to low (higher than mountain bike riding), Rally Australia a high to medium, bushwalking high and low.

Most of the report's attention was focussed on the area to the south and east of Mundaring Weir with little or no commentary on activities/risks in the area around the Camel Farm or the Valley. The emphasis may be significant in relation to **Forsyth's Mill**

Source: https://www.water.wa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/4971/72102.pdf

It can be anticipated that similar risk profiles and mitigation recommendations will be made for other areas.

Notes on risks:

Given the expectations that reliance on stream flow in dams will decrease it is reasonable to expect that objections to increased recreational activities in the areas around Mundaring Weir and Victoria Reservoir will decrease.

Given the efforts to increase stream flow between 2005 and 2015 in the vicinity of the Wungong Dam, there is likely to be continued resistance to increased recreational activities adjacent to the catchment area of that dam.

The focus on increased stream flow through vegetation management for the **10 Mile Creek Dam** and the **Big Brook Dam** (Margaret River and Pemberton respectively) may see far greater focus on risk in those areas.

Risk areas are therefore in order of priority:

1. Pemberton (most proximate to dam with high stream flow potential);
2. Margaret River;
3. Wungong;
4. Forsyth's Mill
5. Kalamunda Circuit

MTBA 2016 Annual Report – WA Report

Mountain biking is going from strength-to-strength in WA.

Despite the fact that WA was not able to secure a national round for 2017, mountain biking continues to grow in both popularity and visibility in the West.

The partnership between WAMBA (the state sporting body for mountain biking in WA) and WestCycle (the peak body for cycling in WA) has strengthened, and the state government's commitment of funding for organisational development has really seen things happening.

We've got a new high performance program for juniors, which has seen a coach appointed and the first very successful camp run in the September school holidays. WestCycle has also worked closely with government and clubs to run a very successful State Schools MTB Championship that will only be bigger next year.

State and local government support for mountain biking continued to grow in 2016 with considerable effort and buy-in for the Perth & Peel Master Plan, which will define the objectives for trails in and around the metropolitan area. We've seen local governments getting behind pump tracks across the metropolitan area, supporting skills clinics in regional WA and making sure that mountain biking is a key part of their recreational trail planning.

2016 saw more professionally run commercial events in WA and more exceptionally high quality trails opened on private land. The state's gravity disciplines really reaped the benefit of this, and there are bigger and better things just around the corner too.

Perhaps one of the biggest success stories of 2016 has been the protection of the much-loved Pines area near Margaret River, which traditionally has been one of the best parts of WA's biggest mountain bike event – the Cape-to-Cape. The trails in the Pines were due to be closed when logging commenced, but the diligent efforts of the local riding community has seen compromises reached which will see commercial logging activities managed for the benefit of the trails. This is an awesome outcome for the local riders, and is also proof positive of what can be achieved through consultation and cooperation.

WAMBA has a strong partnership with the Department of Parks and Wildlife, Department of Sport and Recreation and WestCycle, and is grateful for their ongoing support of West Australian mountain biking.

2017 is set to be a really important year strategically for the WA scene, and also an excellent season for competitive and non-competitive riders alike. We've seen a new club formed and older clubs reinvigorated thanks, in part, to the excellent work of the dedicated resources in WestCycle. We are all expecting great things for competition and trails, and we will be working closely with MTBA to see more national events over this side of the country.

Here are some highlights for 2016

WestCycle Mountain Bike Team

The two full time mountain bike positions at WestCycle support WAMBA operational and are primarily focused on:

- Implementing key recommendations within the Western Australian Mountain Bike Strategy. Some of the initiatives to come out of the strategy are:
 - 9 new schools completed a mountain bike taster session.
 - 10 clubs were provided assistance to upskill their volunteers with the MTBA Level 0 MTB Skills Coach accreditation.
 - 310 ladies were introduced to mountain biking.
 - “Come and Try XC Racing” initiatives proved successful, particularly with the Kalamunda State Round where approximately 20% of the race field were women.
- Securing large scale funding for the implementation of the South West Mountain Bike Master Plan. The implementation of the plan will see the South West developed into an international destination of choice for Mountain Bike tourism, and provide significant opportunities to West Australians to experience world-class trails.

Mountain Bike Events

This year has seen another successful state series run in Enduro, Downhill and Cross Country. WA Cyclocross’ Numbat Cup also proved popular, with many riders giving the discipline a go for the first time.

Morphing from Australian’s only urban downhill race, the new look Southern MTB event held over 3 days in Albany looks like it’s heading towards joining the Cape to Cape as a premium drawcard in WA’s racing calendar.

In January, Pemberton again played host to the XCO Double Header National Rounds, while the West Australian round of the 2016 MTBA National GE Series took place at Three Chillies Farm, just outside of Perth. The round also doubled as an Enduro World Series qualifying round (one of only 2 events in Australia have this privilege).

Elite

WA athletes – Sam Hill (DH), Jordan Prochyra (DH) and Reece Tucknott (XC), all put in solid performances at the World Champs in Andorra.

Transitioning into GE, local legend Sam Hill has had some fantastic success in the Enduro World Series - taking 2nd place at Round 3 in Ireland, and a win in the seventh round in France.

High Performance & Junior Development

Since early 2015, WAMBA has been working with the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR) and WestCycle to establish a pathway to support high performance mountain biking in WA. With the help of DSR funding, WestCycle has employed a High Performance Manager and prepared a Western Australian Cycling High Performance Plan.

WAMBA and others from within the mountain bike community provided mountain bike specific input into the Plan, which is the first step in developing and implementing a Western Australian Mountain Bike High Performance Programme – a key recommendation from the WA Mountain Bike Strategy.

Mark Wardle has been appointed as WA State MTB Coach and will be working closely with clubs and coaches to provide a more structured approach to junior development.

WA's new high performance programme is aimed at under 15-17 and under 19-23 junior riders, and introduces a Team WA concept that revolves around all riders, coaches and clubs in WA working together to create a cohesive environment that results in success at a national level.

The WAMBA State Squad for each age group will be announced shortly and include both XCO and DHI disciplines, with a mixture of male and female riders in each squad.

The WAMBA State Team will be selected from the two squads to represent Western Australia wearing black and gold at next year's National Championships.

WA Schools Championships

Carmel College (Perth) won the inaugural 2016 WA Schools Mountain Bike Championships, held at the Goat Farm Mountain Bike Park. It's been over 10 years since a schools' mountain bike state championships has been held in WA, and it proved to be a huge success with approximately 80 students from 16 schools from around the state competing on a short, but challenging course.

Off-Road Hand Cycling – Break the Boundary

Western Australia was the stage for history-making events in Australian mountain bike racing. Round 3 of the WA Cross Country State Series featured the first off-road hand cycling (ORHC) category in any Australian state or national MTB series round, with the fourth round of the WA Gravity Enduro Series also following suit.

Andrew Liddawi was the inspiration for the new hand-cycling category. Through his Break the Boundary initiative and in collaboration with WestCycle, WAMBA and local MTB clubs, he has started the process of ensuring adaptive MTB has a place in the MTB community. Not only has Andrew ran demo days for those interested in trying hand cycling, he spearheaded the inaugural Adaptive MTB Conference recently held in Melbourne, and will be one of the key note speakers at the upcoming Australian MTB Summit.

Jodie Stembridge

MTBA representative for WA