

5 November 2008

November MVTR Meeting

The pre-meeting, Rocky Enduro wrap-up, MVTR/SCTR, Comp/Sanctioning meeting ran long. Consequently, the November meeting began @ 19:13 with most everyone already quieted down by quantities of pizza.

A review of recent past and upcoming events found MVTR members actively riding in MX, HS and Enduros. Ryan headed up a team effort and Duane was an ironman, class winner at MotoMayhem. Jon listed off a number of MX events but didnt say if he actually rode (or planned to ride) any of them. Andy, Cody and Dave were among the riders at the latest PSTR Short Course event. The Black and Blue Enduro finished out the season (depending on State OK to run Rocktoberfast) with a course similar to last years event, they have got it down to only about 6 miles of the trail being on state land (less to be shut out of) and had 30 rows or riders.

The end of the HS season is fast approaching with the Hard Knox scheduled for 9 November. If the state does reopen the Western MA State Forests, the rescheduled Rocktoberfast will finish out the Enduro season on 16 November.

The Rocky Mountain Enduro was reviewed. 102 riders signed up with 20 +/- new NETRA memberships processed which leads us to believe that the all off-road format may indeed bring more riders into the sport. Rick had done his best to make it a rideable event where B and C riders could finish and timekeeping (i.e. thinking would be required of the A riders, a tropical deluge on Saturday night certainly undermined those efforts. A common reply to riders asking advice about riding their first enduro is Just ride it like a trail ride, dont worry about time keeping the first time. We apparently had quite a few first time riders who took that advice to heart and didnt even look at the rules ahead of time. A substantial reset way through the first loop was often ignored and many burned the following check point by a LOT, they still got their day of trail riding in but might have posted respectable scores had they not DQd themselves early. Mike, Dave and JD were among our members who rode the event, Dave and JD are among those who NOW know what a reset is.

There is a Work Party scheduled in Alton on 8 November 2008 to replace a bridge at Bergerons. The standard meeting time/place (08:00 @ Alton Circle McDonalds or 09:00 @ the property) apply. Note, since I am late at getting this summary assembled the time has already passed, see: http://www.nedirtbikes.com/content/m_145223/mpage_1/key_/tm.htm - 145223 for more information.

The 2009 NETRA Event Sanctioning Meeting and Competition Committee Meeting will be held in early December (the first weekend?). In preparation for that, it was time to review our event plans. The (recent) past Classic Trail Bosses have all stepped forward to take on another

year of toil and trouble (they love it! (I hope)). We are looking at combining our two Rocky events into one big(ger) weekend! The plan would be to add the Enduro onto the Saturday program, thereby moving it from late October (potentially cold and dark) to July. Theoretically, there is a hole in the enduro schedule at that time, the event would retain its all off-road format so as to NOT be sending riders out onto tourist covered roads. We should be able to reduce some of our infrastructure costs, mostly in terms of the amount of TIME that club members spend away from home and family to prepare for the event(s) and also in having just one (well, plus the Classic) long weekend to put them on instead of two. It would still require lots of work but the hope is that it would reduce the total number of days that need to be worked.

An idea in conjunction with this is to possibly have some form of Ironman Challenge for riders who choose to compete on both days!

Rick told us he is submitting a rule change request that would allow for a modified version of the AMA Enduro Rules. He feels this would allow competitors to ride with their friends throughout the day (keep on the same minute) but still address the (speed) situations that Brand X rules were instituted to deal with.

A discussion as to how to best entertain the concept of the Work Credit Rule was begun. There appear to be as many interpretations of the rule as there are clubs. Some clubs require a substantial commitment as a condition of membership (beyond the scope of the NETRA championship points rule) and others accept almost any effort as sufficient to qualify for the NETRA credit. Our ongoing trail bosses are going to look at various options and should be bringing an MVTR version to the membership for review in January.

Somehow missed during our discussion of upcoming events was the Toys for Tots Ride in Assonet, MA on 16 November 2008. For those who are not yet aware this day serves as two fund raising events! Toys donated at the event are distributed to those in need for the holiday season, in addition donated cash will end up at the CLASSIC as part of the annual PSTR donation to OUR event.

Dont miss out on this opportunity to support those who support us!