

January 2017

Cycling NSW
Dunc Gray Velodrome
Carysfield Rd, Bass Hill, 2197
Telephone ▷ (02) 9738 5850

Cycling NSW – 2017 Handicapping Policy

The 2017 NSW Road Open season is fast approaching and CyclingNSW is seeking your support in updating your club's State Open Rankings for all category Gold Licence members including –

- **Elites**
- **Masters**
- **Under 19's**
- **Under 17's, Under 15's, Under 13's, Under 11's and Under 9's.**

CyclingNSW does **NOT** require information on **Ride Basic, Ride Plus or Non Riding** Memberships.

As you would be aware CyclingNSW made significant changes to the Open handicapping system since early 2015 and this progress has continued during 2016. This has ensured a more accurate handicapping outcome for all NSW Opens with the data held permanently on the Sports TG membership system.

During the 2016 Road Season the focus has been on the consolidation of the Road Policy and the pro-active engagement from all NSW Club Handicappers. Club Handicappers (or Committees) now have a greatly enhanced contribution to the overall process by supplying accurate State Open Rankings to CyclingNSW.

For 2017

Road Rankings

- The strategy for Elites, Masters & Under 19's remains unchanged based on a 100k country style handicap across 10 bunches from the front (Limit) bunch back to the last (Scratch) bunch
- For Under 17 and younger these riders are to be ranked in either Division 1 or Division 2 (Division 1 being the higher ranking)

Track Rankings

- After much discussion with numerous Club handicappers it has been agreed to introduce a similar process for Track rankings. This process is somewhat less onerous for Club Handicappers as fewer riders compete on the Track. This process will greatly assist in the development of accurate Track rankings for the 2017-18 Track season.
- The strategy for Elites, Masters & Under 19's will be for 5 Divisions from the front Scratch bunch back to the last Limit

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- For Under 17 and younger these riders to be ranked in either Division 1 or Division 2 (Division 1 being the higher ranking)

Review Process Going Forward

- To ensure a successful 2017 Road Season all NSW Club Handicappers are requested to review their current Gold Licence rider listings and submit revised State rankings by no later than **21 February 2017**.
- Track Rankings are to be updated as the 2017 year progresses with a view to seeing all Track riders suitably ranked by September 2017.
- Please find attached your club membership listing as at 27 December 2016. This listing includes all 2016 Gold Licence members plus any new members who joined your club from 1 October 2016.

Can you please review this club listing and make any suggested changes to these State rankings and

- highlight these **changes in RED**.
- Alternatively, new memberships need to be **highlighted in BLUE**.

By **21 February 2017** your revised club State rankings need to be emailed to -

- Mike O'Reilly at bicisport1@gmail.com
- Robyn Sprouster at Robyn.Sprouster@gmail.com

The 2017 CyclingNSW Handicapping Policy follows.

Yours faithfully

Robyn Sprouster
Mike O'Reilly
Cycling NSW State Handicappers

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Road - 2017 Handicapping Policy

All Gold licence holders are to be allocated a **State Open Ranking** as if that rider is competing in a 100k State Open road handicap.

1. Club Handicappers (or respective Committees) are required to rank every current Gold license member as if that club member competes in a 100k State Open road handicap similar to the Coonabarabran-Gunnedah Handicap conducted each year.

NSW country road handicap events have traditionally been conducted with 10 Bunches from Bunch 1 (Scratch Bunch) to Bunch 10 (Limit Bunch). The Coonabarabran-Gunnedah Handicap is the State handicap benchmark event.

2. This **State Open Ranking** system will be applied to all Category 1 and 2 Open Road events. It does NOT relate to Category 3 (Interclub) or Category 4 (Club only) events.
3. The **State Open Ranking** system will apply to all membership categories with a Gold License (Junior U17 and younger will be split between Division 1 and Division 2 with Division 1 being the higher ability).
4. Each Club Handicapper will be required to update their State Open rankings by **21 February 2017 (then 31 May, 31 August, 30 November 2016)** and to also include any changes (promotions and/or demotions) or new Club members who have joined their Club.
5. CyclingNSW By-Laws require Club Handicappers to submit updated **State Open Rankings** on a quarterly basis. Clubs are encouraged to lodge changes to State Ranking more frequently than quarterly if the need arises.
6. Club Handicappers do **NOT** need to forward weekly Club results to CyclingNSW.
7. If a rider requires a change their **State Open Ranking** (due to improvement or decline in Club performances) this is simply reflected in the next updated handicap listing submitted to CyclingNSW.
8. If a rider needs a change to their **State Open Ranking** then they should discuss the suggested change (either up or down) with their own Club Handicapper in the first instance. The Club Handicapper should then contact the State Handicappers.

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9. **State Open Rankings** for each rider (their IMG handicap code) is listed in each individuals Sports TG personal data page. If a rider does not agree with their State Opening Ranking they should contact their Club Handicapper who will then consult with the State Handicapper.

100k Road Handicap State Open Ranking System

1. Club Handicappers (or respective Committees) are required to rank every current Gold license member as if that club member competes in a 100k State Open road handicap similar to the Coonabarabran-Gunnedah Handicap conducted each year.

NSW country road handicap events have traditionally been conducted with 10 Bunches from Bunch 1 (Scratch Bunch) to Bunch 10 (Limit Bunch). The Coonabarabran-Gunnedah Handicap is the State handicap benchmark event.

2. Club Handicappers having determined what Bunch a rider should be placed over the 100k event will be then allocated a Sports TG data base code.
 - a. For example, within the **Scratch Bunch** there are three levels of Sports TG codes (being A1, A2 and A3);
 - b. These codes allow for slight variances in a rider's performance with A1 being higher and A3 lower;
 - c. Each Bunch has similar variances in Sports TG codes which allows for slight variances in rider performances (these variances are minimal)

3. The 10 bunches are -

- **Bunch 1 (Scratch Bunch)** – either Sports TG codes of A1, A2 or A3
- **Bunch 2 (Chopping Block)** – B1 or B2
- **Bunch 3** – B3 or C1
- **Bunch 4** – C2 or C3
- **Bunch 5** – D1 or D2
- **Bunch 6** – D3 or E1

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- **Bunch 7** – E2 or E3
 - **Bunch 8** – F1 or F2
 - **Bunch 9** – F3 or G1
 - **Bunch 10 (Limit)** – G2 or G3
4. General guidelines for Club Handicappers to follow are listed below. These are general guidelines only and exceptions can and do occur.
5. Note – these Bunches are **NOT** local Club race grades.
- **Bunch 1 (Scratch Mark) – either Sports TG codes of either A1, A2 or A3**
 - NRS Men
 - Tier 1 (higher quality)
 - Elite Men (exceptional quality)
 - U23 Men (exceptional quality)
 - U19 Men (exceptional quality)
 - **Bunch 2 (Chopping Block) – B1 or B2**
 - NRS Men
 - Tier 2 (lower quality)
 - Elite Men (lower quality & below)
 - U23 Men (lower quality & below)
 - U19 Men (lower quality & below)
 - Masters Men (exceptional quality)
 - **Bunch 3** – B3 or C1
 - Masters Men 1-4 (from B3 going lower)
 - **Bunch 5** – D1 or D2
 - NRS Women
 - Masters Men 5+ (from D1 going lower)
 - **Bunch 6** – E1 or E2
 - Women Elite A Grade

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- **Bunch 8** – F1 or F2
 - Women Elite B grade (from F1 going lower)
- **Bunch 9** – F3 or G1
 - Women Masters A Grade
- **Bunch 10** – G2 or G3
 - Women Masters B grade

Additional notes to assist Club Handicappers/Committees

- **NRS Men**
 - Top tier NRS Men are Bunch 1 Scratch Bunch (codes A1/A2/A3)
 - Second tier NRS Men are Bunch 2 Chopping Block (codes B1/B2)
 - No NRS Men to be allocated Bunch 3 (codes B3/C1)
- **Club Grades**
 - This is a State based system over 100k and Club grades need to be reviewed.
 - For example – any "Club" A grader may not necessarily be placed in Bunch 1-Scratch in this system. Generally speaking a majority of "Club" A grade riders will be on either Chopping Block or Bunch 3 or much lower.
 - Where Club riders are graded B grade club they will invariably drop down to say Bunch 4/5/6 or possibly even lower if a Masters category rider.
 - The same applies to Club C grade riders who would invariably drop down to say Bunches 7/8/9/10.

2017 Handicapping & Entry Procedures

- **Rider Self-Assessment**

When a rider enters a NSW State Open they will have a **Self-Assessment Request** option displayed during the event entry process. This **Self-Assessment Request** option allows each rider to request the Division (or handicap Bunch) they believe is commensurate with their current ability.

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- The Cycling NSW handicapper will then compare the riders Self-Assessment Request with the ranking supplied by the respective Club Handicapper. This will allow CyclingNSW to compare the two (Self-Assessment Request and the Club ranking) and assist the CyclingNSW Handicapper to formulate accurate rider handicaps for each event.
- **Seeking a change to your event handicap**
The event handicaps will generally be posted on the NSW website by **close of business Monday** before the event is conducted. Riders will have until the **close of business Tuesday** to seek a change to their event handicap. Final event handicaps will be posted on the NSW website by **close of business Wednesday night**.

The above process is aimed at reducing the incidence of riders seeking a change to their handicap on the day of the promotion. Riders seeking a change to their handicap on the day of the event is to be actively discouraged and this not the role of the designated Open Commissaire.

Track – 2017-18 Handicapping Policy

Track Rankings

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Quarterly Club information to be emailed to CyclingNSW Handicappers

- Mike O'Reilly at bicisport1@gmail.com
- Robyn Sprouster at Robyn.Sprouster@gmail.com

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