

Trail Ride Forum MNZ AGM 2009

Discussion Paper

This AGM forum is being held as the first consultative opportunity for members and member clubs to contribute to the establishment and introduction of a set of event standards and rules, specifically for Trail Rides.

All of us who have been involved with the organisation or running of a Trail Ride understand the difficulties with compliance under the current rules.

These proposed standards and rules will have to be achievable by member clubs and enforceable by MNZ.

Many of our clubs are currently holding events with standards that will exceed these proposed standards and rules.

The main topics to be covered are as follows;

- Standardisation of the trail marking system- Graduated arrow system.
- Parental/ guardian responsibility - Unaccompanied minors/age restrictions.
- Course design and layout - Suitability for rider skill levels.
- First Aid requirements - Level of trained personnel and numbers attending.
- Contingency planning - Injury extraction/bike recovery/sudden adverse weather events / fire etc.
- Communications -Radios/cell phone etc.
- Noise requirements -effective mufflers.
- Fire controls -extinguishers, spark arrestors etc.
- Machine specifications - Safety standards.
- Safety apparel - Riding gear etc.
- Traffic management.
- Health and Safety-Insurance issues.

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By now you will be wondering how we are going to get any sort of outcome from this forum in the time allocated with the number of topics to get through.

With so many things to cover it will be really helpful if you can write down your ideas and suggestions in a clear, concise and preferably typed format and bring it with you, so I can keep a copy.

This will make my life a lot easier in collating the consensus of what we see as the way forward.

As yet I don't have the timing of the forum, as soon as that is confirmed I will forward it to you.

For those of you that can't attend.

My contact details should be on the MNZ website very soon.

Please feel free to contribute to this process. I welcome your experience, suggestions and ideas.

Regards

Paul Searancke

Commissioner-Trail/ Recreational riding