

## Anderson's - Eden Creek, NSW November 2019



The 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of November was SOTA's final event of the year and is traditionally just a fun day to end the season with a "less serious" gate trial. The venue was the Anderson's family property at Eden Creek just south of Kyogle in Nth'n NSW. This year it was decided to run the trial on Saturday and combine it with the AGM and presentation dinner on Saturday evening. The weekend started on the Friday for some lucky few who managed to get 6 sections set and lighten the workload for Saturday morning before the trial. With the anticipated heat we decided to just set another 2 sections to make a lap of 8. Being a gate trial, the sections were set with a flowing theme, giving all the divisions the opportunity to gamble their points to chase some bonus points.

Saturday's late morning briefing had a good turnout considering the travel for some and the pending heat. Riding was under way prior to lunch time with a reduced lap count of 3 making it a total of 24 sections for the day. The riding was a casual affair with no big loop to trek around and no queues to speak of. Not sure how hot it got but it must have at least been mid 30's and I think most would have been quite content with 3 laps in those conditions. Thankfully the riding was incident free with nobody reporting any injuries, it was inspiring to see Neville Derrick attending and riding just 3 weeks after breaking 2 ribs and sustaining sternum cartilage damage at the last trial.

Now about the scoring. Even tho it's just a fun day with no sheep stations on offer, everyone still had the obligatory scorecard. There was some confused with the scoring system so the final results could be dodgy tho not by deliberate creative accounting. With having fun being the goal, I don't think anyone really cared too much who came where. We do owe Les Hellyar an apology for omitting his score from the results, with Les having a good ride into 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Div 2. It was also nice to see Kale Reed back out showing everyone how it's done, I think he must have picked up almost every single gate accumulating a score only envied by others.

After the trial was wrapped up and sections pulled in by mid afternoon, everyone gathered for the afternoon's proceedings. With the trial scores read out it was time for the AGM and Club Championship trophy presentation. The AGM was a smooth affair with no change in committee, how surprising! Maybe we'll see another change in the guard for the 2021 season. Following the AGM was the trophy presentations for club champions for Div 6 through to Div 0. For all the club championship placings, see the attached results so I won't go into detail here, but on behalf of the club, congratulations to Rick Kent for taking out the honour of overall Club Champion on his Electric Motion (EM), well done!



The official proceedings were wound up with an amazing spread of food with cold meats, salads and prawns, with desert being a massive sponge cake draped in the SQTA logo. The remainder of the evening was spent relaxing with a drink or two and telling some stories. Sunday morning was very relaxing with a bacon and egg brekky cooked up for all the campers before the packing up started. By mid morning most had packed up and left for home leaving the afternoon free to wash some gear or nap on the lounge if that way inclined.

The weekend was a huge success and there were so many people who played a part in making it so great. Firstly, a big big thankyou to Paul and Nerida Anderson for hosting us again, we really do enjoy riding there and appreciate their support. Thanks to Christine Reed, Keryn Reed and Kerryn Hellyar for running the sign-in and scoring tent. Les Hellyar and his helpers did a great job with the sections and Kerryn Hellyar did a fantastic job organising the food and cake. Thanks to all the ladies and gents who chipped in to help serve dinner on Saturday evening and cook up the brekky on Sunday morning. Last but not least, we thank Harry and the committee for putting on a great year of no fuss, inexpensive trials. 2020 is looking to be an exciting year for trials so on behalf of SQTA we wish everyone a very merry Xmas and safe new year. We look forward to seeing you all after a long hot summer.

Cheers  
Brad

