

Ride 509 Report – 28 August 2016

Won Ton Paella Ride!

Hares: Whorenet, Spa Barbie, Fat Stuck Bastard, Slocum & Jack Off

Location: Johor Bahru, Malaysia

As the Circle convened following Ride 509, the GM asked of the faithful who made their way to Johor: “What did we think of the ride?” They responded with a resounding “Fantastic and others with “Excellent!” Clearly the Hares did a wonderful job, and the only setback to their tremendous efforts was the somewhat low turnout of about 20 riders who crossed the Causeway to take part.

The ride began at 10am sharp, with the mood upbeat and enthused – cycling in Johor is always a treat. This time the assembly point was near Marlborough College. When we pulled up in the car and saw the familiar SBH logo on some cycling togs, we knew we had reached the Promised Land.

The ride was palm plantation-perfect, meaning that the paths were always rideable, fairly wide, and often flat. Its geography is perfectly designed – if you ever got lost, you merely had to find the paved road that enclosed the plantation, turn left, and eventually you’d reach the start point.

It was a speedy course, and we clocked 27 km (and some of us, even a bit more) in the 2-hour event. There were no sightings of wild boar, as Whorenet had warned us about in advance, but there were a few sightings of 2 members of the endangered Bastard family. The Hares did a great job of rounding up the cyclists and keeping us on track. When I commented later that it was remarkable that 3 or 4 of the Hares came together during the middle of the ride, one remarked, “Oh that was purely by accident!”

One moment that stays with me is when I was riding behind a fellow biker in thick vegetation, only to see him snared by a thick vine and literally pulled into its embrace. He was pulled off-course and into the dense Malaysian greenery, only to be seen afterwards at the Circle.

We traversed what seemed to be the entirety of the scenic palm plantation, eventually emerging onto the paved road that surrounded it. There I was greeted by Slocum and Fat Stuck Bastard on their steeds. When I said, “Should I follow the road to reach home?” I was told that there were more markings to re-enter the plantation up ahead. “Maybe 2 or 3 more markings,” Slocum said with a smile.

Eventually, we all made it back home, where Jack Off was busy stoking the coals for her barbeque On-On. She had the foresight to cater lunch on-site and nearly

everyone stayed on to partake of her grilled hot dogs and homemade pasta salad... Give her a note for her efforts!

The Circle was led by GM Bunny Tool, who ironically was called into the Circle for having to spend the most of any of us to get to the ride site that day: \$90 for petrol for his borrowed truck, \$10 for a Malaysian Touch & Go card, and \$50 top-up on the card. Total cost = \$150. And the crowd warbled, "He's the meanest..."

The scribe (your's truly) was called in for a handful of "awards," including – in no particular order – Mechanic, Fashion "Not," and Wimp (the latter for admitting that I liked the scenery and lack of hills to climb). Let it be known to all that my threadbare triathlon suit was left in the trash pile in Johor...

Crash of the Day was shared by returnee DIY and Dave Denny, who was grabbed by the vines and pulled into the bushes before my very eyes.

It turns out that Too Easy was attacked by a little prick during the ride. Coo Chi Coo did her no favors by riding past a vine and then calling out 'swingback' as she rode into it, leaving her arms bloodied and scratched. Could it be that Coo Chi Coo was looking for a way to slow down our XTerra Queen?

Coo Chi Coo took his revenge by calling in Too Easy, DIY, Fat Crashing Bastard and 2 others for missing a giant T-check during the ride. "We were simply going too fast!" was their collective response.

Fat Stuck Bastard was called in for a unique qualification – he spent the least amount of time on Singapore soil before leading a ride. After a mere 3 hours upon touching ground at Changi Airport, the man was on his bike in Johor. Give the man a down-down and perhaps a melatonin for his jet lag... truly a remarkable feat and a sign of dedication to SBH.

Speaking of dedication, Fat Stuck Bastard has a contender for the 'most dedicated' award, for who should turn up on his bike at the end of the Circle but Ditch! He arrived late at the ride, having forgotten his Camelback and had to drive home to fetch it. He then got to the Singapore Customs checkpoint, only to discover that his passport was back at home. Ever-determined, he rushed home a second time to retrieve it and ultimately did the entire ride – circa 32 km – as a solo effort. Give the man a note for dedication (and perhaps another one with the chorus of B-I-M-B-O...)

Whorenet was then summoned to the Circle for being "El Toro" to his fellow Hares during the recce rides. His strong will and bully tactics did not go unnoticed by the Hares... We will let Whorenet know when Donald Trump is looking to hire his next campaign manager, haha! Despite his strong-arm persona, the Spaniard helmed a flawless ride and made everyone's early morning excursion to Johor well worth the effort.

On a closing note, let's congratulate DIY and wife Caroline on their pending-parents' status. Let's hope that DIY does not go MIA after the baby is born...

Until the next ride, On On!

Submitted by:
Knobby Boy Scout

