Ride 528 Report – 17 Sept 2017

Cum Come Ride With Me Ride!

Hares: Wan King & My Precious

As the faithful gathered near the end of Lorong Lada Hitam in the verdant Mandai region, the temperature had already hit 30 °C. It would go up a further 2°C by the time our gruelling ride had finished – making this an especially hot ride as much of it was without much shade.

At 10am, a healthy turnout of two dozen or more riders were kitted up and ready to go. The course was well-laid and we even managed to find the handful of T-checks that awaited us that morning. The ride took us through familiar territory, such as the extensive network of fire roads around Mandai – some of which are so steep that they have made hardened NS men cry for their mothers. The sheer number of hills that awaited us – and their sharp inclines – nearly broke some of us. The ride took us under the BKE, Zhenghua Park, Track 15 and through many of the rolling hills and grassy fields that link them.

The ride featured excellent terrain throughout, including a challenging slope about 60% into the ride, which we were forced to descend without falling into one of many 'craters' encountered along the way. If there was a spot that was ripe for a Crash of the Day, this would have to be it. With a dozen or so steep hills - some as steep as 20% or 25% - during our 24-25km course, even our most bullish riders were forced to push their bikes up the last part of the hellish slopes. The weather was hot and got hotter as the morning drew on, leaving us exposed to the sun and pushing us to our physical extremes. It was a long ride, too, because as noon arrived many of us still found ourselves in Bukit Panjang – perhaps 10-12km from the ride start. It was at that point that I succumbed to the harsh sun and was given part of an energy bar by My Precious, who did a stellar job of keeping everyone on course. He also managed to make it through that morning's ride without public flatulence. We all had a laugh as he pulled out his mobile phone to check the course at one juncture before leading us on. We remarked that Wan King was his usual sadistic self in setting this demanding course, which I would designate as being the toughest local Hash thus far of 2017 – and among the most demanding over the past dozen years, in fact. Wan King is a Monday Hasher and he is known for setting mini Ball-Breaker runs... but if your bike course includes steep hills, is 24-25km long, and occurs in 32°C sunny weather, it becomes a recipe for heat stroke. Note to Coo Chi Coo and his Birthday Ride: don't try to outdo Wan King, we are happy with a two-hour ride, thank you...

Upon arriving back at our start point at Lorong Lada Hitam, the Hares stepped forward to receive their accolades for really devoting a lot of time and thought to creating a challenging ride that included a lot of off-road or fire road segments. Wan King and My Precious, you both deserve a cold down-down after a successful ride: Here's to the Hares, they're true blue...

Now our frequent guest, Carsten, has been having to introduce himself to everyone during the past year in the following manner: "Carsten. Think of ten cars the other way around." He has done this so often that it has become kind of an automatic reflex – but no longer. For today, he and the rest of us can rejoice that his lengthy moniker has been simplified to his new Hash name of "Weedy." As he was given his naming by Bunny Tool and doused with a few drops of beer on his head, let us all rejoice that he can just say "Weedy" from now on instead of an explanation on his real name. Let us welcome Weedy to the SBH family! He got off easy with a name that he can say in public, too.

FCB was ushered into the circle on a BIMBO charge. At one point on the ride, some of us called out that it was a circle check and everyone scattered in all directions in search of trail. FCB, still seated on his steed, bellowed out, "Where's the circle?" before being told that he was standing on it. For his moment of oversight, he was given the resounding choir, *B-I-M-B-O*, and *Bimbo was his name-o*.

No Good was summoned in for a fashion faux pas. It seems that she left her house quickly that morning, because she rode the Hash in her flip flops. While some described it as No Good's sexy look, Wan King said that her footwear wasn't doing anything for him. Coo Chi Coo, buy your wife some proper stout shoes, for Pete's sake. For not wearing stout shoes and flauting the Hash guidelines, let's give No Good a note: *Here's to No Good, she's true blue...*

Now our friendly GM, who was in high spirits during the Circle, is known for being an environmentally-conscious individual. His rides always entail a rigorous sweep in which all of the paper is collected and disposed of properly. For whatever reason, Bunny Tool was seen littering on the ride that morning and Copy Cat seized the opportunity to make him suffer dearly for it. Ordering Bunny Tool to his knees, Copy Cat hoisted an overflowing bag of empty cans and water bottles and poured the contents onto the guilty GM's head. And the choir began: Here's to Rubbish, he's true blue, he's a bastard through and through... If that weren't enough, Bunny Tool drank his down-down and threw the backwash over his shoulder – only for it to land on an innocent driver's windscreen.

FCB stepped forward at that point to raise the irony of how Wan King had been asked to co-Hare with a Virgin for this ride, but had somehow recruited a bearded and jaded Kiwi instead. Wan King quipped that there is hardly a virgin to be found in our membership books, and I daresay that he is correct on that matter. There's more to the story, though, because it appears that Too Easy telephoned Wan King to say that "if you can't find a Virgin, please call me." Wan King clearly preferred male company and was cited for sexual harassment. No worries, everyone had a laugh and the ride turned out well in the end. They're all right, they're all right, they're certainly a bit stupid, but they're all right...

Coo Chi Coo came forward to scold the Hares for plagiarizing 30% of his upcoming Birthday Ride route... but can we call it plagiarizing if the Hares were unaware that Coo Chi Coo had been making some secret recces in the area on his beloved Santa Cruz? Coo Chi Coo revealed that his ride will take in a bit of the Woodlands Turf Club and will include an on-on at Cheval Restaurant. With a French name like that, the restaurant is bound to be a bit costly [Editor's note: If you rode the Christmas Hash in 2014, you will know Cheval]. Not to worry, Coo Chi Coo has generously offered to pay for everyone's beer except for Wan King's. For those wine-lovers amongst you, Coo Chi Coo recommends bringing it in your CamelBaks that day.

Lest you forget, Coo Chi Coo will be celebrating his 60th birthday (again) with a wonderful ride that will take place on Sunday, October 1st at 10am sharp. All of the details are listed as per usual on the SBH website. Coo Chi Coo will be accepting his birthday gifts in cash, personal cheque or anything else that suits your fancy!

Until the next ride, on on!

Scribed by: Knobby Boy Scout

