

OCEANIA TRACK CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS, ADELAIDE OCTOBER 2018.

WHAT a week! Racing, friends, banter, cheering, excitement...oh, and some good results!

South Coast had nine riders competing in these Championships – one of the largest contingents from across the country or across the Tasman.

We did spectacularly well with the trio of Stephanie Morton, Heather May, and Ella Sibley earning a quarter of Australia's gold medals!! (There were 40 Championship titles on offer - Australia won 34 of them and those three won eight between them.). NB In the U19s the top Oz teams for Team Sprint, Team Pursuit and Madison were required to wear Australian kit.

Ella was the stand-out performer of the Championships. In her first year – indeed first fortnight as an U19 it looks like she won more medals than anyone else at the Championships with six from six events! Several of the other big names earned 5 medals.

Heather and Steph also achieved maximum medals from events entered but sprinters have fewer events nowadays.

Our three boys had a torrid time of things – all being involved in the crash at the of the Friday morning session thereby having their chances wiped out in the Omnium and any event thereafter! They are all OK and were supporting their teammates and friends for the rest of the Championships.

Our four non-SASI riders - Staci McCudden, Shelby Johnson, Tessa Kohn, and Mitch Natt - rode above their weight and relished the chance to catch the selector's eye with Shelby scoring a Bronze medal in the U19 Team Sprint, Staci and Tessa 6th in the U19 Madison, and Tessa 8th in the Omnium. All four riding themselves into top-of-the-results in different events and showed some stand-out racing amid the big fields.

All of our riders showed their strengths and developed their racing skills - but just as importantly reinforced friendships and made new ones – especially with the New Zealand riders.

Our David Schutz was the fearless race-starter for the four days amid the dedicated group of international and high-level national commissaires that applied the rules and made sure that the event ran safely and equitably. (Racing needs commissaires and it's very easy to get started on the pathway to recognition and usefulness - have a chat to any of the Club Committee. Also a very good qualification for riders to have, as well as for parents who will be attending their child's events – and for those who wonder why we don't hold more events!! The more Comm's we have the lighter the load it is on all.)

South Coast Cycling Club maintained a presence throughout all of all four days of the Championships and had a Cheer Squad night as our Friday night event (since we can't have our normal racing while Edwardstown velodrome is being re-surfaced.). On the Cheer Squad night we had around 40 South Coast members with another dozen or so of the Edwardstown family supporting all riders. There are still some SCC temporary tattoos on hand for our Australia Day or Christmas events.

Medals

Stephanie Morton

Sprint (Elite) - Gold, and Oceania Champion
Keirin (Elite) - Gold, and Oceania Champion
Team sprint (Elite) - Gold, and Oceania Champion

Heather May

Sprint (U19) - Gold, and Oceania Champion
500m TT (U19) - Gold, and Oceania Champion
Team sprint (U19) - Gold, and Oceania Champion
Keirin (U19) – Bronze

Ella Sibley

Omnium (U19) – Gold, and Oceania Champion
Points (U19) – Gold, and Oceania Champion
Scratch (U19) – Silver
Team pursuit (U19) – Bronze
Individual pursuit (U19) – Bronze
Madison (U19) – Bronze

Shelby Johnson

Team sprint (U19) – Bronze

Lewis Walker

Team pursuit (U19) – Bronze
(Caught up in a crash and didn't take any further part in the event)

Angus Miller

Team pursuit (U19) – Bronze
(Caught up in a crash and didn't take any further part in the event)



The two women's Oceania sprint champions U19 Heather May and Elite Stephanie Morton
Photo: Richard Morton



Ella's haul – BBBSGG. Photo Trudy Sibley



Tessa Kohn giving it a bit of welly. Photo: Richard Morton



Steph – second wheel in the Team Sprint (Kaarle McCulloch in first wheel). Photo: Richard Morton



Staci McCudden giving it a bit of welly. Photo: Richard Morton



Mitch learnt a lot in the Omnium – this is the Tempo race on the Friday morning. (I can't find another pic of Mitch's involvement!) (Mitch is sitting with the black helmet, Angus, Lewis and a Kiwi are close to him!)



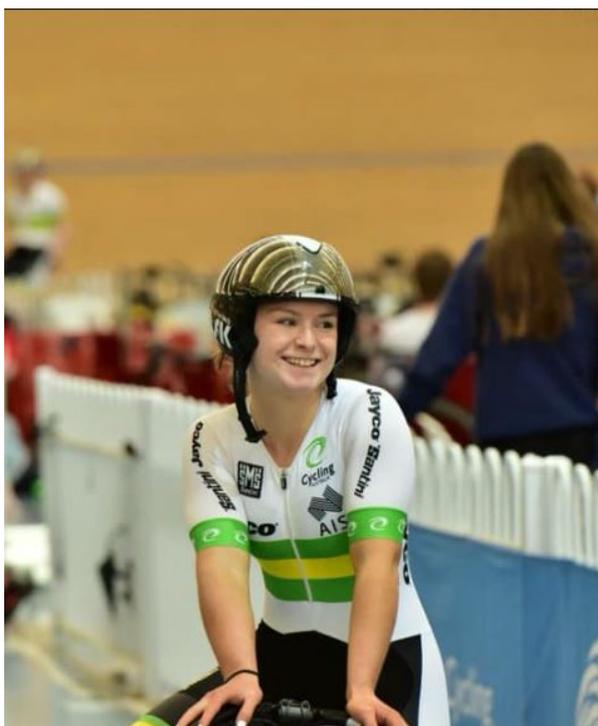
Shelby Johnson – Bronze in Team Sprint (with Karis Bonser of WA)



Lewis Walker and Angus Miller Bronze in Team Pursuit (with Luke Britten and Rohan Haydon-Smith). Phot: Morgan Ho – St George Cycling Club



Part of the Cheer Squad. Photo: Richard Morton



Heather proudly in Oz kit – post Team Sprint win. Photo: Richard Morton



Ella giving it enough welly! Photo: Chameleon Photography



All the cool kids got SCC temporary tattoos! Photo: Bryan McIntyre