



11 August 2017

Hi Everyone

The new calendar has now been updated with the Jnr Elite qualifying events, Mico NZ SUPERseries, 8m Training days and the SDP development camps.

Whilst I have very little to do with the Worlds qualifying events, I can fill you in on the Mico NZ SUPERseries. Last year we trialled the SUPERseries events, the idea was to fill the gate with as many riders in the senior ranks as possible, try to keep them in the sport (hopefully attract some back), and hone the skills of BMX racing at a senior level. For this to work I believed we needed to keep the license type open and the majority of the riding at these rounds on the challenge track and remove the stigma or worry about having to do pro straights when riders are not ready or keen to.

With this latest trip to USA Worlds and speaking to a lot of parents/riders/administrators, seeing what they race on and how comfortable they are "bangin bars" I believe now more than ever that the key to development is creating an inclusive series with the art of racing being paramount over which track it's raced on.

The best way to achieve that is having New Zealand's fastest riders going bar to bar, irrespective of license type or stage in the senior ranks.

This is why we paid the purse down to the bottom of the B final and split the rider numbers equally into A and B. (The mathematical split needs some work) Not always popular with those who are often out front but very popular overall and a good "carrot" to get two full gates.

Also, if a rider makes the A final but does not want to hit the pro straight (if the A final has elected to), they can drop back to B final, may cost a few bucks in winnings but the option is there.

We need to be open to ideas and suggestions to keep riders in the sport and encourage GOOD RACING, this together with development camps, is a crack at doing just that.

We would like to thank MICO New Zealand & BMXNZ for putting up the prize purse for each round of the series. There will not be any overall prize purse as this disadvantages the South Island riders due to event location & travel costs.

We look forward to seeing you at the series this year!

Regards

Joe Calkin
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BMXNZ Board