



Mountain Bike Australia 2019 Annual General Meeting Summary of Implications of the AusCycling Vote

This is your opportunity to have a say on the future of Mountain Bike Australia (MTBA), mountain biking (MTB) and cycling as a whole nationally. You are encouraged to learn as much as possible about the proposal by visiting <http://www.auscycling.com.au/> so that you can make an informed decision.

Ensure you have your position heard and vote in the upcoming MTBA AGM either in person or via proxy, in what are perhaps the biggest decisions ever asked of members of all nineteen respective BMX, MTB and Road and Track organisations in Australia.

It is important that MTBA members vote on the future of their organisation, and equally important that members are sufficiently informed with detailed and transparent information to assist them to make a decision regarding the resolutions.

MTBA strongly believes that the current status quo of cycling governance, structure, recognition and future funding will change significantly irrespective of the decision made, given the current challenges and dynamics facing the sports industry in Australia. It is vitally important that members are informed and able to make a decision that they believe will best position MTB and MTBA for future opportunities and benefits for members both now and in the future.

This is a member's decision, and only members can decide to change the future of MTBA under this proposal.

YES VOTE

- AusCycling offices and staff will be located in all states and territories working across all cycling disciplines to deliver services and benefits to members and clubs at a local level.
- A combined national workforce of approximately 90 located throughout the country all working collectively and cooperatively for the betterment of road, track, BMX and MTB. An increase on what currently exists today.
- Based on the current staffing levels, MTBA staff will make up approximately 18% of the initial AusCycling workforce, contributing significantly to the formation of the new organisation, its operation, culture, programs, events and activities.
- A more inclusive race licence covering multiple disciplines for less than it costs today and available for purchase through one organisation.
- Simplified entry point for new members with one membership registration portal for all disciplines and ability to ride multiple disciplines on one membership.
- One united voice advocating, lobbying and representing all Australians who chose to ride a bike.
- A dedicated advocacy team, focused on lobbying federal, state and local government for increased funding for cycling facilities.
- A dedicated diversity and inclusion unit and staff to provide opportunities for everyone to feel welcome and able to participate in MTB, BMX or Road and Track.
- Greater commercial, sponsorship and partnership opportunities providing more benefits to all members.
- Increased opportunities for MTB to receive funding for high performance and athlete development programs and pathways.
- Development of one national strategic plan to guide the development and growth of BMX, MTB, road and track.

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YES VOTE continued

- A strong balance sheet with significant capital and ongoing revenue to provide stability and resources to grow and develop all cycling throughout the country.
- Ability to share resources, learn and collaborate collectively across all forms of cycling to provide high quality member and club benefits, service and programs.
- Improved capacity to establish and deliver nationwide programs, such as a national bike education program and a national volunteer recognition program.
- Improved cooperation between disciplines with all under the one national organisation.
- Opportunity to position all cycling disciplines in a framework that is not restricted by lack of resources and has greater capacity for growth and development.
- Improved career development and progression opportunities for staff.

NO VOTE

- A 'NO' vote means MTBA would not merge and / or join AusCycling with Cycling Australia (CA) or BMX Australia (BMXA). If we remain independent of each other there is the potential to fracture the sport of MTB and create significantly worse operational and co-operative challenges than exist today.
- The benefits and outcomes proposed by the AusCycling model are likely to be lost and not able to be accessed by members.
- SportAus preference in 2020 is to only recognise one National Sporting Organisation¹ (NSO) for cycling therefore if MTBA vote no and CA and BMXA vote yes there is a high likelihood that MTBA will lose NSO status.
 - If any two of the three current NSOs approve formation of AusCycling, those two organisations will have the opportunity to form AusCycling and receive NSO recognition from SportAus.
- Should AusCycling be formed by two of the three current NSOs, individual clubs and members of the NSO who voted NO, are openly and without restriction able to join AusCycling directly, leaving the existing NSO and reducing that organisation's membership base.
- AusCycling will be the recognised NSO and will provide services, programs and events such as National and State Championships across all disciplines including MTB. MTBA members will need to hold a race licence with AusCycling to participate in these activities and events.
- AusCycling as the new NSO will be recognised as the National Federation by the Union Cycliste International (UCI), Oceania Cycling Confederation, Australian Olympic Committee, Commonwealth Games Australia, and other key stakeholders.
- With the loss of NSO recognition, MTBA would no longer have State Sporting Organisation (SSO) recognition and therefore would lose current state/territory government funding and any opportunity to access future funding from state and territory governments.
- Loss of current and future SSO recognition will negatively impact on opportunities for clubs and members to apply for Federal and State funding in areas such as travel, and education support and infrastructure grants.
- MTBA's potential to attract sponsors and partners will be limited with loss of NSO recognition and no longer regarded as a national body for the sport.
- Individual members will need to join AusCycling to participate in National Representative teams.
- MTBA will have no influence on National team selections and programs.

NO VOTE continued

- Memberships and license structures will remain as they are today. For those that wish to ride multiple disciplines this means purchasing multiple licences, at a high cost and from multiple organisations.
- Benefits, programs and initiatives promoted by AusCycling will not be available to MTBA members, unless they are also a member of AusCycling.
- MTBA will likely suffer staff losses should staff choose to move across to AusCycling which will result in a loss of corporate knowledge for MTBA.
- MTBA will likely face restrictions on its capacity, resources, revenue, recognition and influence at the detriment of being able to maintain and enhance member services and benefits.
- If AusCycling proceeds, with or without MTBA the new entity will offer MTB services and programs which could result in loss of MTBA members and revenue.
- If AusCycling proceeds without MTBA, there will be another organisation for potential members to join and thus adding to the already crowded market of organisations offering services and benefit to any form of cycling.

¹ National Sporting Organisation (NSO) refers to an organisation recognised by SportAus, as the national governing body of a sport. NSO status heavily influences an organisations eligibility to receive funding from SportAus, state and territory government agencies and other entities. It also determines the level of influence an organisation has in discussions with government entities, peak industry bodies and other key stakeholders.

NOTES

All three NSO's, Cycling Australia, BMX Australia and Mountain Bike Australia share the same understanding in regard to the impact the AusCycling vote will have on their current NSO status. All three understand that it is the preference for SportAus to recognise one NSO for all cycling disciplines. None of the three NSO's support a federated or hybrid federated AusCycling structure.

Under the current structure MTBA operates on the unitary model of governance and its board and management have direct control over all its functions. In the current federated CA/BMX model, state and territory offices are not managed by the NSO but rather by State Sporting Organisations (SSO's) which are separate entities reporting to their own boards. If MTBA were to merge into a unified body that retained SSO's, MTBA or AusCycling would have no ability to ensure delivery of MTB related services at a local level delivered through local offices.

It is possible to imagine ways of structuring relationships that might address this (including creation of MTB state bodies that could be merged at state level) but none of these alternatives are as clean as the AusCycling proposal and add considerable operational complexity and implementation risk.

To approve MTBA becoming part of AusCycling, vote YES to the Special Resolution

The MTBA Board recommends members vote YES.

END