

## **Inter Centre Team Trial Rosewall Hill - Cornwall 22nd & 23rd/08/09**

Inter Centre's in Cornwall this year then? Whereabouts? Ah it's near St Ives! We've never been there so we 'd better go & support our guys. We sorted out accommodation, B&B at Zennor about 5 miles from the venue for Friday to Sunday evenings.

We got to the venue about 10:30 on Saturday, the signs weren't good there was a dumper at the ready to drag vehicles in & out, fortunately without other vehicles causing us to stop it was feasible to "pick a line" & drive up the fields & turn to park facing downhill. Our team was already away, having been drawn as 2nd starters, & took 4 hours for the first lap of 20 sections. It was then clear that time would be an issue & the team took "5's" on two sections to save time. on their 2nd lap. As usual our lads, Josh & Luke Golding, Fred Adams & Nathan Pekala rode their hearts out & deserved better than their official 14th place.

They rode the event to the 6 hour & 20 minute time limit whereas some other teams did not \_ they thought the Organisers would extend or abandon the time limit & the event. has generated great controversy, witness 2 critical letters in TMX.

I watched one lads 1st lap score being recorded with 20 minutes to go before his teams finish time & am sure this would not have allowed him to finish without exclusion on time. but his team was not excluded! One Youth rider is said to have been timed riding in a section for 8 minutes!!!

I gather that there were no protests over the results, but it must have been very close to it. I imagine

that there would certainly have been protests if the time limit had been abandoned as was rumoured

The solo team lost Craig Talbot to a minor operation 3 days beforehand & a reserve couldn't be found in time. Lee Hassall was recovering from an elbow that had been stuck by a blackthorn & become infected. In my opinion he wasn't fit to ride, but he chose to ride as we were down to four riders only. Darren Butcher suffered machine problems - chain & gearbox sprocket & had to retire at the beginning of lap 2. As we were therefore unable to be classified as finishers, Colin Lee & Rob chose to retire as well. The results had us down for 800 marks lost which is a little misleading, & in my opinion gives an unbalanced picture of the effort the team put in

I know everyone in the Centre accepts that we are one of the weaker teams & we don't expect to win, but why are the CofC's laying out such tough sections! It wouldn't matter if say Yorkshire & South Eastern Centre tied on no marks lost would it? a Winner could easily be decided by having a ride off section or sections. If it were easier the lesser Centres will continue to support the event. I recall a former Centre Champion (not our Centre) looking at a recent ICTT sections & withdrawing before the start. So he obviously thought the CofC had gone over the top.

The weather wasn't kind to the organisers either: both days were quite misty so the sea views kept disappearing & reappearing, but had you been fortunate enough as we were to stay in Cornwall for the Monday & Tuesday following, as we were, the weather changed & it was clear blue skies both days.

At the time of writing no Centre has applied to run the 2010 event.  
Frank S



### **ICTT Rosewall Hill 2009 -**

Youth Team Event: Here's Nathan Pekala nicely feet up, with Fred, Luke & Josh waiting for their rides in the same Section (19)

