

# **AUS-NZL MTBO Challenge Rules – June 2017**

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 As agreed between the two nations, Australia and New Zealand will compete in a two nation mountain bike orienteering competition, known as The Australia v New Zealand MTBO Challenge (AUS v NZL MTBO Challenge).
- 1.2 The Challenge will consist, as a minimum, of an Individual Long Distance event, and at least 2 other disciplines (Middle, Sprint or Relay) as presented by the host.
- 1.3 The Challenge will normally be held every 1-2 years.
- 1.4 Challenges should normally rotate between each country, however the order can be changed with agreement of both federations
- 1.5 Ideally a challenge will include some additional event/s either before or afterwards to make travel more appealing for the visiting team. However this should not be compulsory, providing the challenge itself is based around a full National program of 3 events.

## 2 Challenge Teams

- 2.1 The Challenge shall be conducted in M21 and W21 and any of the following classes: W14-16, W17-20, W40, W50, W60, W70, W80, M14-16, M17-20, M40, M50, M60, M70, M80.
- 2.2 The visiting country shall nominate the actual classes to be contested in the Challenge, with the minimum being M21 and W21.
- 2.3 The visiting nation is to advise the host nation of the classes to be contested at least three months prior to the Challenge.
- 2.4 Each nation's team will consist of a maximum of three competitors in each Challenge age class.
- 2.5 The same three riders normally will compete in each individual or relay challenge event stage. Substitution can only be made due to the exceptions outlined in 2.9 & 2.10.
- 2.6 Team members must be full passport-holding citizens of the nation they are representing. Each team member may be nominated for one age class only.
- 2.7 For M/W14, M/W16, M/W70, M/W80 classes, the number of team members may be varied, by agreement of each nation's team managers, where the number of entrants for these classes will not support item 2.4
- 2.7 The selected team riders for each class are to be notified by both nations to each other at least one month prior to the Challenge carnival start date.
- 2.8 Late team changes are permitted and must be advised to the opposing nation's team manager and the carnival organizer at least 2 calendar days before the carnival start date.
- 2.9 Team changes due to illness or injury after the carnival start date or during the carnival can only be made with the agreement of the opposing team manager.
- 2.10 Where a team member has a role as a controller, course planner or other coordinator for a particular event stage that precludes them from competing in that stage, another rider can be listed in the team for that stage. In this case the substitute rider must be listed as per item 2.4.
- 2.11 An open invitation should be extended to those not selected for the official teams to be able to ride on the day.

### 3 Individual Challenges

- 3.1 In each Challenge class, for each nation, the times of the two fastest team members are added to give the team time for the stage. The nation with the lower team time is the winner of the class.
- 3.2 The nation with the most class wins is the Individual Challenge winner.

### 4 Relay Challenges

- 4.1 All teams, both Challenge and non-challenge, will start together as is normal for relays.
- 4.2 For each Challenge class, the winning nation is the one whose Challenge team has the lowest time for the stage.

### 5 Results and Trophy

- 5.1 The Challenge result will be determined by the number of class wins across the disciplines contested. The nation with the most class wins is the winner and takes possession of the Aus v NZ MTBO Challenge banner until the next challenge occurs.
- 5.2 In the event of a draw the previous challenge winner retains the perpetual banner.
- 5.3 Australian and New Zealand team members should be clearly identified in any on-site results displays.
- 5.4 Progressive results for the Challenge should be displayed near the normal stage results.
- 5.5 The perpetual Challenge banner should be presented at the closing ceremony of the carnival to the opposing team manager or their representative.

### 6 Amendments

- 6.1 These conditions may be varied or waived from time to time by agreement between Orienteering Australia and the New Zealand Orienteering Federation.