



Hi Chaingangers - THIS WEEK!

Lydenburg # Cross Country #2 # Upcoming races # Lazy Locals and EPIC Chainsuck part 2!

THIS WEEKEND! The 2nd in the MPU Cross Country series is in Sabie at the spectacular YORK XCO track! Entries from 7am racing from 9am, categories for all, new MAMBA podium medals!

2017 Mountain Bike Racing Mpumalanga Provincial Cross Country Series



#1	11 th	Feb	Mankele
#2	1 st	April	Sabie
#3	1 st	July	Mankele
#4	11 th	Nov	Uplands

Lap racing : Entries at venues : All Categories

Series winners : racing starts 9am

MPU Team Selection

Info www.mankele.co.za



Lydenburg Heritage race was an absolute blast! And that includes where their local gun expert uses a 200 year old cannon to start the race that never ceases to make pretty much everyone kak themselves when it goes off! (check out the video on Facebook!) as the riders headed out thru the ensuing gun smoke and blown up newspaper (and tree) they headed out for some of the best 'out there' MTBing you could ask for, no forest jeep track, no pine tree plantations, just wagon trails and single track with technical climbs and testing single track, a real challenge that makes the seemingly short 37km more like your regular 60km distance! The 17km and 10km are likewise way more mountain biking than your average race and everyone got a real taste of what proper trail riding is all about. A huge well done to the organizers and for those of you that missed it, shame on you! But if you need some convincing then take a drive out there one day and ride them trails in the Gustav Klingbeil nature reserve, its really fun and worth the trip!

BTW - 2017 A3 Race calendars are available from Valencia for FREE!!!

Upcoming!

Sabie Experience 2017!! 29 May to 1st April

ENTRIES are open and filling up! Don't miss out on this local Classic!

Guys this is the ideal race to either one those stage race skills or test the waters with your buds! Entries are super cheap and all the best Sabie trails are covered, go to the website and get registered before it fills up! Get that Cape Epic Experience without all the travel hassle - oh and the small matter of R70000!

www.sabiexperience.co.za

MANKELE AVALANCHE -

Ok I know this seems to be aimed at mental down hill type guys but seriously, its exactly what your mountain bike was made for, stunning single track, no uphill (well only slightly in places!) and enough spectacular riding to tattoo a grin over your face you'll need surgery to remove! And if you think its only for said nutters think again, last year we had a dozen chicks doing it! If you think the Mopani race is too technical then maybe rather go play at the Hippo race but if you love to rip the best single track in the SA and ride for kicks not posing then get entered and get stoked!



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 vbike.co.za **AVALANCHE**

3 & 4 June 2017

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 Shuttle to Start and Saturday Supper)
 3 Stages with two runs on each. Best Weekend EVER!

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www.mankela.co.za Event Info : 082 338 9532/3 Accommodation: 078 801 0453

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE RIDE!

CHAINSUCK!

Lazy Locals – ok so there's lots of racing on this time of year but guys seriously? There was a distinct lack of Nelspruiters at the Lydenburg race, despite this their numbers are up from just under 300 to almost 400 so their local riders supported the event in spades! I suspect that we're back to guys who pose with their shiny bikes and new kit rather than actually go support local races! At least two of our supposed local 'Teams' didn't even bother, only the Valencia Crew (as usual) were there in force!

Epic Chainsuck Part 2.

Please check out Grant Ushers FB post regarding how the regular entries (if you can ever say a R70000 entry fee race should 'ever' have regular entries!), get treated in comparison to the corporate sponsored riders - I.e. Those who get FREE entries. Your regular Joe gets rationed one bottle of water at supper and more than that from a plastic jug and paper cup (or they can buy for R15), they

have plastic chairs and tables whereas the Corporate guys get covered chairs, table cloths and unlimited supply of water, cool drink and dop. Not only this but in the batch chutes the corporates get hot coffee whereas the Joe's get to mix their coffee sachet into a cold bottle of water (saved from last night's rations). It's pretty much as we suspected, some are way more equal than others, those that scrimped and saved to enter get treated differently than those that just happen to have a job with one of the sponsors, not cool..

Social rides:

MTB

Our longstanding stalwart of our MTB rides - Alan Livingstone is still the man in Nelspruit when it comes to finding trails out in the Kaapsehoep valley, add to this our ability to use Mankele as and when gives us unique riding spaces to enjoy with trails for all abilities!

ROAD For 2017 there will be dedicated road rides every Saturday from Halls Gateway, we already have quite a bunch of riders participating and it will be opened up for all from this year. The ride is supported by a back up vehicle so you can have extra kit or nutrition on board for those longer epics!

All the rides will be communicated via SMS so keep checking your phone and if you aren't getting any then please check with Sandy that we have your number correct.

Cheers Brett.

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