

Track overhaul

The first major overhaul of the Nhulunbuy BMX track in a couple of years has taken place.

Geoff Cartright from Dirt Trax n Trails was commissioned to re-design and construct the track with the assistance of the BMX parents and local businesses.

In the consultation phase of the redesign, Geoff consulted Google Earth and photos to view the track.

After discussions with BMX track committee, a three dimensional mock up was sent up for consideration.

It was a bit of shock for Geoff when he walked out on to the track for the first time to discover the cable supports for the light tower interfered with his design, things had to be modified.

The boys commenced work on the track Thursday lunch-time and by the afternoon the track was three piles of dirt and a couple of jumps in the main straight courtesy of the loader from Rio Tinto Alcan (RTA) and the Bobcat from Bedwell's.

Bellowing orders to the dads on the RTA loader, dirt was deposited for Geoff to form the jumps and berms.

Of the old track, only part of the old "Wall of Death" was retained.

Murray and Mick from YBE came to the assistance of the BMX club with clay from the Red Mud Ponds and a 25 ton Excavator.

A wander around the course to work out the lay of the land and work was underway.

The new 320 metre track with its five compulsory berms consists of two sets of double jumps, rollers, step-up and step-down jumps and a tabletop brings the track up to Australian Standards

To avoid having to put in a sixth corner (which is not accepted in Australian BMX) a "dorito" or hip jump gets the track to the finish straight.

The track which is like a big M now comes back onto itself into the finish straight rhythm section and it gives the riders plenty of momentum to get the across the finish line.

While the dads say there were plenty of



laughs over the five days of construction with Geoff aka the Balkan entertaining everyone, they said there were some tense moments in the beginning waiting for machinery to arrive because everything was donated and if they had other commitments BMX had to wait.

The new track will give older riders new challenges and will increase skill levels with the younger riders keeping a watchful eye on the older role models for tips and tricks to get around the track quicker.

Sprockets, or their mums, had no problem with the new track.

The attendance

at last Friday night's meet has encouraged the club with old riders returning to try out the new track.

The redesign of the track cost the club approximately \$6,000 and future plans include the raising of the start hill by two metres to give riders an easier run up the first straight.

The rebuild would not have been as successful as it was with out the help of RTA,

Bedwell Dakota, YBE and Top End Hire for the loan of their equipment.

Also the dedicated parents and kids of the club who were hands-on after school and over the weekend for the length of the project.

Special mention to loader drivers Kel, Bridgee and Brendan and the mums who kept lunches up for the workers.



Forum for Electrical Workers and Contractors

Electrical Workers and Contractors or anyone wishing to discuss matters relating to Electrical Licensing are invited to attend an open forum.

Friday 19 June 2008
3:30pm till 4:30pm

The Function Room, Arnhem Club
1 Franklyn Street, Nhulunbuy.

Board members will be in attendance and welcome your comments and feedback.

For further information please
phone 8941 5435