

2020 Club Awards

MBO Volunteer of the year:

This award acknowledges the ongoing contribution of an individual/s, who offer their time to the club. This year's recipient has been a regular attender to the Nicols dig days.

This year's MBO volunteer of the year award is being awarded to **Bernard Pemberton** for his commitment to MBO work parties.

MBO Digger of the year

Junior Trowel: This year's Junior was nominated via Sig Digs, It's important to see juniors coming through the digging ranks, this years Junior trowel is awarded to **Jake Ramon**

The "Golden Spade":

Track work is a major part of this club's development and cannot happen without the large number of diggers out there working away.

Just to name a few

Sig Digs is back up and running under the watchful eye of Mike.

Dave's crew are still at it.

Whare Flat has many digging groups, working together with one vision.

Hamish has been leading the club project at Nicols.

While there are many diggers who are worthy of this award, their contribution to the track network has certainly not gone unnoticed. We thank you all.

This year's MBO Digger of the year is awarded to **Graham Spencerly**. Graham this award is not only to acknowledge the work you have done on building tracks at Whare Fat but to acknowledge the contribution that you have made to help facilitate a positive relationship between the track builders at Whare Flat and the MBO committee, you bring positivity with all communications, it has been a pleasure to work with you, you truly are an asset to MBO.

MBO Mountain Bike riders of the year:

Male and Female, Junior and Senior riders of the years are awarded to MBO club members who are representing Mountain Biking Otago at a National or higher level. When comparing rider's, it is taken into consideration the size of the field and the type of event and category entered.

Riders needed to of entered National and Oceania Champs and School Champs for Juniors. I'd like to thank every MBO rider who entered these events, whether you did your personal best results, podium positions or just took part, you are the very reason that we host these events for you to have the opportunity to compare yourself to the Nation's best.

MBO Junior Female Mountain Bike rider of the year: Once again a close contest between two sisters for years it was the Hope girls and now it is the Cunningham's. Both girls started the season of with XC as their focus and later change to more of a gravity focus racing part way through. Comparing results between you both is a tight comparison. This year's Junior female of the year was

decided on the achievement of the overall National School Champs, This years award is being awarded to **Emma Cunningham**.

MBO Junior Male Mountain Bike rider of the year: This year's Junior male has shown significant growth on the bike, his results are consistent, he looks for events outside of Dunedin, and I cannot stress how important it is to race outside of your local area. This rider was nominated by the club to attend a development High Performance program. This year's Junior Male rider of the year is awarded to **James Gardener**

MBO Senior Female Mountain Bike rider of the year: The Senior Female rider contenders, and we had quite a bit of choice created by hosting the National and Oceania Champs at home, to all the ladies who stepped up and gave it a crack, you absolutely rock. This year's Senior Female rider of the year is awarded to **Rowena Geisreiter**. Rowena placed 2nd at both Nationals and Oceania's in M3.

MBO Senior Male Mountain Bike rider of the year: The Senior males also came out in force for the big events. The Elite men and Master's categories across both disciplines saw a great MBO turnout. It is a big risk on my behalf naming a few of and missing others as there was just so many. Andy Toomey once again chasing the pros in the elite XCO, Calum Booth first of the non-professional rider in the Elite DH men. Nathan Gilbert who only started riding in the 12 months prior rocks up in the Master's DH with 2 podium results. I could go on and on with the achievements of our Senior men.

I would like to make a special mention to a rider who didn't make it on to the nominations list that I believe would have been the recipient of this award if he had not received an injury right before the National and Oceania Champs, Jeremy Furlong, why your injury took you out of the racing you were still there rocking the hi-vis.

This year's Senior Male rider of the year is being awarded to **Kerrin Williams**. Kerrin places 5th in the Nationals and 4th in the Oceania XCO M2.

Special awards:

Life members to be awarded for their significant contribution to the MBO committee; **Rick Thompson and Graeme Collins**

Presidents Choice Award

The President's Choice award acknowledges the contribution of an individual whose contribution to MBO does not fit into any of the normal awards. I have often said that that if you want a job done give it to the busiest person you can find. We are fortunate to have such people on the committee.

Craig and Hamish find themselves on additional committees and working groups for everything that is related to Mountain Biking that you can think of. How you can remember which meeting to attend I have no idea as I have enough keeping up with this group.

Every year I have the amazing support of my husband Justin. I rope him into trimming and spraying the tracks not only on Signal but I've even got him in to Wakari too, although I might not do this to often has it resulted in me cracking the shits with him and walking home, and Wakari is a long way. When it comes to School events and DH events we are a team in prepping and marking the tracks prior, during events you are often more busier than me quietly behind the scenes and we must not forget the pack up, always last to leave. However, I can't give you this award, so I look towards the other 17 men in my MBO life.

This year should have been a straight a forward selection as I said last year that Glyn would have been the recipient for his contribution to the club caravan renovation. I am pleased to say that the caravan is now finished and thanks to Adrian and Ritchie for giving Glyn a hand. Glyn was the clubs representative when we were broken into during lockdown, Glyn you're at all the events and when I needed to loan my husband to the bridge building team you stepped in to help me with the DH course. You led the bollard installation and the picnic table securing mission. Nothing is a bother when we ask, you might work on your own time schedule, but you get the job done. Glyn I want to thank you for all of this and more, and I know you will not only understand and support the decision behind who and why I have chosen to award this year's award too.

Every year at The AGM we call for new people to step up and be active in within the committee, this year I want to acknowledge the actions of our newer committee members. Justin Gardiner came to us from the beginning and said I am not here to fill a seat what can I do. Justin stepped into the membership role and has done some great work in this area, his focus on getting the mankey map initiative up ready for the upcoming season is to his credit.

However, this year's President Choice award is being awarded to Jason Hasler. Jason has been on the committee a few years now slowly figuring out where we need his expertise. This season Jason has been focused on the Enduro timing system and getting it so that several committee members can operate it, so not all the responsibility sits with one person. We now have the new XC timing gear and you and Greg are figuring out what the gear does so we can fully maximise its potential. Hamish has ordered the new DH gear and I know when it arrives, you'll be involved in this too. You instigated the Signal messenger app as a club communication tool, you are at club working bees, you also enjoy work independently on track repairs. You were there when my daughter found herself in a spot of bother and needed an escort to ED, a small gesture that is often found within the Mountain Biking community where folks help each other out. I believe that MBO will see great thing from you in the future, many thanks for all that you do for the committee and the wider community.