

Guidelines for building trails with Mountain Biking Otago sanction

The Mountain Biking Otago executive committee would like to support club members with the drive to build new trails, much like we support the running of events by club members. As long as the following steps are adhered to, we will do what we can to assist.

Therefore, MBO would like to make it as easy as possible for members with the energy to build trails, to do so. Benefits of trail building with MBO sanction include use of club equipment, as well as liability insurance.

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a clear process for identifying new trails that meet the MBO health and safety standard as well as to ensure that trails are built in the correct manner.

The person leading the creation of trail must be a financial member of MBO, must have attended the club's H&S course, and must have declared any potential conflicts of interest with other parties that could affect MBO operations.

Identifying new trail:

1. Contact MBO committee to express the idea of a new trail.
 - Location
 - Rider demographic
 - Trail builders
 - Cost
2. Site inspection with MBO representatives.
 - MBO committee will discuss if they support a new trail at the following meeting.
3. A nominated member of the MBO committee is the single point of contact with DCC, City Forest and other interested parties.
 - Request permission from land owner for trail to be built.
 - Lead trail build may request to attend with MBO representative.

The land owner's decision is final.

If access is granted:

1. Prepare a budget for the trail to be built.
 - MBO is the sole contact for funding.
 - Expenditure to be approved at committee.
 - Project income will be via MBO bank accounts.
2. Time frame for completion.

3. Prepare monthly reports to MBO by the third Monday of each month. The report is to include any material requests as identified in the proposed budget. All purchases are to be approved by the committee prior to their purchase.
4. Lead trail builder is required to have attended a MBO H&S training session.
 - Lead trail builder must be a MBO member for trail insurance purposes.
 - Volunteer builders must be inducted to the site by the lead builder.
5. All trail builders must be current financial members of MBO.
6. Trail group agrees to the ongoing trail maintenance for 3 years.

Completed trail:

1. Advise MBO of completion.
2. Prior to the public riding the track, final approval from MBO is required. This entails:
 - Trail inspection (rider safety, trail condition etc.)
 - Trail grading by MBO rep
 - MBO signage

The provision of trail insurance by Mountain Biking Otago is subject to the above conditions being met in full.

Mountain Biking Otago can withdraw support of a trail if the above conditions are not adhered to.

Approval for applications will be discussed at committee meeting, held on the third Thursday of the month. The decision will then be forwarded as soon as practicable, along with the relevant Health and Safety documentation.

Please note: Mountain Biking Otago has over 100km of trails to maintain. As such, new trails will be carefully considered but not necessarily approved.

As a first point of contact, feel free to email the club secretary at secretary@mountainbikingotago.co.nz