

# Ride 518 Report – 12 March 2017

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## St. Patrick's Day - Luck of the Irish Ride!

### Hares: Bunny Tool, Hash Flash & Ted Bogucki

A small but enthusiastic group of cyclists journeyed long and far to Lim Chu Kang Road to meet at Bahtera Track - our designated start point. Hash Flash was doing double-duty that day: simultaneously Haring the ride and intermittently taking photos of the riders enjoying his trail.

At 10am sharp, the pack of 20 cyclists went into a narrow path just near the parking lot to enter the 'forbidden realm' of our ride, namely the labyrinth of fire roads frequented by Singapore's NSmen. None were to be seen that morning, but about a half-hour into the ride there was a commotion when a jeep was driving at high speed and honking continuously. 3 men inside the vehicle said that we should clear out from the off-limits terrain. Were they official army personnel, undercover policemen, or – most likely – some busybodies with nothing better to do on a Sunday morning? We suspect the latter, and we managed to leave their territory and regrouped about 2 kilometers further along. Had Fat Crashing Bastard been there that morning, there would no doubt have been an exchange of words courtesy of our beloved 'henchman.' As it was, our Belgian GM used his EU diplomatic skills with aplomb and apparently told them what they wanted to hear, because from that point onwards we were left on our own to enjoy the ride.

There were a few trails to choose from at this juncture, and we broke into smaller groups in search of the correct route. Wan King uttered, "Is this a f\*#%k up or did the Hares plan it this way?" Never mind, we managed to eventually find the out route and carried on over excellent terrain, allowing Wan King to display his prowess on his 'steed.' For a beginner or intermediate rider, the course was ideal because it wasn't technical and you hardly needed to get off your bike.

After 25km of cycling as fast as our feet would pedal us, we finished the course before noon for once – muddy and tired, but satisfied with a fast and sometimes bumpy trail that was marked throughout with black-and-yellow plastic tape.

Coo Chi Coo – always the overachiever – had apparently done an early morning cycling race and showed up late to the Hash. He missed the circle, but arrived shortly afterwards. Clearly 25km is not enough for this 'active ager.'

At 11:53am, there was one faction – led by the GM – that was ready to call the circle to order. There was another faction – led by Ditch – that cited the Hash protocol to start the circle at noon sharp. We ultimately started somewhere in between. Unfortunately, a handful of the riders 'buggered off' as soon as they reached the

parking lot, so we did our best to form a circle with the dirty dozen who had stayed behind. Bunny Tool, wearing his blue “Chasing the Hare” shirt, counted the minutes down as he looked constantly at his watch. Finally, the circle was called to order. The GM called himself and fellow Hare, Hash Flash into the middle for a drink amidst some shouts from the circle of “Good Ride!” “Here’s to the Hares, they’re true blue...” The Hares put in a lot of work for this ride, for which we’re all grateful. They endured heavy rainfall the day before while setting the trail, but rose to the occasion by marking 25km of prime cycling trails for our enjoyment.

There was one COD – or Crash of the Day – as Jar Jar Binks ambled into the circle, apparently ‘losing his rear’ when he fell early into the ride. A friendly returnee, stylishly coiffed with a goatee and sporting a ball cap and red bandana around his neck, stepped in for a charge and nursed his beer to the refrain of “Here’s to the returnee, he’s true blue...”

No Good called in the Hares for a charge of ‘misleading her’ on the ride, because she and Fergus could only find the meandering course by following Coo Chi Coo’s ‘skidmarks’ (what an unpleasant thought). Coo Chi Coo would leave a mark with his shoe in the soft terrain to indicate where his better half should turn. Who said chivalry was dead? “Why were they born so beautiful, why were they born at all...?”

Fat Stuck Bastard called in No Good and Coo Chi Coo ‘lookalike’ Ditch into the circle to relate a ‘love story,’ no less. Apparently Coo Chi Coo rode ahead of No Good and Fat Stuck Bastard, yet their paths crossed three times after that. FSB said to them, “this is a love story because you keep finding each other again,” to which Coo Chi Coo replied, “I’m failing – I’m trying to get away from her!” Her husband finally succeeded in getting away because he wasn’t there to drink his down-down with his lovely wife (he returned shortly thereafter and the couple was reunited yet again).

Janus was called into the circle for a note because this “King of Bling” managed to break two spokes on the ride. For once, the man who lives and breathes mountain biking – our Top Gear ambassador for the Singapore Bike Hash - was at an utter loss. And the circle proclaimed, “B-I-M-B-O, B-I-M-B-O, B-I-M-B-O and Bimbo was his name-o.”

Ride 519 was announced, and it will be the first Malaysian ride of 2017. A perennial favorite of SBH, the ride offers continuous off-road terrain that simply can’t be found in Singapore. This is definitely an event you shouldn’t miss! Note that this ride will start promptly at 9:30am, so be sure to arrive early. Coq-up, don’t forget your passport this time!

The GM highlighted some mismanagement items, such as the fact that we will be losing our long-serving Hash Brew later this year, so if you have a car or truck and want to make a meaningful contribution to the Bike Hash, please contact GM Bunny Tool or Hash Brew (Roger) to take over this much-appreciated role. A social event for members is being planned for June – watch this space or the SBH website for full details.

With the circle officially concluded, Vi called out, “Is anyone driving back to civilization,” to which Bunny Tool answered, “Excuse me, we ARE civilization.” And with that ended yet another fun-filled and physically-demanding Bike Hash...

Until the next ride, On On!

Scribed by: Knobby Boy Scout

