West Highland Wheelers/Off Beat Bikes Winter League

The first round of the West Highland Wheelers Winter League took place at Laggan Wolftrax on Sunday 15 November. Cool, sunny weather provided great conditions for 29 riders to test their metal on an interesting and enjoyable course, set by Steve Bradley. There was a short course, which still involved a fair amount of pedalling uphill, and a longer, ten and a half mile one which took in both red courses to provide plenty of technical challenges.

The results were very close with Gavin Shirley coming home in 52 minutes 58 seconds - only 1 second ahead of Ben Millar (recently returned from trials for the Olympic development program) who in turn was 1 second ahead of a man more normally seen on a downhill bike, Liam Moynihan. There were technical headaches for some, with both Doug Little and Jamie Bailey breaking their chains (the former about 3 metres after the start). Both managed to carry out track side repairs and continue, as did Fergus Lamb who was seen taking a rock to his middle chain ring. Was this to lighten his bike in a vain attempt to keep up with the top three riders?

Colleen Foggo was first Lady with new participant Mairi Meldrum coming second, and Tom Macmahon, aged 11, did the full course and put in a very creditable performance as the first youth.

Delicious soup and carrot cake was provided by the Base Camp cafe and thanks go to Lindsay and Gail of Wolftrax for the venue and to Maggie and John of Nevis Cycles who stood out in the cold doing the timing.

The next round will take place at Lochaline. Meet at the ferry pier on Sunday 6 December for a sharp start at 11.15am. It is a great introduction to the many trails in Morven.

1	Gavin Shirley 52:58		
2	Ben Millar	52:59	
3	Liam Moynihan	53:00	
4	Fergus Lamb	54:48	
5	Gavin MacLean	55:05	
6	Alastair MacLennan	55:22	
7	Gregor Muir	57:29	Singlespeed
8	Andrew Foggo	61:08	
9	Jamie Bailey	62:55	
10	John Shirley	63:14	
11	Gavin Linfield	63:39	
12	Jesse Wigman	65:02	
13	Steve Bradley	65:04	
14	Tony Moynihan	68:08	
15	Jim Maxwell	70:45	Short Course
16	Colleen Foggo	70:57	1 st Lady
17	Andy Rogers	71:04	
18	Rory Robinson	71:48	
19	Doug Little	72:47	
20	Donny Meldrum	74:32	
21	Rory Stewart	76:00	
22	Mairi Meldrum	76:42	
23	Marian Austin	83:20	3 rd Lady

24	Tom Macmahon	83:47 1 st Youth
25	Sandy Slater	83:48
26	Nigel Millar	90:21
27	David Mee	98:44 Too Much Porridge
	Ruari Watt Alan MacPherson	dns Puncture followed by a short cut