

Hash 381

National Day Ride

Hares: Peng, No-Good, Ditch, Coo Chi Coo

How do you set a hash ride that goes through the same area as the 2 previous hashes and get away with it? You pull in two Singaporeans, find a new start point, use the existing paper, call it the National Day Ride and feign ignorance of ever having ridden there before. And in true national Singaporean spirit, everyone agrees and you get away with it.

Ride 381 was a true challenge. Quickly brought forward to fit in with the hares other engagements (What? What could be more important than setting a hash? Leave your family, leave your job, know your responsibilities! This is THE HASH!!!) the ride was only 1 week after the 20th anniversary ride. Riders were sparse, partly worn out by the previous ride, partly by training for the next week's triathlon, and partly from watching the last stage of the Tour de France, 33 riders turned up to brave the challenges set by the hares.

The ride left the car park at the MOE Dairy Farm Adventure Centre, off Dairy Farm Road, the pack quickly headed to the train tracks, the normal route used by Coo Chi Coo, until, what's this? A back check sent us back through the Bukit Timah Trail towards Chestnut and under the BKE. Another check along the BKE pipeline towards the start of the Butterfly trail, until another check sent us back to the entrance to the BMX track. A groan from the pack leader, Ching Soo, as he found the check seemed to break a branch off the overhanging tree, heading towards his head spear like through the other branches. Quickly dismounting and using the bike for protection, Ching Soo managed to step aside from the falling branch, saving himself for another ride.

The pack gathered at the entrance gate to the BMX trail, waiting for other riders to find the trail. One of the hares stepped up to mark the trail direction arrow at the feet of Whorenet, who blindly asked "where's the ride go from here?" Around Butterfly and over the dam, the ride then made it's way up beside the BMX track and through Cobra alley to the new trail below the BMX downhill. After a short period of confusion (with no paper to be found after the cabbage patch, hare Ditch appeared to lead the pack astray. He responded: "I didn't set this section, I thought it went that way!"), the pack moved under the BKE and across the steep grass slope beside the HDB estate at Chua Chu Kang, to ride over Chestnut and back home.

At the circle our lead hare, Peng was brought in for crash of the day, as well as being a hare, and for discussing top tube stand-over height with Coo Chi Coo (Note to all female members of the hash: To save yourself from endless embarrassment, Do NOT, EVER, discuss ANYTHING with Coo Chi Coo! Not ever!).

A great ride and fantastic On-On at the local fish shop at Railway Mall, the hares did well with short notice to set a fast and challenging ride in a well known area.