



6 December 2019

Announcement of AusCycling initial Board appointments

The AusCycling Steering Committee today announced the members of the first Board of AusCycling.

The Board will comprise equal representation from each of the three cycling disciplines of BMX, mountain bike and road & track, along with three independent members.

A further Board position has been reserved for the Chair of the National Advisory Council, which will represent the states and territories, who will be appointed after AusCycling starts operations in the second quarter of 2020.

The announcement reinforces the commitment of cycling organisations in Australia and Sport Australia to the establishment of one strong, unified body that will give cycling the voice it deserves in the Australian sporting landscape.

“The announcement of directors for AusCycling’s first Board marks a watershed in the unification of the three major cycling disciplines across Australia,” said the AusCycling Steering Committee.

“We are delighted to have attracted such a wealth of shared knowledge, skills and experience from all areas of cycling across Australia.”

The yet to be announced third independent director on the AusCycling Board is expected to be from Western Australia.

The full list of appointees to the initial AusCycling Board include:

- Lee Brentzell, Darren Alomes and Duncan Murray, Chairs of Mountain Bike Australia (MTBA), BMX Australia (BMXA) and Cycling Australia (CA) respectively
- The Hon Ruth McColl AO SC, former Judge of the NSW Court of Appeal (Independent)
- Brian Gallagher, Chief Sales Officer, Southern Cross Austereo (Independent)
- Aaron Liang, Cycling Queensland president (CA)
- Anne Gripper, Executive Director at the NSW Office of Sport (CA)
- Gemma Kernich, President, Port Adelaide Cycling Club (MTBA)
- Jenni McLeod, Founder of the Shredding Betties mountain bike club (MTBA)
- Dale Percy, BMX Australia vice president (BMXA)
- Katrina Harnwell, BMX Australia Director of Finance (BMXA)
- A yet to be announced independent director expected to be from Western Australia.

The Board will oversee the integration of the administration, business systems and processes of all the cycling disciplines under the unified body to enhance the level of services available to all clubs. It will also select AusCycling’s first Chief Executive.



Once the transition period is complete and AusCycling is fully operational, all member Clubs will participate in electing a new Board based on equal representation by all the disciplines – placing the ownership of AusCycling in the hands of the member Clubs.

Advisory Councils will be formed in each state with three representatives from each discipline. Each Advisory Council will oversee officiating, coaching and management in their state and territories, and advise on the AusCycling transition in their regions. The Chair of each state and territory Advisory Council will sit on the National Advisory Council.

AusCycling will also have a committee structure to provide advice to the Board and management. Each committee will feature a representative of each of the disciplines to ensure ongoing input from right across the cycling spectrum.

Director profiles (alphabetically listed)

Darren Alomes (BMX Australia)

Darren was elected to the BMX Australia Board in 2016 and elected Chair in 2018. He has previous governance experience with BMX South Australia where he provided support from administration and officialdom roles at all levels - club, state, nationally and internationally. Darren has over 30 years' experience in all levels of Government IT and Security, currently in Network and Cyber Security. With previous recreational riding experience and a family active in this sport and others, inclusiveness and respect are priorities that Darren personally strives to deliver and promote at all levels.

Lee Brentzell (Mountain Bike Australia)

Lee is the Chair of Mountain Bike Australia. Her varied skills set extends to strategic planning, corporate governance, stakeholder engagement, business transformation, financial controls, and project and change management. Lee is an engineering professional with business qualifications and international project experience in oil and gas, mining, utilities, defence, banking and finance. She has more than 20 years' experience in senior executive and management consulting roles with experience in delivering large-scale business changes that result in successful business transformations and desired benefits. Lee is a competitive sports person who also loves to share her passion for mountain biking riding with her daughters, husband, family and friends.

Brian Gallagher (Independent)

Brian has over 30 years' experience in broadcast media and content production. Brian's experience positions him to understand the value of content like no other. He has driven the market for advertiser integration into broadcast properties, developed many successful brand funded programs, driven advertiser value by combining online and broadcast assets to create successful transmedia properties. Brian is excited about combining his personal passion for cycling with his commercial experience for the benefit of the cycling community.

Anne Gripper (Cycling Australia)

Anne is currently an Executive Director at the NSW Office of Sport and has enjoyed 25 years working in sport leadership roles. She was previously the Chief Executive Officer of Triathlon Australia for five years. Between 2006 and 2010 she worked for the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) as the Director of Anti-Doping, and she remains a member of the Anti-Doping Commission. Outside of work, Anne is the Chair of the June Canavan Foundation, a philanthropic trust which provides funding to projects in sport, health and education. She has been on the Board of Cycling Australia since late 2015 and is also on the Board



of The Australian Centre for Regional Entrepreneurship (ACRE). Anne remains an active cyclist and triathlete, representing Australia at the Age Group Triathlon World Championships on three occasions.

Katrina Harnwell (BMX Australia)

Katrina is an experienced finance professional with 30 years of financial services experience. She is a Chartered Accountant with a Master of Tax degree and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. As well as finance and tax Katrina has skills in process improvement, stakeholder engagement, governance and risk. She has project management experience and extensive not for profit experience through her roles at Westpac Banking Corporation and as Treasurer of Manly Nippers. Katrina is currently the Finance Director for BMX Australia, My Property Circles and Ausrichter Pty Ltd. She is a member of the State Leadership Committee for Women in Banking and Finance. Katrina is passionate about increasing participation in sport and keeping members involved in the sport throughout their lives.

Gemma Kernich (Mountain Bike Australia)

Gemma is a civil engineer with over 20 years' experience in transport policy, active travel and infrastructure delivery with a passion for better providing for people riding to improve community health. She has had a lifelong involvement in cycling through commuting by bike and regularly races on dirt, road and track. An active member of Port Adelaide Cycling Club, Gemma is passionate about creating better experiences for all riders, pioneering cyclo-cross in South Australia and regularly coaching dirt and velodrome skills sessions. A former President of Cycling SA, Gemma has served on the Cycling SA Board, the Cycling SA Womens Commission and club committee across several terms.

Aaron Liang (Cycling Australia)

Aaron is former Club President of Brisbane Cycling Club and more recently President of Cycling Queensland. In his professional career, Aaron has been involved as an Executive Director overseeing large scale mining projects all across Australia. In addition to his corporate skills, Aaron is passionate about culture, inclusion and above all sport being fun. Aaron is looking forward to helping make cycling the number one sport in Australia.

Ruth McColl, AO SC (Independent)

Ruth served as a judge of the NSW Court of Appeal for almost 16 years until her retirement in January 2019. She has since been appointed a Patron of Justice Connect and elected chair of the Australian Dispute Resolution Advisory Council. Among her numerous achievements, Ruth is a former President of the Judicial Conference of Australia. Her other former roles include: President of the NSW Bar Association (the first woman to serve in that role); President of the Australian Bar Association; President of NSW Women Lawyers; and President of the Public Interest Law Clearing House, the NSW forerunner of Justice Connect. Ruth has a passion for cycling and has long been a road cyclist. This year she has cycled over 5000 kilometres in Australia, Europe, Asia and the US.

Jenni McLeod (Mountain Bike Australia)

Jenni started mountain biking when she was living in Whistler, Canada in 1998. After learning trail building in Canada, Jenni returned to Australia and obtained a Graduate Diploma in Outdoor Education to bring her passion for adventure to others, and for the past 20 years she has volunteered at events, trail-build days and on group rides. Jenni founded 'Shredding Betties' in 2017, which has since become Australia's first women's specific MTBA affiliated club. With an Undergraduate Degree in Policy and Social Science, the past 10 years of Jenni's career has been in state politics applying her skills to develop and implement campaign strategies, communication plans and to effectively connect and unlock capacity contained within communities through an asset-based approach. Jenni is motivated by the idea of 'New Power' to tap into individual, social and political power to create change. When not riding, Jenni can be found amongst her beehives.

Duncan Murray (Cycling Australia)



Duncan is the CEO of BESEN, a Melbourne based Family Office with operations in Australia and New York in the property and private equity sectors. Duncan is a former investment banker and lawyer. For the majority of his career, however, he has been a CEO and COO level operator in the public and private sectors, as well as in private equity. Duncan also has a long history in the not-for-profit sector. He was the inaugural Chairman of the Amy Gillett Foundation, is a former CEO of Noel Pearson's Cape York Partnership Group, Chairman of Djarragun College and director of Bama Services.

Dale Percy (BMX Australia)

Dale has over 30 years' experience in BMX as an athlete, a high-performance coach, and a senior administrator. He currently serves as a Director with BMX Australia. Dale has a strong background in business management, excelling in sports marketing where he works with leading athletes and global brands. Dale is heavily involved in the action sports industry where his role as a marketing manager overlooks sport sponsorships and events.