

SPORT GUIDELINES

MIGHTY ELEVENS TEST TEAM



The MIGHTY 11s Junior Test Team is a cultural exchange with BMX-NSW. The Trans Tasman series is raced at the BMXNZ North Island Titles and the Australian Series held at a NSW BMX event. The team consists of 4 male & 4 female riders. The team selection is open to all riders who will be 11 years old on the 1st of June of the year of selection for the Australian event and 11 years old on the 20th October of the year of selection for the New Zealand event. This is a BMXNZ funded trip with a portioned financial input by the selected riders families. BMXNZ also allocate a coach & team manger to the squad.

To be selected to represent New Zealand is one of the greatest honours in any sport. BMX has that opportunity at this very early stage in our sport & many of the sports greats have been Mighty 11s.

The Mighty 11s process is also a great start to building an individual identity & independence for the riders, who will learn to make decisions for the team & learn to look after each other as they travel without parents or guardians, sometimes for the first time. The Team Management is there to guide & help them grow as riders & as people.

SELECTION

Two trials are held each year, the first at the BMXNZ Nationals at Easter & the team form this travel to Australia. The Second is at pre-Norths, for the NZ test at North Island Titles. There is a special trial format to aim to get the most consistent riders in the age group. Any rider can trial, as long as they meet the age criteria as noted above.

M11 TRIAL RACE FORMAT

Gender split: Separate Male and Female trials will be held.

All riders will be given four qualifying motos. Each of the rider's three lowest moto points will be added then;

8 or less riders: The moto points added to 5th (final) moto to determine top 8 placings.

9-16 riders: Top 8 riders race 1 final. Points from final added to best 3 motos points to determine top 8 placings.

17+ riders: Top 16 rider's race 1 semi, points added to 3 best moto points. Top 8 rider's race 1 final, all points added to determine top 8 placings.

BMXNZ moto mix for all qualifying motos. Semi finals will be seeded snake method per best 3 moto points. Olympic lane draw will be utilised for semi finals and finals.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY TO TRIAL

- All riders must compete at the BMXNZ Nationals or North Island Titles event in classes as required by BMXNZ
- Selected Riders and Guardians will be required to sign and comply with the BMX NZ Test Teams Contract. Copies of this are available upon request from BMXNZ (admin@bmxnz.co.nz). This must be signed on the day of selection.
- All riders must abide by the rules and regulations and requirements as set by BMXNZ and the Test Team Management.
- Riders MUST be available to attend arranged team building & training sessions.
- Riders must be New Zealand Citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand.

Further detail is available on the Mighty 11s trial flyer & contract.

SELECTED TEAM MEMBERS:

Riders must be available to assemble after selection to arranged practice session & team building events. These will vary year to year but the team tries to get 3 to 4 sessions in prior to the Trans-Tasman Test.

The Teams then meet up in the week prior to the events for practice, team building and promotional events as scheduled.

Selected members will be supplied with the complete riding & travelling kit. This is required to be worn at all team events , promotional or media appointments & the test racing.

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SOUTH ISLAND M11 TRAVEL ALLOWANCE:

A maximum of two (2) eligible South Island 11yr old riders will be invited to attend the Junior Test Team selection meeting and be provided with return airfares to Christchurch (rider only). Airfares must be booked by eligible South Island rider's parents/guardians no later than one (1) month before the North Island Test Teams Trials.

These riders will be selected by the Mainland North & South Regions by their own criteria.

South Island riders who achieve Test Team selection will be provided with an additional return airfare (rider only) from Christchurch to assemble as required with the team for the North Island Titles.

HISTORY OF THE MIGHTY ELEVENS

The mighty 11s is a international BMX competition between Australia & New Zealand. But it started at the Ipswich BMX club in Brisbane, Australia.

Some 30 years ago, a rider from the Ipswich club was tragically killed in a car accident. His mother gave the club a trophy to be used in his memory, so the committee at the time discussed what to do with it & decided to hold a "invitation" meeting for a junior class, as the rider that the trophy honoured was eleven at the time of the accident. During the discussion about events options & guidelines, one committee member was reported to have said "it can't be in June, my son will be twelve? So 3 ages we put in a hat & one was drawn out, thus was the birth of the "Mighty Elevens".

Out of a close friendship between New Zealand's Errol Nelson & Neville Gray, the president of the Ipswich BMX Club, a vision was built out of their love of BMX for a Trans-Tasman BMX exchange. Their vision was a cultural exchange trip along with BMX racing, which they were truly passionate about. The exchange was timed to happen with the Mighty Eleven meeting, which then combined to be the Mighty Elevens Title.

The cultural exchange was to give kids a look into differing cultures & environments to learn & grow their outlooks of the world. The teams are billeted with local families too, so parents are not involved in anything other than seeing the kids at the track during racing.

So every June Queens Birthday weekend & October Labour Day weekend, riders who are eleven on the first day of June or the 20th of October respectively, from all over Australia & New Zealand are invited to compete against each other to establish the "Mighty Eleven" for that year.

So there are two parts of the "Mighty Eleven" experience. Firstly is to trail for the **Mighty Elevens Test Team** & if successful race against the Australians for the "Mighty Eleven Trans-Tasman Trophy". Secondly is for all eleven year olds boys & girls to race in the "**Mighty Elevens Special Class**" to establish the overall "Might Eleven" rider.



Neville Gray & Errol Nelson



October 2017 Mighty 11s Teams