

Local Girls Bring Home Silver from State Mountain Biking Championships

(With italicised alternative paragraphs for Port News)

St Paul's College received Silver in the NSW Mountain Bike Interschools Division 3 (Yrs 7 & 8) championships held at Yellomundee in Western Sydney over the weekend.

Racing against strong competition in a 4 hr Endurance race, St Paul's (represented by sisters Casuarina and Sequoia Cooper-O'Brien) led often in a race where the lead changed four times. The local girls finished a narrow second to Abbotsleigh Girls School with Heathcote High School third.

Hastings Valley Mountain Bike Riders Casuarina and Sequoia Cooper-O'Brien received Silver in the NSW Mountain Bike Interschools Division 3 (Yrs 7 & 8) championships held at Yellomundee, Western Sydney over the weekend.

Racing against strong competition in a 4 hr Endurance race, Casuarina and Sequoia a.k.a. team "Jet Pink" (representing St Paul's College, Kempsey) led often in a race where the lead changed four times. Jet Pink finished a narrow second to Abbotsleigh Girls School with Heathcote High School third.

Two Division 2 (Years 9&10) male teams from St Joseph's Regional High School also made strong performances.

The girls' efforts were even more outstanding given their team "Jet Pink" were undermanned and underage. Originally intended as a mixed team, the late withdrawal of the boys left only two female members so they joined the female division to race against full teams of 4 from the other schools. In addition, Sequoia was racing 3 years above her age (being a Yr 4 from St Joseph's Primary). *Training and competing with Hastings Valley Mountain Bike Riders has certainly paid off for the girls.*

"The girls from the other schools were good sports. Everyone was really friendly and we had a really great time," said Sequoia.

"I liked the track and the competition, I like being out in the bush on my bike," said Casuarina.

Looking for fun and adventure? Team "Jet Pink" is seeking girl cyclists willing to get muddy in the bush to try out for a position on their team in the 2010 Inter-schools. For more information, go to the Hastings Valley Mountain Bike Riders Inc. website: www.hvmtbr.com

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