

2023 South Island Schools Mountain Bike Champs

After a delay due to snow at Coronet Peak the 2023 SI Schools MTB Champs got underway with practice on Thursday the 30th of March. DHS had 13 students competing with Ryker and Eli from the Terrace and Oliver from Cromwell with most of us staying on the mountain in the Vincent ski lodge. The top of the mountain was closed and conditions were far from ideal as we dropped into Rude Rock for some practice. Bikes and riders were caked in mud in no time, but conditions improved as we rode up to Zoot and back up to Hot Rod.

Friday was cross country (XC) day with some awesome results. Paige Adams was 2nd in the U15 girls race, Cam Moir donned the skin suit to claim 2nd in U16 boys and Eddie Adams had a tight tussle to get 2nd in the U20 boys race with almost a 4 way sprint at the finish line. Hayley Harris also claimed 3rd in the U17 girls. Eli Moir also had a tight battle to get 3rd in the U14 boys race. Due to the forecast poor weather the next day after the XC racing there was Downhill (DH) practice and seeding. Many crashes were had that afternoon with some girls deciding it was too dangerous and sitting out the DH. Saturday arrived with some average weather for more DH practice and then race runs.

Ryker Thow was 3rd in the U14 boys with Cam and Eddie just missing the podium. Hayley Harris flew down the hill to earn 2nd in U17 girls. Cooper Millwood had a big crash which cost him a minute.

Sunday was Enduro day with 5 stages cut down to 4 due to the inclement weather again.

This was DHS's time to shine with Paige Adams 3rd, Cam Moir 3rd with Jack Sole 4th, Cooper Millwood 3rd, Hayley Harris 2nd and Eddie Adams 2nd. Ryker Thow cleaned up in the U14 boys by nearly 40 seconds.

It was a great 4 days staying at the lodge and riding and racing and it was the first taste of racing for some students. Overall age group and school results are not out yet but DHS should do well overall and in many classes.



Cam Moir on the podium, 2nd in U16 boys XC.



Eddie Adams, 2nd in U20 boys



Paige Adams, 2nd in U15 girls



Cam Moir, sending it to 2nd in XC in the DHS skinsuit.



Steffi Moss, having a wee sit down in her XC race.



Eddie Adams in the XC



Hayley Harris, on her way to 2nd in the DH



Grace Moir drifting in the DH



Steffi Moss sending it in the DH



Cooper Millwood after his crash in the DH

Grace Moir in the XC



Harrison Cowie (left) and Saul Kitto (right) in the XC skinsuits.