DuO   Hawkemount

After several late withdrawals and a few no shows, 95 competitors turned up for the first DuO event at Awaba. With a shady start area, BBQ, coffee van and plenty of action around the start and bike transition, there was a great atmosphere surrounding the event. A short foot stage of around 1.8k brought competitors back to the start area as they transitioned onto their bikes. The Twisted course had around 12.5 k and the Bitte 8.5k on the next bike stage.

With the cloud cover breaking, the dry conditions and some open tracks to ride and run on, the heat started to take toll on competitors. Many competitors opted tho take their time at the transition to have a bite to eat and have a drink.

Tim Tew set an event that had the courses crossing over continually, which meant that there were always competitors around on both the bike and foot stages.

The time estimates were fairly accurate for the courses but the heat slowed many, especially the later starters. There were a few bike accidents with the dry and loose surfaces with one lady spending several hours in hospital with damaged ribs.

We wish her a speedy recovery.

There were a high number of DNF's on the twisted course, the reasons varied but the distances, navigation and heat took it's toll.

Sally Anne Henderson and Russell Wilcox volunteered to do the Twisted course as we had run out of maps for the Bitte course. There were several competitors that changed from the Twister to the Bitte course, we will have more maps next time. Sally Anne and Russell both have free entry to the next DuO at Bluegums.

Robyn Simionato took some great pictures and movies of competitors on the first foot and bike stages. They will be posted on the DuO homepage shortly.

The results were very close in each class. There were several miss punches on the course and where the competitor had one miss punch they were given a 10 minute penalty, more than one they were marked as DNF.

Thanks to everyone that helped on the day to make it a successful first event for the series.