



NEWS UPDATE FOR SUPPORTERS/SPONSORS

October 2009 – February 2010

SUPPORTER NEWS

SAFMARINE'S SANTA SURPRISE ...

Christmas is a time for giving and in December last year a group of warm-hearted Safmariners in South Africa decided to donate gifts to the children of Velokhaya. A 'Santa Surprise' visit was arranged for Saturday, December 19 by Safmarine's South African PR Manager, Lea-Anne Moses-Magerman. Our thanks to her and her colleagues David Squires (aka Santa Clause), Karen Dippenaar and Michael Bolton for helping to spread a little Christmas cheer.



Earlier in December, representatives from Safmarine's Global PR & Communications spent a morning planting trees at Velokhaya. The trees, which were donated by Safmarine, act as a windbreak and are providing much needed shade at the BMX Oval.



VODACOM FOUNDATION DONATION KEEPS OUR BMX WHEELS TURNING

A R100 000 donation last year by the Vodacom Foundation has given BMX training and racing at the Velokhaya BMX Oval a major boost. The funds were used to purchase BMX equipment for the more than 100 young cyclists training and competing at the Velokhaya BMX Oval. Before receiving the new kit, riders had to stop riding to exchange and share kit (racing pants and shirts) and protection gear (gloves, helmets and knee guards), which hampered their training efforts.

According to Mthobi Tyamzashe, Chairman of the Vodacom Foundation: "It was a pleasure for the Vodacom Foundation to enable the children from Khayelitsha to participate in the programmes of the Velokhaya BMX Oval. We trust that the equipment purchased will enable the over 100 beneficiaries to realize their dreams in their chosen sport."

The Velokhaya BMX Oval has, since it opened a year ago in November 2008, become a popular - and important - recreational facility for the children of Khayelitsha. "It really has become a place where our children can have fun and learn new skills in a secure, safe environment," says Velokhaya's Amos Ziqubu. *(The donation was made possible through the intervention of Johannesburg-based cyclist and business executive, Mthunzi Mdwaba, who introduced the Vodacom Foundation to Velokhaya).*



Vodacom's Priscilla Damane (centre) fits a new helmet on Velokhaya BMX rider, Xolisa Ndzaba while Velokhaya's co-founders, Glyn Broomberg and Amos Ziqubu and riders Mthuthuzeli Mathime (back, second left), Akhona Jim (front, left), Lazola Salie (back, third right) and Xolani Gcwadi (back, second right) look on.

RIDER NEWS

LUTHANDO KAKA JOINS JOHANNESBURG ROAD CYCLING TEAM

One of the Life Cycling Academy's top riders, Luthando Kaka, has been offered a contract with a top South African road cycling team. He joined Team Medscheme – winners of the October 2009 Engen Dynamic Cycle Challenge - on February 22 this year.

We are confident Luthando's move to Johannesburg – the cycling metropolis of South Africa – will give his career the boost it needs and bring him one step closer to achieving his dreams. We wish him well and thank him for being such a positive role model to many young riders at the LCA.



EVENTS

VELOKHAYA/CANAL WALK FOUNDATION RECONCILIATION BMX CUP



Velokhaya was delighted to have Phil Liggett and his wife Trish (left) as our guests of honour at the inaugural Canal Walk Reconciliation Cup.

The event was held on December 16, South Africa's 'Day of Reconciliation' and attracted the 'Who's Who' of BMX cycling in South Africa.

Among those competing in the event were top South African riders Sharlene McGilvray, Teagan O'Keeffe, Jordi O'Keeffe, Christopher Austin, Godfrey Buziba, Kyle Dodd, Liam

Webster, Axel Webster, Alex Limberg, Nzuzo 'Zuz' Mngadi and Wayne Gerber.

Accompanying the riders were members of the South African BMX Commission – Aaron Holdstock, Alan Dodd, Thoko Mhlanga, Margot Gerber and Roger Bouton – as well as owner and manager of Team Jeep, Sydney Webster.



Exciting news on the day was the announcement of a partnership between Team Jeep and Velokhaya. The partnership gives two Velokhaya riders the opportunity to compete at national events as members of Team Jeep.

Velokhaya BMXers Xolisa Ndzaba and Bayanda Ganyaza (left and right), were the two talented riders selected to compete, as part of Team Jeep, in national events during 2010.

Another highlight of the day was the handover of a cheque of R220 000 by the Danish Consul, Jorgen Dahl to Velokhaya. The money was raised by Team Vestjyskbank in Denmark, which held a 'Horsens – Paris' fundraiser in Europe in July last year. The funds have been used to further develop the Velokhaya infrastructure in Khayelitsha, including the development of the Mechanics Workshop/BMX Start Ramp Complex.



Visit www.velokhaya.com to see the Youtube video on the event!

RESULTS – CANAL WALK FOUNDATION RECONCILIATION CUP ..

The winners were: *11 and under Novice*: Bayanda Ganyaza; *12 –15 Novice*: Unathi Jezile; *16 and over*: Lazola Sali; *30 and over*: Nicholas Criticon; *Expert Class*: Alex Limberg; *Elite Class*: Jordi O’Keeffe.

Winning team/Novice (on points): Team Velokhaya (followed by Team Genesis and Team Songo)

.. AND TOP PHOTOGRAPHERS CAPTURE THE ACTION

Below is a selection of photos taken on the day by top photographers who donated their time to capture the action at the Velokhaya Canal Walk Foundation Reconciliation Cup. Our heartfelt thanks to them for sharing their time and talent (and to SABC TV and other media who covered the event)!



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© Trish Liggett



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SECOND CAPE TOWN CYCLE CHALLENGE A HUGE SUCCESS

The second Engen Dynamic Cycle Challenge (EDCC) to be held on Western Cape soil took place on Saturday, October 10, 2009. The event was a huge success and money raised from the more than 1000 entry fees benefited the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital's Burns Unit. Visit www.velokhaya.com for a full race report!



Songezo Jim, bottom left, was in top form at this event and we're expecting great things from him – and our PicknPay Ascends and Excellence program riders - at the 2010 Cape Argus PicknPay Cycle Tour in March.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR NEW WEBSITE ?

The combined Velokhaya and Life Cycling Academy website was launched at the end of last year. Thank you to all those who commented on our new look!

You will find all our news, videos, race reports, photos and more at www.velokhaya.com or www.lifeacademy.co.za. And, we're also on Facebook! 

THANK-YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



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