



FORT LYTTON MOTOCROSS CLUB

...the last of its kind in Brisbane

13-8-2008

Dear Premier.

Firstly I would like to introduce myself to you; my name is Ken Herson, facility manager of the Fort Lytton motocross club.

Our club has been part of Brisbane for 20 years, providing coaching programs for beginners and a place for riders of motocross bikes, peewee bikes and quad bikes to ride safely in the metro area.

The Port of Brisbane have been providing our site on a reclaimed block previously known as Cooney Flats, however we have been informed that the time has come to develop the area. It seems to be from our consultation with the Port Authority, it's all about the money not what our club provides to the community.

Over the last few years myself and other concerned members have had meetings with a host of land owners and/or administrators in the area including property manager from the Port of Brisbane Mr Tom Smith, executive manager Air Port planning Mr Mark Willey, Brisbane city council Mr Peter Cumming, Brisbane Lord Mayor Campbell Newman, Sports and Rec Mrs Lis Wood, and our local member the honourable Paul Lucas, all are very sympathetic to our dilemma, but don't see it as a community priority.

I'm sure you would agree, at the end of the day more problems will be created without a permanent club in Brisbane.

The community will need your leadership shortly to overcome the issues generated with no venue to ride legally. The motocross community would appreciate your leadership before it becomes too late and there is no legal facility to participate at in Brisbane.

Motocross/Supercross is a spectacle for the spectator and a sport which promotes family participation; this is why it has generated a tremendous amount of main stream media coverage and a staggering increase in bike sales over the last 10 years, either by racing or by the recreational rider. Brisbane has been a breeding ground to the world stage, as shown by-

- Chad Reed the newly crowned World Supercross champion and previous Australian Motocross /Supercross champion (This financial year will place him top 2 for earnings by a Australian athlete)
- Daniel Readon (Brisbane) Australian Motocross /Supercross champion now competing in America.
- Andrew McFarlane (Brisbane) 2nd world motocross champion and Previous Australian Motocross /Supercross champion now competing in America.

- Michael Burn (Brisbane), Previous Australian Motocross /Supercross champion now competing in America.
- Adam Cini (Brisbane) Australia junior champion now competing in America
- Brendon Harrison (Gold Coast) Australian Junior Champion now competing in Europe for the World Championship.
- Stefan Marrian (Brisbane) Previous Australian enduro and world Champion and still competing in Europe.

Other riders from Australia competing or have competed on the world motocross stage include:-

- Jake Moss (America)
- Brett Metcalf(America),
- Craig Dack (Europe)
- Glen Bell(Europe)
- Jeff Leisk (Europe)
- Craig Anderson(America)
- Peter Melton(Brisbane) Multiple Australian Motocross /Supercross champion (America)
- Darryl Hurley(America)

And next year we will see a contingent of juniors riders (16years under) qualify and stepping up to the world championships, as New Zealand has been named the host Country.

It's been demonstrated by all of the community (as shown by the staggering amount front page articles in the Quest and Redland paper) the need for a increase in motocross riding areas in Brisbane (not 1 hour away or more, it defeats the purpose). However the complete opposite is happening, we will have the last venue closing at the end of the year. Council leaders at Local, State, and Federal position have been quoted in local papers showing support and express their concerns.

Our team is always open to consultation and compromise so I hope my letter doesn't find its way into the to hard basket. We are willing to find away and I'm sure the rest of the community will be grateful if you can lead the way. If you feel it would be beneficial for our team to meet with you/government department before making any announcements, we would be available for consultation. Other wise our club and non-members look forward to hearing the immediate plans from the State government in regards to the community on a viable option for the riders of motocross in Brisbane after the Fort Lytton Motocross facility is shut down.

Ken Herson

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Facility Manager

Fort Lytton motocross club