

Junior Racing Report 17th July 2010

The Bunbury Speed Skating Club held the first race for juniors for this year. This was the first of several sessions for new younger skaters to learn and experience racing in a low stress environment.

The session ran for 2 hours and consisted of the following sections:

1. Explanation of the basic rules of racing. This included starts, cornering and passing. The senior skaters demonstrated each of these both according to the rules, and breaking the rules.
2. A few conventional races. These alternated between the junior and senior racers. The juniors were kept in the centre of the track so they could closely observe the senior demonstration races.
3. Fun races which included. senior vs. junior handicapped, reverse direction racing, backwards skating racing and Italian teams pursuit.
4. Relay racing practice with the juniors and seniors combined together.
5. Games

At the conclusion each skater was given a 'prize bag' which included several items. Each younger skater also got a small Lego car to build.

It was Reece Gunnel's 14th Birthday and the cake after the event was enjoyed by all. This was followed by a dinner at the Eaton Tavern to help Reece celebrate his birthday.

Thanks to coaches Alan Potaka and Andrew Roberts who ran the session. Very special thanks to Chris Rowlandson who did an excellent job acting as Referee for the meeting. Chris made a special effort to explain the rules to the new skaters making them feel much more relaxed when they began to race.

There are another 2 of these 'race' sessions planned for later this year. With more notice it is hoped that young skaters from Perth will also attend.

To see pictures look at the media section of the web site: www.bunburyspeedskating.com

Allen Chong