

# CRANK THE SHIELD SSM

## Day 3 – Searchmont to Kinsmen Park – detailed description

After a delicious breakfast, riders start their 15km “Neutral Ride”, westward on the Searchmont Road to Bellevue. With a 10:00am start, please leave Searchmont by no later than 9:00am. Neutral rides are a great way to loosen up, talk with some new friends, and take in the scenery – the Goulais valley is spectacular!

- After making a right, and crossing the train tracks, you will be pointed towards the bottom of a long climb.
- After some quick staging, riders will start with a 1.5km climb to the stunning peak of Bellevue.
- A long, 2.5km descent built my local riders will be hard to pass on – so make sure you get to the singletrack in a good position. The trail is fast, flowy, with a few surprises. Wet sections have been bridged thanks to local riders and some monetary assistance from Crank the Shield.
- Riders spill out onto Bellevue Valley road, and climb one of the only 1.5km sections of paved road in the entire race!
- After the long climb – a police officer will ensure your safe crossing of Searchmont Road.
- A right-of-way behind some locals houses brings you by the home of “Curly Watt” – a local legend who used to be the head of the famous “Top Dogz” BMX riding group! We may also have our first aid station here.
- Some moist trails along Legge road take us to an old singletrack linking up this trail with the well used trail systems around Reserve Lake.
- After riding along Reserve lake – the event has two options – to the left is a great gravel grind, with awesome downs and fast riding – to the right, is a more rough and tumble backcountry trail, with some wetter spots, but absolutely incredible rocky downs and ups. If we have dry weather leading up to the event, we’ll take the rougher trail – if we get more rain, we may opt’ for the main gravel road. This will be updated a week prior to the event.
- Spilling out onto the main snowmobile trail, we enjoy more pristine backcountry riding along Connor Road.
- As we near the end of Connor road – 25 km of the best singletrack riding of the event awaits! Aid Station #2 c/o Velorution will get you ready for the final 20km, 85% singletrack and an incredible conclusion to Crank the Shield:SSM! Thanks to the locals for putting together the best possible loop, and Kinsmen for the generous use of their facilities!
- You will pass the finish line with over 10km left of riding, cross Landslide road and hammer some fast singletrack!
- After crossing back over Landslide Rd, your 240+ 3 –day riding odyssey ends with a fantastic BBQ c/o Low and Slow, a fun award ceremony and enough time to unwind before our Afterparty at the Bushplane Heritage Center!