

Practice Crit Race Report for 24 August, 2021

Submitted by Andre Sturm

The third and last practice crit of 2021 happened last Tuesday on a beautiful but sweltering evening. Usually one needs a jacket at this time of year but the only long sleeve garment Dorothy needed was to protect against the mosquitos.

For this final event of the season, our friends from Earl's Cyclery & Fitness stepped up big time and provided 50/30/20\$ gift cards for the top three finishers in the B and A race, and a couple other items for primes. Thanks also to Jared Katz of BlackDogPhotography and Patrick Murphy for donating primes.

It was a very nice evening for a bike race, with nice prizes on the line, so it was a bit disheartening to see only 6 starters in the B race line up. On the other hand, close to the start of the semester the UVM kids showed up in force for the A-race.

But first I would like to thank our volunteers for the race, Dorothy Pumo as referee, Sharon Sturm for registration, and Dee Barbic, Pier Briley and Ian McCray for marshalling. Without volunteers these events could not happen.

I would also like to thank Chris Kline who took many photos and videos that Dorothy will post on the GMBC webpage.

The 20min C-race is always a two-fold affair: the first 10 minutes are more of a fast paced group ride, with mentors along, to give the new racers a feeling for riding in a pack, and the last 10 minutes are a race between the C starters. We had three pretty evenly matched racers, and after continuously faster laps the race ended in a nice sprint, with Matthew Marchand narrowly beating his competitors.

After a modest start the B-race saw Scott Lawrence and Jacon Steinfeld break away after the first prime, never to be caught again, although not for lack of trying by the other racers. Scott beat Jacob in an almost photo finish.

In the A-race Josh Saxe attacked solo almost halfway through the 40min event, and was soon joined by UVM teammates Patrick Frank and Josh Chu. The three harmonized well and lapped the field, going straight through for another break. While these three did their thing it was especially nice to hear

Patrick Murphy mentoring his younger UVM team members in the art of crit racing. The three leaders lapped the field again with 1 lap to go which made it an interesting evening for the referee to keep track. Patrick Frank got the upper hand over Josh Saxe in an exciting sprint.

Dorothy and I are on board for 2022, and hopefully we will have a few more races spread over the whole summer season.

Thanks everyone who came out to race, marshal or spectate! See you in 2022.

C-race (20 min)

1. 670 Matthew Marchand
2. 673 Nathan Schafsteck
2. 671 Ben Clements

B-race (30 min)

1. 479 Scott Lawrence
2. 473 Jacob Steinfeld
3. 536 Brian Conchiery
4. 772 Evan Osler
5. 537 Devin Tyman
6. 760 John McGill

A-race (40min)

1. 777 Patrick Frank
2. 731 Josh Saxe
3. 776 Josh Chu
4. 775 Alex Warner
5. 774 Donnie Seib
6. 773 Zachary Isaacs
7. 473 Jacon Steinfeld
8. 758 Ethan Turner
9. 771 Zach Levy
10. 759 Mauricio Rosales
11. 485 Kevin O'Brien
12. 778 Patrick Murphy
13. 760 John McGill