

# Cycling fans have a chance to unite

**EAMONN MAHER**  
Staff Writer

Centre in Georgetown South from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hosted by the Brampton Cycling Club and the reborn Halton Hills Cycling Club, the program will cover topics such as bike handling, safety and racing using obstacle courses and

pack riding as examples.

The instructors for the course are Team Ontario head coach Denise Kelly and former pro cyclist Amy Moore, both local residents.

"There are a ton of kids out there riding bikes and this (program) is intended to show them that there's a competitive aspect to cycling if they want to pursue it," said Moore, who was a member of the elite T-Mobile international road racing team last year.

"And even if they prefer casual riding, there are a lot of safety issues to learn about and even things like being more proficient on your bike."

Participants are asked to bring a road or mountain bike in good working order, along with a helmet, water and lunch. BMX riders are also welcome to take part.

Organizers are hopeful that the introductory camp will inspire some young cyclists to commit to riding in the Brampton club's Tour de Terra Cotta race on Saturday, Sept. 15. The Ontario Cycling Association has also established a new youth series to attract and develop future provincial and national team members.

"It's a great introduction to a big elite race like the Tour de Terra Cotta and with the new kids' series it all builds up to things like the Ontario Summer Games and the Canada Games in 2009," Moore added. "Our goal is to make cycling more of a mainstream sport and we feel there's a lot of untapped potential with the youth aspect, and for adults too, because Halton Hills is one of the best places to ride in southern Ontario."

Cost to register for the program is \$40, which includes membership in the Brampton Cycling Club and insurance through the Ontario Cycling Association. If already an OCA or Ontario Association of Triathletes-affiliated club member, cost for the day is just \$15.

For more info or to register, e-mail moore.amy@gmail.com.

Moore and Kelly decided last year to help re-establish the Halton Hills Cycling Club and during their research discovered that an organization



The Halton Hills Cycling Club enjoyed a revival this past winter with a weekly spin class to keep enthusiasts in shape for the summer season, while also receiving instruction from a couple of former pro riders in Denise Kelly and Amy Moore.

*Photo by Eamonn Maher*

bearing that name was actually founded in 1898. Many local-area residents are members of the thriving Brampton club, so as not to duplicate what's already in place, the Halton Hills group is instead trying to complement existing cycling activities in the area.

A weekly indoor training program, also known as a spin class, was held in Georgetown through the winter months and attendance grew as more riders became aware of it. It's expected that the spin class will return again beginning in January, and a long-term goal of the Halton Hills club is to organize a criterium race that would incorporate downtown Georgetown into its route.

"We're getting the key players in other clubs to come over and gain from our expertise, because we have a lot of experience on the road from racing and coaching perspectives, and that's something that a lot of clubs don't get because most of their serious riders are racing most weekends," said Kelly, a former national team rider.

"There's going to be a feeling-out process with this new club but the common denominator is that we just love riding bikes."

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