

BYRON BAY TRIATHLON SATURDAY 12th MAY 2018

CYCLE RACE COURSE PROPOSED MODEL – Byron Shire



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SUMMARY

Background

- The total time the road was closed was approximately in 2012 - 3.6 hours and 2013 – 2.7 hours, 2015 – 2.5 hours, 2016 – 2.5 hours.
- In 2017 a new model was trialed with the goal of reducing closure times for communities south of the Byron CBD by providing gaps in the race to relieve built up traffic.
- As a result, the overall race time on roads increased; but depending on the suburb, closure times were reduced. For example, Suffolk Park at Clifford Street closure was reduced to just over 2 hours.
- As in the past, traffic management and detour management was comprehensive throughout the effected roads, and at intersections; nevertheless, delays were experienced in Suffolk Park and at Bangalow Road.
- The delays particularly around Suffolk Park again caused upset and this was compounded as inclement weather impacted the forecast athlete times. As a result, the road remained closed after the time posted on VMS boards and as advised over the phone earlier in the week.

The review with the Byron Shire Council and Police following the 2017 event concluded that the upset continues to impact a small number of visiting tourists and a section of the community particularly isolated to Suffolk Park and near Bangalow Road.

The significant investment in extra signage, additional VMS boards, and community consultation with Lennox, Ballina, Byron hinterland, Suffolk, and Bangalow districts helped to reduce traffic and resulted in the majority of community queries being resolved in the weeks prior to the event. Nevertheless, there remains a vocal minority who admit to seeing and ignoring these notifications.

The poor weather and rain that began after race start impacted athletes' performance significantly – on average athletes averaged 10km/h slower on the cycle in 2017 compared to previous years.

Moving forward, the agreed bigger issue is for stakeholders to maintain an acceptable level of safety for the participants. The common view is that the model should continue to include a road completely closed for as short as time possible.

We present two options below for your consideration.

2018 ROAD MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

OPTION A – Refinement of 2017 Model

Proposed Closure/Escort Model

- The proposed total time roads are closed is approximately 3.5 hours. The southbound lane is affected for approximately 3 hours; and northbound lane affected for 3.5 hours.
- First bike on course estimated at 11.28am.
- Race course southbound to Old Bangalow Rd closed by 11.30am until 11.55am;
- Race heads southbound from Browning St to Suffolk Park from 12.30pm to 1.15pm
- Race head south of Suffolk past Midgen Flat Rd under Police escort from 1.30pm to 2.50pm.
- The southbound to Lennox Heads will open under Police control from Suffolk Park after last southbound rider has passed.
- The number of crossover points closer to town will remain at two. (east/west).
- The athletes will operate on a curfew and stragglers will be collected by a support vehicle which will clear the course. Three support vehicles will be added to rear guard action.

Estimated Times Per Division

The times below are based on the 2017 average.

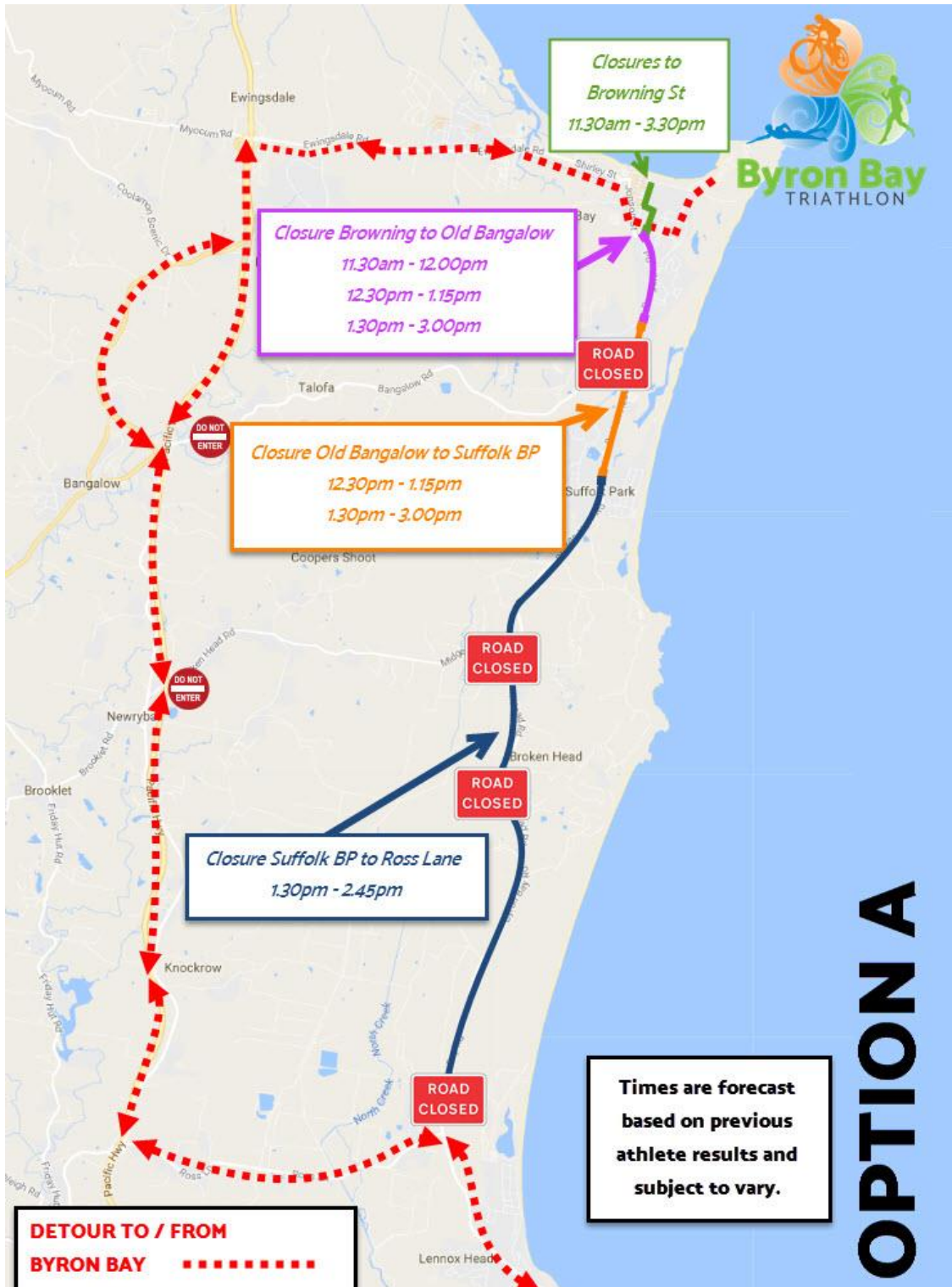
	Estimated Average		
	Start Swim	Start Bike	Finish Bike
Tempta	11:15:00 AM	11:28:14 AM	11:55:33 AM
Relief of traffic build up south of Browning St 11.55am until 12.30pm			
Juniors	11:55:00 AM	11:59:09 AM	12:11:48 PM
Big Kids	12:05:00 PM	12:10:14 PM	12:27:20 PM
Sprint	12:15:00 PM	12:32:41 PM	1:16:52 PM
Relief of traffic build up Suffolk, Bangalow 1.15pm until 1.30pm			
Olympic	1:00:00 PM	1:28:08 PM	2:51:06 PM

Proposed Course

The proposed program operates on four courses under a staggered closure:

- From surf club left to Ruskin St, 1.80km outbound; 3.0km return (**GREEN**)
- From surf club to Old Bangalow Rd corner, 2.50km outbound; 5.0km return (**PURPLE**)
- From surf club to Beach Drive 5.0km outbound: 10km return – (**ORANGE**)
- From surf club to 10.0km outbound: 20.0km return – (**BLUE**)

Implementation of staggered wave starts will ensure that there will be gaps in the race in order to relieve built up traffic. The forecast closure times based on 2017 athlete times are noted below for each section of course.



OPTION B – Condensed Course

Proposed Closure/Escort Model

- The proposed total time roads are closed is approximately 3 hours. The southbound lane is affected for approximately 2.5 hours; and northbound lane affected for approximately 3 hours.
- First bike on course estimated at 11.19am in Zone 1 to Ruskin St.
- Zone 2 southbound from Browning St closed by 11.30am;
- Zone 3 southbound from Old Bangalow Rd to Suffolk Park closed 12.30pm to 2.30pm.
- Riders move southbound progressively through zones under Police escort.
- Southbound to Lennox Heads will open under Police control from Bangalow Rd after last southbound rider has passed.
- The number of crossover points closer to town will remain at two. (east/west).
- The athletes will operate on a curfew and stragglers will be collected by a support vehicle which will clear the course. Three support vehicles will be added to rear guard action.

Estimated Times Per Division

The times below are based on the 2017 average.

	Estimated Average		
	Start Swim	Start Bike	Finish Bike
Juniors	11:15am	11:19am	11:31am
Big Kids	11:25am	11:30am	12:00am
Tempta	11:45am	11:58am	12:25pm
Sprint	12:10am	12:27pm	1:11pm
Olympic	12:30pm	12:58pm	2:21pm

Proposed Course

The proposed program operates on three courses under a gradual closure:

- From surf club left to Ruskin St, 1.80km outbound; 3.0km return (**GREEN**)
- From surf club to Old Bangalow Rd corner, 2.50km outbound; 5.0km return (**PURPLE**)
- From surf club to Beach Drive 5.0km outbound: 10km return – (**BLUE**)

Implementation of staggered wave starts will ensure that the loading of cycles on the course remains at a reasonable level. The forecast closure times based on 2017 athlete times are noted below for each section of course.

