**Kids of Mud - Annual Report**
**Annual General Meeting**
**November 25, 2026**

| **MCA Board Member** |
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| Shanna Chan |
| **Overview** |
| Kids of Mud Program is Manitoba's born grass roots learn-to-ride and learn-to-race mountain bike program for youth aged 5–16, that aligns with the Long-Term Athlete Development Pathway. It falls after HopOn programming and feeds into MCA's development program for those who want to pursue more competitive cycling and in multiple cycling disciplines (road, cyclocross). The program focuses on skill development, group rides, and for some an introduction to racing. Kids of Mud Programs are administered by various clubs across the province under a common framework by volunteers (a vast majority of whom are parents of youth participants) as certified community trained coaches, rider leaders, and general helpers.<br><br>KOM Clubs:<br><br><u>Winnipeg</u><br><br>● Red River KOM<br>● Bikes and Beyond KOM<br>● Woodcock Cycle-Paths<br>● Olympia KOM<br>● Wolseley Wheels<br><br><u>Outside Winnipeg</u><br><br>● Country Cycle |
| **Numbers** |
| Youth Participants: 252<br><br>Tier 1 volunteers, Tier 2 Ride leaders, Tier 3 Coaches: ~62 |

## Accomplishments

- Continue to have 6 clubs offering KOM programming in 2026
- 2 KOM clubs (Country Cycle & Olympia) offered a Fall program in addition to normal Spring program
- Expression of interest in formation of 2 new KOM clubs outside Winnipeg: Cooks Creek (ride BHP) and Brandon (ride Brandon HIlls)
- In collaboration with 3P Cycling Club, provided an opportunity to provide a free kids event as part of Battle of the Butte (Bison Butte) to attract new youth to cycling (outside KOM), introduce racing for existing KOM participants and introduce the Provincial Program.

## Challenges

- Ongoing challenge of loss of KOM parent volunteers as their youth participants outgrow the program (choose other sport or no longer interested) and continual need for recruitment and training of new volunteers.
- No shared database between KOM clubs and MCA for Volunteer/coach certification tracking.
- Planned and subsequently cancelled sessions due to low registration: Practice Planning (Tier 2 ride leader requirement) and Basic Bike Skills (Tier 3 requirement)
- Limited opportunity for youth outside Winnipeg to participate in a KOM program (currently only Country Cycle - Winkler/Morden area; previously in West: Neepawa and Minnedosa, Dauphin, McCreary)

## Goals for Next Year

- Retain existing KOM Clubs for 2027 and support the start up of Cooks Creek KOM and Brandon KOM programs.
- Increase the number of KOM youth events/races to encourage participation in races leading up to 2028 MB Summer Games
- Support in season/during regular programming hours introduction to racing through intra and inter club fun races.
- Improve communication and tracking between MCA and the KOM clubs for KOM volunteer/coaching certifications.