

Concerning of age rules:

It was one of major reasons that we could not go on with UCI.. Actually they do not understand the difference between Cycle races (all kind of races like Road, MTB and BMX) and Competition of Biketrial. Race is racing to be the first to goal than the other riders and do not want to help any other competitors.

But Biketrial competition is a sport to challenge to difficulties in the nature one by one and when somebody fell down, the other (competitors, observers and spectators) can help the rider. This is a big difference. And when somebody made clean the section, not only spectators but also the other competitors give a big hand for the nice riding. I usually see this. It is a very friendly sport. Have you ever seen the same thing in the other cycle sports? That is why they cannot mix Biketrial and the other cycle races together.

A sport like Biketrial, with balance and technique, riders should begin in young age than racing cycle sports. There is a good sample here. In the USA, they changed their system to UCI after 1997 (we made WBC in Lake Tahoe in 1997), What happened is a competition last year, 100 spectators came to watch the event but the riders were only 3 there. They have lost many kids and now only some old riders and just some good riders were left. It almost dead. We have to start our sport again in the USA. I think the situation is something similar to Italy. When the 1990 WBC was held in Milan by a Moto club (I took part this competition in Senior class), there were a lot of kids riders there. But after Italian Cycling Federation took it, the situation was changed completely and our sport declined very fast.

At last, we should think about difference between race and competition. Race is dangerous because riders go over the limit sometimes to win. And supporters push their riders to do so by heat. This is a reason to commit doping too in many cycle races. Biketrial is a competition do not go over the limit especially to win. Everything must be under the control of riders and supporters. If you know this sport well, you will understand what I mean. We have the rules to control difficulty and risk of sections (height of jumping, section check system by juries and etc.). We never had problem since 1982 (started the first international event in Europe by Mr. Pere Pi).

Kids are very important for a new sport like us for the future. „No kids, no future“. If the problem is only insurance matter for kids, you can find the solution like the other countries. Many countries doing international competitions of Biketrial (Czech, France, Germany, Japan, Singapore, Slovak, Spain, UK, USA did WBC and China is the next) without problem. It is the time for Italy. There will be no problem. I hope the organizer will try their best to solve this matter and officially open the event with all categories in the rules.

Sincerely yours,  
Hiroshi Hirano