



# Blown Away @ The Teva Adventure Series Melbourne!

*Photos Courtesy of Rebecca Jennings*

In a day that involved mountain biking, trekking, orienteering, a mountain bike skills course, the Tarzan rope swing, tunnels & ropes and much, much more, teams lined up to take on the challenge of the Teva Adventure Series 2007 in Melbourne, which proved to be an adventure race with a difference!



The beautiful You Yangs Regional Park, just 45 mins from Melbourne proved the ideal location for a day of mayhem and fun, and despite the windy conditions of the day, over 150 brave souls lined up for a day of adventure in the outdoors!

The Teva Adventure Series is an event with a difference. Participants find out the exact race location 5 days before the event and the course is revealed just one hour before the start. Strategy and planning play a part in the outcome as well as a team's physical fitness, mountain biking ability and navigational skills.



With basic navigation (if teams can read a street map, they can usually complete the course), and courses that provide alternative route options depending on your skills and abilities, The Teva Adventure Series is perfect for beginners to come along and try their hand at one of Australia's fastest growing

sports, while still keeping the more experienced and competitive teams competing right up until the final checkpoint.

With only one hour to plan, Race HQ fell eerily quiet as most teams, planned, strategised and set their plans for the day, while others chose to chill out and take things as they came!

As always with the Teva Adventure Series, teams should assume nothing and expect anything, and the race brief offered a few clues (for teams that were switched on) to help teams along the way.

The race started with the first twist of the day as teams were confronted with the mayhem of 'Teva Turbo'. The strategy teams chose in this opening

challenge could have a big influence on the race throughout the day. Some strategised well and worked together to make gains later in the race, while others went for the fast start and headed straight out on the course.

Check Point 1 provided the first surprise as teams trekked their way to the top of Big Rock, one of the many picturesque view points that the beautiful You Yangs Regional Park has to offer. And many teams took on the first Teva Fun One Challenge, identifying local land marks and even showing their skills with a compass!



Back on the bike, the Western Plantation provided a diverse combination of open trails and some beautifully fast single track including some ramps and bridges just to add to the fun.



At check point 7, it was time to get just a bit wet in the middle of the dam, and many teams even braved the water to decipher the Camelbak clue on the pool noodles and gain even more entries into the Teva Fun One!

With more single track riding, and check points to uncover, teams hit their first

Transition Area and took on the fun of 'Ride It & Hump it', and the Teva 'GO DO BE' Challenge, where teams took on some very different roles to complete this unique test.

On the Mountain Bike leg teams arrived at TA 19 and were confronted with a few surprises, which they weren't expecting. They took on the Mountain Designs 'Gear for Places You'd Rather Be' challenge, the mental test of 'Happy Campers' and Chose their own adventure with Men's Health.



It was back to HQ after these legs where teams flew, crawled, slid, flung, aimed, scored, targeted, sung, performed and laughed their way through 'Tarzan's Rock Ball' and 'Pop Corn or Pop Stars'.

The final leg started with competitors taking on 'Flinders Frolic' with a trek to the top of You Yangs highest peak travelled by Mathew Flinders in 1802. For those who were on the ball, the view to the Bunjil Eagle rock sculpture below also held the clues to the secret 'Dash 4 the Stash' location on the way.



After the highlight of Flinders Peak it was off on the orienteering leg. And like everything at the Teva Adventure Series, you can always expect a new twist, and something a bit different from your usual adventure races.

Teams strategised well to find the best route for their skills and abilities and some teams even chose to take on the Teva Powerplay and gained themselves a bucket load of extra entries into the Teva Fun One Draw.



Then, it was time to head for the finish line back at HQ, and although every team looked like winners as they crossed the finish line, the teams to

make it there before the rest were....

### **Premier Mixed**

**1<sup>st</sup> adventuregear.com.au**

Sam Maffett, Gill Hilton, Ben Patrick

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mountain Designs**

*Motto: Go fast to get the first sausage!*

Britt Caling, Gary Sutherland, Andrew Pike

**3<sup>rd</sup> Keen Footwear Peak Adventure**

Jarad Kohlar, Kim Willocks, David Provan

### **Male**

**1<sup>st</sup> 3X0**

Dion Keech, Paul Liggins, Jim Russel

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team Kathmandu**

*Motto: Live the Dream*

Matt Tait, Steve McKay, Geoff Millar

**3<sup>rd</sup> Megatron**

*Motto: Everything is Fodder*

Ben Anderson, Cameron James, Ed Steenbergen

### **Female**

**1<sup>st</sup> Zij**

Ilka Barr, Jasmine Neve, Zoe Radford

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team KNB**

Kate Reeves, Belina Crebbin, Nicole McLaughlin

**3<sup>rd</sup> Real Not Fake**

*Motto: Victory or Bust!*

Cristy Mace, Samantha Dell, Emma Johansson

And after the winners were announced it was time for the **Teva Fun One Draw**. The Teva Fun One offers teams at the 'Let's Have Fun' end of the field the opportunity to choose to take on some extra challenges throughout the event to gain extra entries into a fantastic prize draw.



Prizes are awarded to all 3 team members and include Mountain Designs AR Starter packs valued at over \$360, Camelbak Hydration Packs, High 5 Nutrition Packs, Teva Footwear, Continental Tyre & Rudy Project Gift Packs, Mountain Designs Gift Vouchers, Men's Health Gift Packs, Race Elements Training Vouchers and Much More.

In Melbourne it was great to see that teams not only know how to compete hard, they also know how to have fun along the way, and we saw an absolute bucket load of entries in the 'Teva Fun One' Entry box!



We would like to thank the teams in Melbourne for making Teva 2007, such a great day. Despite the wind and the weather, all the teams

crossed the finish line with a huge smile on their face, and a unique story to tell and some fantastic feedback! We look forward to Teva 2008, in a new and exciting event location for Melbourne, so stay tuned for that one!

If you fancy a day of adventure at the Teva Adventure Series, the next event will take place in:

**Brisbane: 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2007**

**NSW: 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2007 (Nowra Region)**

To find out more catch up with the team @:

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