

Trail Building Workshop and Mountain Bike Practice Loops at Tai Lam Country Park

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), in partnership with Hong Kong Cycling Association (HKCA), offered a mountain bike trail building workshop in early May 2011. The workshop was conducted by trail specialists from International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA), Mr. Tony Boone from USA and Mr. H.M. LIM from Singapore.

The workshop was targeted for participants from local mountain biking communities (including HKCA and Hong Kong Mountain Bike Association (HKMBA)) including both an indoor training/theory session on sustainable trail building principles in the evening of 4th May and three trail-building days on 7th, 8th and 10th May. Over 40 participants took part in the indoor training. During the trail-building's days, more than a dozen participants turned out every day and put the sustainable trail building techniques in practice at Tai Lam Country Park.

With a concerted effort of both participants and AFCD staff, a new mountain bike facility was established at the trailhead of Ho Pui Section Mountain Bike Trail. The new facility consists of a 200-m Green Practice Loop (for beginners) and a 200-m Blue Escape Route (for riders of intermediate skill level). The purpose-built mountain bike practice loops have adopted IMBA standard of sustainable trails.

The new mountain bike facility provides an excellent opportunity for visitors to experience mountain biking and have a better estimate of one's skill level before access to the mountain bike trail system at Tai Lam Country Park. Visitors with mountain bike permit issued by AFCD* are welcomed to try out on the practice loops, and suggestions or comments on the trails are appreciated.

*Notes/Link: Please apply for a [mountain bike permit](#) for the use of the mountain bike trails/sites in country parks.

AFCD Trail Building Workshop

Indoor training (4th May, 2011)

1. Workshop instructors: IMBA Trail specialists Tony BOONE (right) and H.M. LIM.



2. Volunteers focus on the principles of sustainable trail building



3. Learning safety of handling tools first



4. A sustainable trail taking shape





5. The participants – putting sustainable trails building techniques in practice





6. Mountain Bike Practice Loop

