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Crime

Teenage cyclist killed in Cairns collision



Luke Azzopardi. Image: Cairns Cycling Club.

The 19-year-old cyclist who died yesterday afternoon has been identified.

Police believe Gordonvale man Luke Azzopardi was travelling down Lake Morris Road, Kanimbla, at around 6.10pm when a collision occurred with a car travelling in the opposite direction.

Mr Azzopardi was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The driver of the car, a 19-year-old Edmonton woman, was not physically injured.

Investigations by the Forensic Crash Unit are continuing.

Mr Azzopardi's family and the Cairns Cycling Club are mourning the sudden loss of the popular and talented cyclist.

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Cairns Cycling Club President James Mort wrote his condolences on behalf of the club this afternoon.

“To everybody hurting, our thoughts are with you,” he said.

“Luke Azzopardi remains as one of the bright lights of our beloved club.”

“Luke’s achievements in this sport speak volumes with so much success despite his youthful age.

“Luke became a state junior champion of road racing and accomplished endurance rider.

“His love and passion of the sport is well known in all cycling circles.

“The club has received condolences from the Chair of AusCycling, the head of Queensland Cycling and regional clubs around the country.

“Luke availed himself to the junior ranks of our club.

“His dedication was tireless and selfless, he never sought nor wanted recognition for his deeds in sharing his passion for the sport, his love radiated through the club and inspired junior riders to enjoy just riding a bike.

“Luke’s selflessness is a trademark of his personality, he quietly went about his training with his many mates in a quiet and unassuming way, his demeanour was the same in victory and defeat, his smile shone through.

“The Cairns Cycling Club belongs to Luke and his family just as much as Luke and his family belong to the Cairns Cycling Club.”

“To Luke and your family, you are one of the best, we share your grief, you will never be forgotten, your light will remain shining for all to follow.

“Vale Luke Azzopardi, may you always ride with a tailwind.”

A memorial ride will take place this Sunday morning for AusCycling and Cairns Cycling Club members.




Luke was a dedicated member of Cairns Cycling Club. Image: Madi McDonald

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