

BYROM-DAVEY AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT RENTALS DONATE EQUIPMENT AND RESOURCES TO UPDATE KEARNY MOTO PARK



By: Brian Hoover

It is said that BMX racing was started by a group of adolescences' back in the early 70's . The story goes that these Southern California kids took their 20" Schwinn Stingray bicycles, modified them and then began racing each other on an abandoned dirt lot. These were most likely not the first kids to do such a thing. It is probably more accurate that boys and girls from all over the U.S. and the world were practicing some version of this sport wherever a bicycle could be found. It was California, however, that first recorded these ventures on film, which spread the new sport like wildfire. Originally called Bicycle Motocross, the sport captivated the

bodies and minds of many young boys and girls across America and was eventually shortened to the much cooler acronym, BMX. Today young riders maneuver their specially designed bikes over jumps, banked corners and other obstacles in sanctioned events that can get very competitive. Although created by kids, the sport is now enjoyed by all ages at all sorts of skill levels and today there are BMX parks in just about every major city.

Kearny Moto Park is one such park and is located in Kearney Mesa California (San Diego). Their approximately 1,000 foot long dirt track has been heavily used over its 30-year history and it had been 8-years since it had a facelift. Paul

Pankow Jr. was introduced to BMX racing around three years ago when his son, Kaden took up the sport in earnest. Paul and his son were spending two to three days a week at Kearny Moto Park and eventually the bug hit Paul Jr. and he began racing at the adult levels. Paul Pankow Jr. also works as an operator for Byrom-Davey, a Southern California based company that specializes in the construction of synthetic turf fields, all weather tracks and complete stadium facilities. Paul Jr. could see that their track was in need of a little TLC and he was very excited to learn that Vince McCurdy (who runs Kearny Moto Park) received a commitment from Lance Maguire (who builds





Above L - R: Ron Neidhardt, Kearny Moto Park, Ryan Baum, Kearny Moto Park, Lance Maguire (cab), ABA, Jacob McCurdy, Kearny Moto Park, Vincent McCurdy, Kearny Moto Park and Paul Pankow Sr., Byrom-Davey. Below: Lance Maguire of ABA operating the Hyundai wheel loader donated by Heavy Equipment Rentals. Below Right: Ron Neidhardt of Kearny Moto Park operates the Cat compaction roller.

loader, track skid steer, a roller and a mini excavator. To our pleasant surprise, he even volunteered to deliver them to the site. With the help Heavy Equipment Rentals, we were now armed and ready to perform a first class rehabilitation for the boys and girls at Kearny Moto Park."

Basically a BMX track is a smaller version of what a motorcycle track would look like with berms, banked turns, whoops, jumps and straight-aways. Over the duration of approximately one week, Paul Pankow Jr., now armed with the necessary heavy equipment, would not only rebuilt the existing berms, but would also change the configuration of the entire track. Lance Maguire of the American Bicycle Association, along with the help of Paul Pankow Jr., designed and added more jumps and what they call rollers or whoops to basically change it up from what it had been for the past eight years. They had enough dirt stockpiled on site and by reworking the existing fill material they were able to complete the job without having to import any additional dirt. In addition to the heavy machinery work, quite a bit of handwork and grooming was

tracks for the ABA) to come down from Oregon and help rebuild the Kearny Moto Park track. Paul Pankow Sr. explains, "As soon as my son let me know of the proposed plan, I made a few phone calls, one

of which was to Kent Porter at Heavy Equipment Rentals to see if he would be willing to donate some heavy machinery to this worthy cause. Kent and the folks at HER generously agreed to donate a wheel



necessary to achieve the exact grade and angles for the banks and slopes. The rebuild included a brand new triple jump, four straight-aways and the rehabilitation of all the berms back to their original height. Paul Pankow Jr. and Byrom Davey, Inc. also took the time to replace the small antiquated drainage system with larger pipe to help keep the track dry at all times.

The boys and girls as well as the adults at the Kearny Moto Park now have a brand new and more challenging track thanks to the efforts of individuals like Paul Pankow Jr. of Byrom-Davey, Inc., Kent Porter of Heavy Equipment Rentals and Lance Maguire of the American Bicycle Association. Call it a donation or a kind gesture, but I am sure that Paul Jr.'s son, Kaden would call it.....awesome!

For more information of the Kearny Moto Park, please visit them online at kearnybmj.com or call (619) 561-3824. Over the past 10 years, Byrom-Davey has completed 194 synthetic turf fields and all-weather tracks and they are considered the leader in the sports track and stadium build industry.

For more information on Byrom-Davey, Inc., please visit them at Byrom-Davey.com or call (858) 513-7199.



Top: Kaden Pankow gets ready for a race.

Above: Paul Pankow Jr. and his son Kaden Pankow.

Below: Jacob McCurdy uses a Cat 257B to shape the banks and slopes at Kearny Moto Park.

