



CANBERRA OFF-ROAD CYCLISTS

MEDIA RELEASE

3 September 2011



Canberra Off-Road Cyclists (CORC), Australia's largest mountain bike club and the club which started 24 hour mountain bike racing in Australia, has ended its relationship with twenty4sports (24 Hours of Adrenalin) and will be exploring new ways for the world's best 24 hour mountain bike riders to have a predictable and reliable means of testing themselves against each other at the highest level.

CORC began its relationship with 24 Hours of Adrenalin in 2004 and since that time has supported the best Australian 24 hour riders each year in their efforts on the world stage. Along the way, numerous Australian riders have achieved age-group titles and Elite podiums, including the 4 Australians who have been crowned as 24 Hours of Adrenalin World Solo 24 Hour Elite Mountain Bike Champions.

2006	Craig Gordon
2008	James Williamson
2009	Jason English
2010	Jason English and Jess Douglas

In 2010 CORC staged the 24 Hours of Adrenalin World Solo 24 Hour Mountain Bike Championships in Canberra at Stromlo Forest Park. Widely regarded as the best world solo 24 hour championships ever, this was the first time the event had been held outside of North America and it was a great success, with 411 riders from 16 countries entered – over twice the size of the previous biggest world championships and nearly 4 times the size of the 2009 world championships.

However, with no world championships in 2011 and the yet-to-be-announced venue for North America in 2012, many riders are uncertain about the future of 24 hour solo racing at world level. CORC President Steve Hanley said, *'Ultimately, this is about two things: the future of the sport and looking after the riders. To assure the future of Solo 24 Hour Mountain Bike racing at world level, the riders need to be confident that a worthwhile and planned series of world-wide competitions will happen and they need to know in sufficient time to prepare themselves for this arduous sport. CORC feels that it needs to take a new direction in order to achieve this and we have taken steps to ensure the continuation of competition at this level.'*

A confirmed long-term schedule will be announced by a new consortium of events shortly for a new world solo 24 hour mountain bike competition. To allow riders to plan for the next 3 years, this will be:

2012	May 19 & 20	Finale Ligure, Italy
2013	October 12 & 13	Canberra, Australia
2014	October 11 & 12	Fort William, Scotland

A new website will be launched shortly. In the meantime, riders for 2012 should apply to the Finale Ligure event site, contact details below. Finale Ligure will deliver a week-long mountain biking festival, with the World 24Hr Championships on the first weekend, a week of mountain bike fun, and a team 24 hour the next weekend. Do one – Do both!

CORC will continue to stage the club's Solo-Only 24 hour race each Easter and the club's flagship event, the Scott Australian 24 Hour Mountain Bike Championships will continue to occupy the second weekend in October on the calendar. The largest mountain bike event of its type in the world, The Scott has become something of an annual pilgrimage for Australian mountain bikers.

The Scott Australian 24 Hour Mountain Bike Championships will be the event that CORC uses as the Australian leg of a new world level competition, and 2013, the centenary of the city of Canberra and the 10th anniversary of the bushfires from which Stromlo Forest Park arose, has been identified as the next world mountain bike championships to be held in Australia.

The 2011 Scott 24 Hour is already filling fast and CORC have offered a free supported entry to any non-Australian resident solo rider who competed at Stromlo in the 2010 24 Hours of Adrenalin World Solo 24 Hour Mountain Bike Championships.

Clubs and Event Promoters who might wish for their events to become involved in this new worldwide model for world championships Solo 24 Hour racing should initially contact Canberra Off-Road Cyclists at corc@corc.asn.au

CORC Contacts:

President	Steve Hanley	+61 414 534 434	president@corc.asn.au
Vice President	Sarah O'Callaghan	+61 417 665 561	vp1@corc.asn.au

3 Year Future Event Contacts:

2012	Finale Ligure, Italy 24 Hrs of Finale Ligure 19 & 20 May	http://www.24hfinale.com	riccardo@24hfinale.com
2013	Canberra, Australia Scott 24 Hr 12 & 13 October	http://www.corc.asn.au Canberra Off-Road Cyclists	timing@corc.asn.au
2014	Fort William, Scotland Relentless 24 Hr 11 & 12 October	http://www.nofussevents.co.uk No Fuss Events	info@nofussevents.co.uk