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Dave Rayner Fund Celebrates 20th Year

A host of starts of cycling, riders, fans and friends were in Leeds on the 8th November 2014 to mark the achievements of the Dave Rayner Fund over two decades. The 2014 UCI Women's World Cup Champion, Lizzie Armitstead was joined by David Millar, and Russ & Dean Downing in a night of celebration. Dave Rayner began his career as a cyclist, like many racing in the UK and

demonstrating his talent on the domestic racing scene, taking the 1984 National Junior Road Race championship. Dave took the tough choice back then to go race aboard in Italy. His career soared peaking with a two year spell with the Pro team 'Buckler' of the early 90's managed by the infamous Jan Rass.

After his tragic death, the cycling

community wanted to support his memory by giving other young riders the chance to follow in his path and since then over £600,000 in grants have been given to young riders to enable them to race abroad. They have included David Millar, one of the very first recipients, through to more recent champions like Adam Yates.

www.daveraynerfund.co.uk



SUPERSTARS RETURN TO MANCHESTER FOR UCI BMX SUPERCROSS WORLD CUP



TICKETS ANNOUNCED FOR NEW WEEKEND FORMAT

British Cycling, in partnership with Manchester City Council and UK Sport, has announced that tickets for the UCI BMX Supercross World Cup went on general sale on the 11th November 2014.

The event, which last year saw the finals unfold in front of a sold-out arena, is expected to attract record crowds when it returns to Manchester this April 2015.

Such is the anticipated demand from fans that this year's event will be staged on the evening of Saturday 18 and afternoon of Sunday 19 to accommodate the increasing number of families and BMX enthusiasts keen to attend from outside the region.

Previous years have seen the event staged on a Friday and Saturday night.

Activity commences from 4pm on Saturday April 18 when doors to the world-class BMX centre will open to adrenalin fuelled crowds looking to watch riders jostle to qualify for Sunday's finals in three rounds of motos. The top ranked 16 men and 8 women will then race the clock in the Time Trials Superfinals.

Activity resumes from 2pm on Sunday April 19 when the doors re-open to what promises to be an action packed final. Attendees will see the world's top 64 men and 32 women race from the eight man gate,

elbow to elbow through the rounds to claim victory in Manchester. An autograph session will open both days of the competition, offering fans the chance to meet with some of the best athletes in the sport.

Speaking on the ticket announcement and new event format, Jonny Clay, British Cycling's cycle sport and membership director, said: "The UCI BMX Supercross World Cup attracts a strong family audience. In moving the event to a Saturday and Sunday we hope to better accommodate their needs and provide fans from across the UK with the opportunity to watch the best BMX riders on the planet compete in Manchester.

"Following what has been an impressive year for the Great Britain BMX team, we're expecting a strong response to tomorrow's ticket release. We encourage fans wanting to secure their place and be a part of the UCI BMX Supercross World Cup action to get their tickets early."

The Manchester spectacle is the opening event in a five-stop global series which will also see rounds held in Papendal (Netherlands), Engelholm (Sweden), Santiago del Estero (Argentina) and Rock Hill, South Carolina (USA). It is the third time the city and world-renowned BMX venue will play host to the international event having staged successful events in 2013 and 2014.

VIRGIN MONEY CYCLONE ANNOUNCES NEW FORMAT FOR 2015 REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

One of the UK's most respected and established cycling events, The Virgin Money Cyclone Festival of Cycling, has announced a new format for 2015.

The event, which has previously been run over four days, will next year revert to its original three day format and takes place from June 19 - 21.

The decision to condense the festival into three days has been made by event founder and organiser Peter Harrison who said: "Running the event over a long weekend will mean an even better quality programme with a greater family festival feel."

The Tyne 6 Bridges Leisure Rides mark the opening of the new-look Virgin Money Cyclone on Friday June 19 and sees friends and families of all riding capabilities invited to participate in the 10.5 mile and 15.5 mile rides.

Adding to the evening's activities will be a new and exciting sprint competition to run along the banks of the Tyne as well as a series of British Cycling run skills tests for younger riders. A selection of food stalls and entertainment will contribute to the festival atmosphere.

Cyclone Challenge rides return on Saturday June 20 with three revised routes and distances presenting an even better riding experience and avoiding the risk of a bottleneck in Ponteland on the outward route.

Distances include a 34 mile, 64 mile and 106 mile ride, each departing Newcastle Falcons' Kingston Park homeground and taking in some of the North East's most stunning scenery. Feed stations, technical



support crew and motorcycle escorts will again be a fixture for 2015, with St John Ambulance volunteers across each route to support a safe event.

Cyclists can track their progress with professional rider timing and photography by Marathon-Photos.com.

On Sunday June 21 it's the turn of the elite riders with the Curlew Cup National Series Women's race returning to the village of Stamfordham at 9am. The hotly contested Beaumont Trophy Men's Race follows at 1.15pm, with spectators invited to watch the action unfold as the professionals tackle Northumberland's famed Ryals climb. The Leazes Criteriums have been dropped for 2015 in response to Pro teams facing heavy criterium programmes in June, with teams opting instead to use Sunday's Curlew Cup and Beaumont Trophy endurance events in preparation for the National Road Championships the following week.

Virgin Money Cyclone founder and organiser, Peter Hwarrison, said of the new

format: "Gearing the festival towards three key days in 2015 will make the Cyclone even more accessible to those wanting to ride it, as well as for those coming along to spectate and enjoy the full festival experience. We're packing all the atmosphere into a long weekend event and asking riders to get in and register early to secure a place."

Virgin Money head of sponsorship marketing, Andrew Nicholson, said: "Virgin Money Cyclone is a standout cycling festival for the North. The new format has been designed with community in mind and it will be great to see both the professionals and those just starting out cycling up a storm."

Entries for the Virgin Money Cyclone Festival of Cycling's Friday and Saturday rides are now open. Interested riders are encouraged to enter early.

For full event information and to register, visit www.virginmoneycyclone.co.uk

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