



PRESS RELEASE. Derby, Tasmania, Australia

QUEENS STAGE RACE ON SATURDAY TO KICK OFF ENDURO WORLD SERIES IN DERBY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The town of Derby will come alive on Saturday afternoon with the racing of the Queens Stage, which will be stage 1 of the Enduro World Series round in Derby. The Queens stage will be race between 3:30pm-5pm. Stage 1 will be on the new trails, Kumma Gutza and Air Ya Garn, which will be great for the spectators especially with the Vertigo MTB and Little Rivers Brewing Co. spectator live sites.

The aim of the Queen stage is to provide a target for riders who need extra series points, and to provide spectators some exciting racing for Saturday afternoon. Expect some hard fought Queen Stage victories this season. The Queens stage will see racers have the opportunity to be awarded bonus Enduro World Series (EWS) points.

Around 400 competitors representing more than 30 different nationalities will compete on Blue Derby's increasingly iconic trails this weekend, and joining them will be the thousands of fans who will flock to the area to cheer them on. When the series visited in 2017, even torrential rain couldn't dampen the party atmosphere as every trail was lined with spectators to cheer on some of the biggest names in cycling.

And it's not just elite riders who'll be lining up on the start line, this year for the first time there will be a women's only rider called **Fox on Rocks – Funduro**. The Funduro, is just that, having fun while riding the enduro format. It is staged within a relaxed environment for women, of any rider level, to come and participate on some of the blue and green trails. All women riders will receive a free shuttle included in their entry. Saturday will also see the EWS80 race for amateur riders. EWS80 is eighty percent of the full EWS course and allows riders the opportunity to experience a high level enduro without committing to the grueling full 40km course.

Things will really go up a gear when the pros hit the trail on Sunday, as they take on 6 stages and battle it out for the podium. In the women's category Tasmania's very own Rowena Fry could give 2017's winner Isabeau Courdurier of France a run for her money, but she also faces stiff competition from Scotland's Katy Winton and Germany's Ines Thoma.

It's another Aussie who's the hot favourite in the men's competition too - two times World Champion Sam Hill. Hailing from Perth, the reigning champion is one of the most famous mountain bikers of all time, with numerous downhill world cups and championship titles to his name. His main competition comes from young Belgian rider Martin Maes and France's Adrien Dailly who took his first EWS win in Derby two years ago.

Competitors will arrive straight the first race of the year in New Zealand last weekend, and to welcome them Derby and local organisers EMS Enduro have organised a full week of events. From trivia nights and kids races to yoga on the beach, the town will be buzzing with activities to ensure everyone can get involved in the fun.

Chris Ball, Enduro World Series Director, said: "People are still talking about the 2017 Derby race now - the way the community embraced the event and the calibre of its trails was apparent to everyone who was there. The riders loved it - even voting the 'Detonate' track as the Specialized Trail of the Year.

"There was no doubt in my mind that we had to come back here; the facilities, the trails and the local community offer something truly unique and we look forward to another incredible race this weekend."

Festival Event Schedule

What is happening over the Shimano Enduro Tasmania Festival weekend in Derby?

Friday 29 March

9.00 – 12.00	Practice
12.30 – 16.00	Practice
16.30	Kids' ride and skills session
PM	Tunes by Jade's Band
18.30	Riders' Briefing
19.00	XTR'ivia Night

Saturday 30 March

9.00 – 12.00	Fox on Rocks – Women's Funduro
12.00 – 15.30	EWS80 – Enter now
15.30 – 16.30	EWS & EWS100 Stage 1 – Queens Stage
17.00	EWS80 Presentations
17.30	Pete Cornelious Band

Sunday 31 March

AM	EWS & EWS100 official race
17.30	Official Presentations
18.15	Shimano Enduro Tasmania after party

For additional information visit www.enduroworldseries.com



Photo credit and Video Credit: [Enduro World Series](#)

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