

News Release

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HIGHLAND FLING MOUNTAIN BIKE MARATHON SELLS OUT IN 5 HOURS

Wild Horizons, organisers of The Highland Fling MTB marathon, opened entries for the event at 6am on Thursday 9 July and closed them 5 hours later with all 1500 places booked and with 2000+ people still online hoping to enter. This is a record for any mountain bike event in Australia.

The Highland Fling, to be held on 7-8 November 2009, starts and finishes in the small town of Bundanoon in the Southern Highlands of NSW.

The Fling, which doubles as the Australian Mountain Bike Marathon Championship, is the largest sporting event in the district and 2 years ago was the first cycling event in Australia to go Carbon Neutral. It winds a route through farmland, forest and villages and includes the Full Fling (110km), Half Fling (55km), 100Mile Fling (160km) and Casual Fling (15km)

Event Director Huw Kingston, said of the sellout, 'All in all it has been a big week for Bundanoon. We knew the event would sell out quickly; given it took 2 weeks in 2008, so we thought perhaps a week this year. When we first tried to open entries at 4pm on the 1 July, the demand crashed our web server. When we tried again a week later, the server was better prepared but we were still taken aback by the speed the event sold out. It certainly shows the regard in which the event is held and the growing interest in cycling in general. We're sorry for those who did not get in this time, particularly those who had already booked flights, accommodation etc for the weekend. As always the Bundanoon community looks forward to welcoming the mountain bike community to town for the weekend'

Major sponsors of the 2009 Highland Fling include Ay Up, Ground Effect, Tertini Wines, GU Sports, Maxxis, Forests NSW and Mountain Biking Australia magazine.

For further details on this or other of our events see www.wildhorizons.com.au or contact Huw Kingston on huw@wildhorizons.com.au, Tel 0418 977609.

Thanks for your interest!

Ends

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