



**A statement from the organisers of the Alpine Cycling Club Gravity Enduro
(Round 2 – Victorian Gravity Enduro Series)**

Statement Date – February 4, 2021

It was with great excitement that we opened registrations last night for Round Two of the Victorian Gravity Enduro Series. As expected, the event proved to be very popular, selling out within 20 hours of registrations opening.

We are so excited to have such a large contingent of riders descending on Bright for this event and we can't wait to see them on the trails of Mystic Park on March 27 and 28.

Unfortunately, when an event sells out, there are many others who miss out on the opportunity to participate.

We completely understand that this is frustrating and disappointing for those riders. It is also disappointing for event organisers, as we would love to be able to cater for everyone.

Rider numbers for this event were capped for a number of reasons which will be outlined below. As result of reaching our rider cap, we have set up a waitlist system where riders can choose to leave their details and may be contacted should any available entries come about. It is worth noting, however that, like event entries, places on this waitlist are also very popular and many riders have already registered their interest. To register for the waitlist, follow this link - <https://forms.gle/QXtZfDP7idbehpNn9>

In the hours since the event sold out, we have received many requests for entries from riders who were not able to register. With this statement, we hope to clarify the situation and also explain the reasons behind the requirement to cap entries.

Event planning during a global pandemic is extremely difficult. We've all heard it many times before but we are living in unprecedented times and face challenges on a daily basis, including ever-changing COVID restrictions (even as recently as today!)

For events, this means following Government restrictions, including reducing the number of participants, avoiding large gatherings, increased sanitization measures, and an overall need for organisers to ensure the safety of all who attend the event, including riders, spectators, officials, and volunteers.

It is for these reasons that we were required to cap rider entries for the Bright event.

It is also for these reasons that we are not able to increase the rider cap and accept more entries. Additional riders would also lead to increased wait times at all stages and larger gatherings. And these two things cannot occur in these times.

The rider cap was communicated to riders in multiple social media posts across all our channels, including the event website, prior to registrations opening. Organisers also publicised the scheduled opening time for registrations in advance, and highlighted the need for riders to register early.

We understand there is some frustration for riders who entered Round One of the Series and did not register in time for Round 2. Riders are encouraged to take note of the Series Rules, which stipulate that:

- *Riders must complete 2 races in the 2020 – 2021 Victorian Enduro Tour in order to generate a category series result.*
- *Riders completing 4 races or more may drop their worst result(s), so only your best 3 race results count towards your overall result at the end of the Series.*

SOURCE: <https://victorianendurotour.wordpress.com/rules/>

Nonetheless, the speed at which the event sold out surprised even event organisers and, no doubt, many riders.

This is a clear indication of the popularity of the sport at the moment, and we are thrilled to see Gravity Enduro racing in Victoria looking so strong.

Many riders believe there should be more GE races in the calendar and this is an idea we support. However, it's worth remembering that events such as these only happen due to the hard work and dedication of a limited number of volunteers who are passionate about the sport and who give up significant periods of time to ensure the safe and successful running of the events.

With so many riders interested in Gravity Enduro in Victoria, it's a great opportunity for them to consider how they could give back to the sport by volunteering at one of the upcoming events.