



MEDIA RELEASE | 24 April 2017

Painting a bright future for Tasmanian cyclists

Australia's most trusted brands have come together to ensure a bright future for the next generation of Tasmanian road cyclists through the Tasmanian Institute of Sport (TIS) Racing Team.

Speaking at the team's official launch, Head Cycling Coach Matthew Gilmore congratulated the athletes who had worked hard to earn their place in the team.

He also thanked the sponsors that made it possible to field a men's and women's team for the National Road Series for the first time in many years.

"These athletes have demonstrated the potential and work ethic to develop into international competitors and have been selected on this basis," he said.

"We stress that the role of the team is as a launching pad – so we can expect big things from this group in the future."

With renewing support from major partners Dulux, Giant Bicycles Australia and women's brand LIV, the team has strong foundations for this year's National Road Series competition. In addition, the TIS Racing Team has welcomed Spirit of Tasmania and Petuna – two new partners and two iconic Tasmanian brands.

Gilmore said he was pleased that Dulux and Giant had continued their support of the program in Tasmania.

"These two companies took a leap of faith with us several years ago and we look forward to continuing our work with them to demonstrate the potential of investing in young careers," he said.

Dulux National Corporate Sales Manager, Tim Jamieson, said Dulux was delighted to continue as the major partner of the TIS Racing Team in 2017 and 2018.

"Like the TIS Racing Team, Dulux believes in identifying and developing talent and professionalism in all layers of our business. The TIS provides the structures, pathways and leadership to propel the careers of young athletes and we are proud to be part of that journey and mirror it in our own company."





For Giant Managing Director, Darren Rutherford, working with a development team is an important part of Giant's reach into the community and the grass roots of cycling.

'We are proud to support the TIS Racing Team and have been impressed by the attitude of the athletes, their participation in club and community cycling and willingness to bring the next generation of riders up behind them. That's what the sport is about and that's the culture that Giant and Liv wants to help foster.'

A keen cyclist himself, Spirit of Tasmania CEO Bernard Dwyer said Spirit of Tasmania was pleased to support the team and help make it possible for young athletes to compete against the best in Australia.

"The partnership also allows us show Tasmania off as a destination for travellers and cyclists," he said.

"Tasmania is the perfect destination for cycling tourism. Spirit of Tasmania is very pleased to put its name to supporting young Tasmanians achieving excellence in their sport while also promoting Tasmania for the benefit of the tourism sector and the broader economy."

The support of Petuna, one of Tasmania's leading aquaculture enterprises and a family-owned business with a strong commitment to its community, cemented the opportunity for the TIS Women's Racing Team to compete in 2017.

Jon Bailey, General Manager Aquaculture, said there was a strong alignment of values with the TIS Racing Team.

'Petuna is delighted to support the professional development of Tasmanian athletes, particularly the talented young women from the north west of Tasmania,' he said.

"Like Petuna, it is a pleasure to see them giving so much back to the communities in which they live."

Also attending the launch was Liberal Member for Bass Sarah Courtney who spoke about Tasmania's cycling legacy and the importance of the sport to Tasmanians and to the tourism industry. Ms Courtney thanked Dulux, Giant, Spirit of Tasmania and Petuna for supporting the state's athletes.

The team will be captained by Harrison Musgrave of Launceston and Macey Stewart, triple junior world champion from Devonport.



The men and women of the TIS Racing Team will commence their season with the Victorian Tour of the South West on 6-7 May.

The TIS Women's Racing Team and Under 19 Men will then play host to visiting teams at the Mersey Valley Tour, 12-14 May.

[PHOTOS SUPPLIED]

TIS WOMEN'S RACING TEAM

- Macey Stewart (C)
- Belamie Flint (VC)
- Renee Dykstra
- Madeleine Fasnacht
- Morgan Gillon
- Anya Louw

TIS MEN'S RACING TEAM

- Harrison Musgrave (C)
- Michael Astell (VC)
- Josh Duffy
- Zack Gilmore
- Ainsleigh Gray
- Zac Johnson
- Jacob Langham
- Jake Oliver

COACHING STAFF

- Matthew Gilmore, *Head Cycling Coach, National Track Endurance Coach*
- David Walker, *Emerging Talent Squad Coach (NW)*
- James Watson, *Emerging Talent Squad Coach (South)*

For further information, please visit our web site

www.tisracing.com.au

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