



News Release
July 23, 2017

Contact:
Katie Quinn, Communications Manager
City of Rock Hill, SC
katie.quinn@cityofrockhill.com
Office: 803-326-3791 | Mobile: 803-448-9745

2017 UCI BMX World Championships Underway in Rock Hill, SC

The 2017 UCI BMX World Championships kicked off Saturday night with Opening Ceremonies at Fountain Park, including welcomes by City of Rock Hill Mayor Doug Echols, Governor Henry McMaster and Senator Tim Scott, food trucks and live music. Racing gets underway at the Novant Health BMX Supercross Track in Rock Hill's Riverwalk community on Tuesday, July 25, 2017. Practice days are Sunday and Monday, July 23 and 24, with challenge racing July 25-28 and the elite championship on Saturday, July 29, 2017. Full schedule available at rockhillSCbm.com.

Second only in prominence to the Olympic Games, the World Championships feature fierce competition among world-class amateur and elite athletes. With all cyclists now registered, approximately 3,700 riders from 48 countries will compete in front of an estimated 20,000 spectators. Participants are expected to stay approximately 10 days, generating a projected direct economic impact of \$13 million.

The final day of racing on July 29 will feature the elite riders vying for the title of World Champion. Many Olympians are expected to compete, including BMX Men's 2016 Gold Medalist Connor Fields and BMX Women's 2016 Silver Medalist Alise Post, both from the US. Event officials will offer free admission on July 29 to York County, SC residents, students and their guests in gratitude of their hospitality. Fireworks will follow the awards ceremony that night to conclude the event.

A Local Organizing Committee (LOC), under the direction of the City of Rock Hill and Parks, Recreation & Tourism department staff, has filled approximately 1000 volunteer shifts with duties ranging from shuttle host, greeter, volunteer check-in, grandstand monitor and medical team assistance. Volunteers who are skilled at a second language can still register to volunteer by calling 803-329-5620.

Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), the world governing body for the sport of cycling, announced in June 2014, two months before the Novant Health BMX Supercross Track opened, that Rock Hill won the bid to host the 2017 event. Past World Championships were held in Medellin, Colombia (2016), Heusden-Zolder, Belgium (2015), Rotterdam, Netherlands (2014) and Auckland, New Zealand (2013). The event started in 1982, and was last held in the US in 2001 in Louisville, Kentucky.

For more information about the 2017 UCI BMX World Championships, visit www.rockhillSCbm.com. Also, follow and like these social media accounts for information about the 2017 BMX Worlds:

<https://twitter.com/2017BMXWorlds>

--more--

<https://www.facebook.com/2017BMXWorlds/>

<https://www.instagram.com/2017bmxworlds/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDusxWf1HpDWNrs2hZ7afng>

###

Media Accreditation for 2017 UCI BMX World Championships

UCI manages media accreditation for the competition. Media interested in covering the races can register at <http://uci.wingsmedia.it/>. Additional media information is available at <http://rockhillscbmx.com/media/>.

About the 2017 UCI BMX World Championships

The UCI BMX World Championships were last held in the USA in Louisville, KY in 2001, with the two previous World Championships in Zolder, Belgium and Medellin, Colombia. An estimated 20,000 spectators will see 3700 riders compete representing 48 countries. Event attendees will have the opportunity to witness fierce competition among world-class amateur and elite athletes, including many Olympians, at what is projected to be the largest international sporting event in South Carolina history. For information about the 2017 UCI BMX World Championships, visit www.rockhillscbmx.com.

About the Novant Health BMX Supercross Track

Modeled after the 2008 Beijing Olympic track, the Novant Health BMX Supercross Track is designed for speed with a 35-foot initial elite jump, asphalt turns for acceleration, and a breathtaking berm jump directly over the amateur track. Its unique surface delivers smooth, dust-free racing in all weather conditions, day and night. Located in the Riverwalk community of Rock Hill, SC, the track offers open practices, rider development and races throughout the year. The track is owned, operated and maintained by the City of Rock Hill Parks, Recreation & Tourism department. For a full schedule check www.novanthealthbmx.com.

About Rock Hill, South Carolina

Founded in 1852, Rock Hill, South Carolina is the largest city in York County and home to nearly 70,000 residents. Located about 20 miles south of Charlotte, NC, Rock Hill has progressed from its humble beginnings as a former textile community into a manufacturing, distribution and knowledge economy. The City of Rock Hill is known for strong planning principles and proactive infrastructure improvements. Providing quality services is at the heart of the City's 24/7/365 operations, leading to the tag line "Always on." In addition to public safety and sanitation services, the City provides reliable, safe and efficient electric, sewer and stormwater services in Rock Hill. The City is also the water supplier for the York County region. Rock Hill has established itself as a sports tourism destination, hosting the 2012 US Youth Soccer National Championships, 2017 UCI BMX World Championships, and many other local, national and international events. For more information, visit www.cityofrockhill.com.