

Promoted by -
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The field for this year's McDonald's 50th Grafton to Inverell Cycle Classic could well be the largest field ever to compete in a cycle race in Australia. A total of 536 riders have entered for seven different race categories with a further 18 starters for the Masters sportif ride.

Cycling NSW CEO Kevin Young is extremely enthused by the record entries for this year's events. Cycling is experiencing real growth with record membership and participation levels at present no doubt buoyed on by the success of Australian riders at the recent World Road Championships and Commonwealth Games. Having two world renowned professional riders in attendance, Scott Sunderland and Heinrich Haussler is an added bonus for competitors and no doubt is a major drawcard for this year's anniversary event.

Cycling NSW is ecstatic with the support from members for this year's 50th anniversary running of the McDonald's Grafton to Inverell Cycling Classic.

It is the first time that we can recall a major road classic attracting in excess of 500 participants, a milestone for our sport.

The main Grafton to Inverell event will see 456 riders depart Grafton in four divisions. Sixteen National teams have entered for this year's event which will see some of Australia's best cyclists vying for maximum National Road series points plus the record prizemoney on offer.

Our female cyclists have their strongest and biggest line up of members with 59 entered for this year's Celtic Country Classic de femme Women's event which will depart from Glenn Innes. Some of Australia's best road riders such as Kirsty Broun, Jessie McLean and Lauren Kitchen will ensure this year's extended distance women's event is tough and competitive.

Cycling NSW will this year add a new dimension to the event with every rider being timed over the 18km Gibraltar Range. Additional prizemoney is on offer for the fastest time over the range in each of the 4 divisions.

Mr. Young recognizes the economic benefit of the event to Grafton, Glenn Innes and Inverell centres as more than 1,000 people converge on these centres during the event. In excess of 800 people are expected to attend the gala dinner and presentations in Inverell on Saturday evening following the event.

For more information, interviews or photo's contact Peter Sunderland, Media Liaison, Grafton to Inverell Cycle Classic, on 0402 983 438 or email petersunderland@bigpond.com

