

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USA CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP ALMOST HERE

USA Cycling Collegiate Mountain Bike National Championship Oct 20-22, 2017

October 6, 2017—Missoula, MT—Destination Missoula and the Missoula Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID) are excited to have the USA Cycling (USAC) Collegiate Mountain Bike National Championship in Missoula this October.

This is the first time Missoula has hosted a mountain biking event of this magnitude. The Destination Missoula and Missoula TBID team has spent many hours with USA Cycling Race Director Certification Manager, Tara McCarthy, and Ben Horan, Executive Director of MTB Missoula, planning and preparing to host this world-class event.

"We are extremely honored to have this event in our community for the next two years! Not only is it an amazing event that will fit right into the fabric of Missoula, but our sales staff has been working for a number of years with the USAC to bring professional bike racing to Missoula," said Barbara Neilan, Executive Director of Destination Missoula/Missoula TBID. "This event is our proving ground and I have no doubt that Missoula will knock it out of the ballpark!"

With the event quickly approaching, support from the Missoula community will be paramount. You can show your support by simply showing up to cheer on the competitors or by volunteering. There are plenty of spectator-friendly options to choose from including five different types of races ranging from 20 seconds to an hour and a half. This is Missoula's opportunity to share the bounty of our landscape with mountain bikers from across the country, so come out and give them a huge Missoula welcome. If you'd like to participate in the event, there are many volunteer opportunities as well. Visit destinationmissoula.org/volunteer-opportunities to see available shifts and descriptions.

"We couldn't be more excited to welcome the USAC Mountain Bike National Championships to Marshall Mountain," said Ben Horan, Executive Director of MTB Missoula. "Living here, we know that Missoula is one of the best mountain bike towns in the West and this is our opportunity to show it off. We've had a huge amount of success working with partners like Five Valleys Land Trust and Big Sky Brewing as well as all of our sponsors over the last couple of months to get the courses finalized."

For more information on Destination Missoula visit <u>destinationmissoula.org</u> or to learn more about the event please visit <u>destinationmissoula.org/usa-cycling</u>.