

## **Graeme Mudd and Sarah Booth dominate elite fields and claim 2012 Downhill State Champions titles at Ourimbah**

**Fellow Novocastrians Graeme Mudd from Woodberry and Sarah Booth from Medowie were the fastest elite racers at last weekend's RedAss NSW/ACT Downhill State Championships at Ourimbah State Forest. In the U19's category it was Andrew Crimmins from Bredbo who won and the U17's junior State Champion is David Maggs from Artarmon.**

More than 150 racers were at the start line of the Central Coast Ourimbah MTB Club home track in the Yarramalong Valley last weekend. They competed for the prestigious 2012 State Downhill Championship titles in various categories ranging from Elites to U19, 17 and U15 age groups to Expert and Sport grades as well as Veteran (30+), Master (40+) and SuperMaster (50+) categories.

The skill set of the riders was obvious and admired after only a few practice runs Aussie downhill legends like defending 2011 State Champion Rick Boyer (Newcastle), Ben Cory (Canberra) and Brad Kelly (Central Coast) inspecting the 2.5 km race track alongside many talented elite and up and coming junior racers including 19's and U17's state series leaders Andrew Crimmins (Bredbo) and David Maggs (Artarmon).

### **Elite male favourite Graeme Mudd wins**

In the Elite Men's field it was the current state series leader, Graeme Mudd (photo below), who took out the Championship title. With a second place in the seeding run, he was able to clock in the fastest race time of the day with 3:25.06. Canberra's Ben Cory came in second with 3:26.54 and one of the Ourimbah trail builders, Brad Kelly from Watanobbi came in as a close third in the final race with 3:26.73 after a mechanical upset in the seeding run.



Fastest in the seeding run, Chris Barlin from Turramurra, finished fourth in the Elite Men's field and Joe Vejvoda from Canberra came fifth. Last year's winner, Rick Boyer was only too happy to pass on the Championship title to his protégé and team colleague, Graeme Mudd who credited his victory to his new Orange team bike.

**Sarah Booth fastest racing lady of the day**

Six Elite Female racers were at the start line and current state series leader and Kona team racer Sarah Booth (photo below) from Medowie clocked in the two fastest female race times of the day in both seeding and final race runs. She took out the State Championship title with 4:22.47 about 8 seconds ahead of talented junior Tegan Molloy from Jindabyne and renowned racer Joanne Fox from Penrith.



**U19's and U17's series leaders victorious**

In the U19's field, Giant rider Andrew Crimmins (photo right) from Bredbo continued his great form of the season and won with a final race time of 3:39.11 ahead of Joel Willis from Lithgow and Conor Bullard from Hackett (ACT).







Deubel Bicycles-racer David Maggs (photo left, Artarmon, NSW) claimed his fourth DH state race win in 3:49.55 and with it the Championship in the U17's field. Hamish Cowan came second and fellow Wollongong-racer Connor Mackne was third.

### Central Coast popular with mountain bikers

Race organiser Martin Wisata and hosting club president Gary Goodwin from Central Coast Ourimbah MTB Club were happy with the turnout of the event and congratulated the new State Champions at the ceremony.

"We've put a lot of work into our track and I was very proud of our local riders – four of them finished in the top 15 of the elite men's field." – said CCOMTB club president Gary Goodwin of the solid performance of the local elite racers, including Brad Kelly (3<sup>rd</sup>), Daniel Paine (9<sup>th</sup>), Bradley Joliffe (11<sup>th</sup>), Jarrad Connolly (12<sup>th</sup>).

"The Ourimbah track is very versatile and one of the most popular mountain bike destinations for cross-country and downhill riders in and around Sydney." – added local mountain bike race organiser Martin Wisata from Rocky Trail Entertainment and announced to hold one of the newest and most exciting types of mountain bike racing events on the Central Coast with the club:

"The local Central Coast Ourimbah MTB Club is one of the most active clubs and thanks to their initiative of linking up the existing trail network further, we'll bring our Rollercoaster All-Mountain Championships to Ourimbah in January next year."

For more event information and full race results, visit  
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**Top Results RedAss Downhill State Championships**

Ourimbah State Forest, 6+7 October 2012

**Elite Male**

1. Grame Mudd, Woodberry (NSW)
2. Ben Cory, Canberra (ACT)
3. Brad Kelly, Watanobbi (NSW)

**Elite Female**

1. Sarah Booth, Medowie (NSW)
2. Teagan Molloy, Jindabyne (NSW)
3. Joanne Fox, Penrith (NSW)

**U19 Male**

1. Andrew Crimmins, Bredbo (NSW)
2. Joel Willis, Lithgow (NSW)
3. Conor Bullard, Hackett (ACT)

**U17 Male**

1. David Maggs, Artarmon (NSW)
2. Hamish Cowan, Mt Keiran (NSW)
3. Connor Mackne, Helensburgh (NSW)

**U15 Male** – 1. Aidan Wynn, Woonona (NSW)

**Veteran Male 30-39 yrs** – 1. David Sharp, Belrose (NSW)

**Master Male 40-49 yrs** – 1. Paul King, Leonay (NSW)

**Master Female** – 1. Coleen Boyes, Newcastle (NSW)

**SuperMaster Male 50-59 yrs** – 1. Michael Green, Cromer (NSW)

**Expert Male** – 1. Zac Green, Cromer (NSW)

**Expert Female** – 1. Lana Masterson, Heddon Greta (NSW)

**Sport Male** – 1. Craig Young, Tascott (NSW)

**Hardtail Male** – 1. Chris Collier, Petersham (NSW)

Please don't hesitate to contact us for high-res images, interviews and further information. For full race results, visit [www.rockytrailentertainment.com](http://www.rockytrailentertainment.com).

**For more event details and to arrange interviews and coverage please contact:**

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