

Please see note from the TSA President below.

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**From:** Peter Smith [mailto:peter.smith@bartonvale.com.au]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 December 2009 8:57 AM

**To:** admin@triathlonsa.org.au; 'Colin Clarke'; 'Dave Taylor'; 'David Wilkinson'; dwells@senet.com.au; Lucy Eckerman; 'michael haarsma'; Rick Daley; stepkar@exemail.com.au; 'Coomella - John Fleming'; Vincent Tremaine; 'Lincoln - Peter Sheridan'; 'Metears - David Weaver'; 'Mt Gambier - Howard Bartlett'; 'SA Emeergency Services - Peter Nolan'; 'Tribe - Andrew Loose'; 'Trikiings - Adan Hunt'; 'Vales - Darren Pollock'

**Subject:** Cancellation of TA Challenge Series

All,

This is to give you early advice that the Board of TA, with the agreement of the STTA Presidents, has decided to cancel the 2009/10 Challenge Series. The new TA Board, after detailed review, including the use of an independent consultant, reluctantly decided that realistic estimates of costs and revenues led to a potentially serious financial shortfall which was unacceptable after the even larger losses sustained in the 2008/09 Challenge Series. The situation was significantly worsened by the withdrawal or reduction of Government funding for a number of the race locations, including Adelaide. The new TA Board was well qualified to judge the financial situation – the new President, Peter Hedge is a specialist in corporate reconstruction and the new Treasurer, David Ferrier, is a forensic accountant.

An email from TA will be going out to all members some time this morning. It will offer financial compensation to the small number of members who have already booked for cancelled events. Entries to date have been low, with fewer than 50 entrants so far for the first (Geelong) Race on 21<sup>st</sup> January. Australia

The only two races which will proceed under different arrangements are the Canberra Race on 21 January and the Hobart race on February 14, which will remain Worlds and Juniors selection Races. TACT will have the primary responsibility for the Canberra race organisation and t# will manage Hobart..

The Adelaide race was assessed as non-viable after review with the Race Organiser. I offered some organisational options to reduce costs, but ultimately contractual complications made it unlikely that an alternative arrangement could be organised for a replacement race on the same day at Glenelg.

To allow SA triathletes the opportunity to qualify for the World Championships on Budapest, it is expected that our State Sprint and Olympic Distance Championships

(Feb 7 & 14) will be designated as Selection Races. For those who may be interested, the TA view is that there will be relatively easy qualification for the Worlds, particularly for the Sprint distance.

Two of the three Australian Championships (Olympic, Sprint, Duathlon) which were scheduled to be held in Adelaide as part of the Challenge Races have been reallocated – the Sprint to Canberra and the Olympic Distance to the Hobart race. It is not clear at this stage what will happen to the Duathlon Championships.

It is unfortunate that the 2009/10 Challenge Series has been cancelled, but the new TA Board will be looking at options for national series in future. In doing so, it will be working closely and constructively with STTAs and seeking our inputs on how to use local knowledge and resources.

We have been asked to keep this information confidential until the formal advice is released later this morning. As soon as that happens I will send you all copies of the Media Release and other background.

I will keep you advised of any significant developments.

Regards,

**Peter Smith**

President

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