

MEDIA RELEASE

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2009 GOLD COAST WORLD TRIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS DATE ANNOUNCED

USM Events today announced the 2009 Gold Coast Triathlon World Championships date ahead of this weekend's test event and lead up to the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

The six day program will commence on Tuesday 8 September and finish on Sunday 13 September.

South East Queensland already hosts three of Australia's most prominent triathlons – Noosa, Mooloolaba and the Gold Coast.

Garth Prowd OAM, Managing Director of USM Events, said Queensland's ability to deliver events at an elite level was well recognised among the international sporting community.

"The world championships will provide major tourism and media benefits for Queensland and further our international reputation as a host of world class events," said Mr Prowd.

"The Gold Coast's outstanding facilities, climate, attractions, and history of hosting international sporting events provide an ideal backdrop for triathlon, a sport which encourages a healthy outdoor lifestyle for all ages," he added.

The world championships will also coincide with celebrations of Queensland's 150th anniversary of Statehood.

The venue is a tried and tested one at Broadwater Events Parkland at Southport. Event organisers currently conduct The Gold Coast Triathlon – Luke Harrop Memorial event annually over the same course.

Up to 3,000 athletes from around the world and Australia, including some 50,000 spectators are expected to attend the 2009 ITU Triathlon World Championships.

Events on the program include:

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| • ITU Junior Triathlon (Male/Female) | 750m swim/20km cycle/5km run |
| • ITU Age Group (Male/Female) | 1.5km swim/40km cycle/10km run |
| • ITU Under 23 (Male/Female) | 1.5km swim/40km cycle/10km run |
| • AWAD (Athletes with a disability) | 1.5km swim/40km cycle/10km run |
| • People's Triathlon | 750m swim/20km cycle/5km run or
300m swim/10km cycle/3km run |
| • ITU Elite (Male/Female) | 1.5km swim/40km cycle/10km run |

For further information check the website – www.usmevents.com.au

