



WEMBO Announcement : 2021 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hr MTB Championships

In our statement of 17 April 2021 on the WEMBO website and Facebook, we advised that a decision on the 2021 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Championships would be announced at the end of July 2021. The July decision date is based on the requirement for both riders and organisers to prepare for the event and also to give our riders appropriate time for dealing with travel and accommodation arrangements.

We regret to announce that the 2021 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Championships cannot take place due to the effects of the current and forecast Australian responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Accordingly, the Australian event is deferred to 2023. No 2021 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Championships titles will be awarded. The 2022 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Championships will be held as planned in Finale Ligure, Italy 27-29 May 2022.

The restrictions on international travel to Australia, and probable internal Australian travel restrictions, mean that if the 2021 event went ahead it would not be fair for all competitors, with international riders either not being allowed to travel to Australia at all, or facing long quarantine periods on arrival which would unfairly affect rider race preparation. WEMBO has always strived to hold events in a responsible manner and present the fairest possible environment for all those wishing to take part in our events.

All riders with existing 2021 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Championships entries will be contacted individually by the Event Host – New England Mountain Bikers (NEMTB). They can have their entry automatically transferred to the 2023 event at no cost even if entry cost increases, or have it refunded in full minus the entry system processing fee (approximately 3%).

All WEMBO prize entitlement obligations and other rider support which would have been able to be redeemed at the 2021 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Championships will automatically be transferred to the 2022 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Championships.

In summary, the 2022 WEMBO Solo 24 Hour Championships events are:

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|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| • World Championships | Finale Ligure | Italy | 27/29 May 2022. |
| • European Championships | Jihlava | Czech Republic | 18/19 June 2022. |

Depending on the status of the Australian / New Zealand 'Travel Bubble' it may be possible to hold a WEMBO Asia/Pacific Continental Championships on the 2021 planned date of 6-7 November. A decision on this will be made at the end of September 2021.

If it is only possible to hold an Australian Solo 24 Hour MTB Championships on 6-7 November, that event will be held under the existing arrangements between AusCycling and NEMTB with no WEMBO involvement.

WEMBO wishes all our riders and the extended WEMBO Family all the best in the current health situation. WEMBO will not be publishing any advice on riding in the COVID-19 environment because that is different all over the world due to the policies adopted by different countries and we do not support rider attempts to modify any national policies. Stay safe, stay smart and help your community beat COVID-19 by adhering to the rules in your area.

Russ, Riccardo and Frazer

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