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2021 NATIONAL STORAGE IRONMAN AUSTRALIA TO MOVE DATES

Flood impact moves 2021 event to Sunday 5 September

Organisers of the 2021 National Storage IRONMAN Australia have today confirmed that the event cannot take place as planned on Sunday May 2.

Unfortunately, the ongoing impact of the recent floods in the region has meant that this year's event will not take place on its original date and will now be held on Sunday 5 September 2021.

This decision has been made in conjunction with Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and will allow the community the time it needs to recover.

Dave Beeche, The IRONMAN Group Oceania Managing Director, said that this was an incredibly tough decision to make but one done in the best interests of the community.

"Last week our team spent time in the region to assess the impact of the recent floods and what it means for this year's event," said Beeche. "During this visit, it was evident that hosting the event as planned is not in the best interests of the community, who are facing a long road to recovery. While on the surface the region has made great progress to get back on its feet quickly, the reality is that hundreds of homes, businesses, infrastructure, water quality and lives have been severely impacted.

"On top of that there is also a huge demand on the local workforce, following what has already been an incredibly difficult 18 months with bushfires and COVID-19 restrictions. Our thoughts continue to go out to all of those affected and we are looking into ways that the IRONMAN community can help support those most in need," he said. "We know for some athletes this will be the third time they have received this news, and we are truly sorry you are yet to experience the IRONMAN finish line that you have continued to train so hard for.

"The National Storage IRONMAN Australia team can't wait to return to the region to celebrate the 35th running of this iconic event, and are thankful to Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and our numerous stakeholders for coming together to secure a new date for the event on Sunday 5 September," he said.

Mayor Peta Pinson said that she is disappointed that IRONMAN's long-awaited return to Port Macquarie has been postponed.

"Anyone who has experienced IRONMAN here in Port Macquarie knows how much we love and embrace the event each year. Unfortunately, with many businesses, homes, roads and waterways impacted by the recent devastating floods, it's with a heavy heart we say that May is too soon.

“While we look to rebuild and recover from the floods, we greatly appreciate IRONMAN’s continued support. We look forward to seeing your return to Port Macquarie soon,” said Mayor Pinson.

The Local Organising Committee who works alongside The IRONMAN Group Oceania team to deliver the Port Macquarie event also noted their support for the tough decision, said spokesperson Danny Suitor.

“The impact and devastation of these floods is still very much in the minds of our community and many residents and volunteers are still working tirelessly on the clean-up,” said Suitor. “We feel for the IRONMAN athletes given previous cancellations, but the welfare of our local community must take precedence in this situation.”

For more information on the National Storage IRONMAN Australia click [here](#).

About The IRONMAN Group

The IRONMAN Group operates a global portfolio of events that includes the IRONMAN® Triathlon Series, the IRONMAN® 70.3® Triathlon Series, the IRONMAN® Virtual Racing™ (VR™) Series, 5150™ Triathlon Series, the Rock ‘n’ Roll® Running Series, the Rock ‘n’ Roll Virtual Running™ Series, IRONKIDS®, World Triathlon Championship Series, premier running events including the Standard Chartered Singapore Marathon™ and The Sun-Herald City2Surf®, Ultra-Trail® World Tour events including Tarawera Ultra and Ultra-Trail Australia™, mountain bike races including the Absa Cape Epic®, road cycling events, and other multisport races. The IRONMAN Group is the largest operator of mass participation sports in the world and provides more than a million participants annually the benefits of endurance sports through the company’s vast offerings. Since the inception of the iconic IRONMAN® brand and its first event in 1978, athletes have proven that ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE® by crossing finish lines around the world. Beginning as a single race, The IRONMAN Group has grown to become a global sensation with hundreds of events across 55+ countries. The IRONMAN Group is owned by Advance, a private, family-owned business. For more information, visit www.ironman.com.