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Date 5 January 2024

www.hmrc.gov.uk

Our ref
Your ref

Dear Sirs

European Customs Sports Association Cycling MTB Championship – Goathland (North Yorkshire Moors)

UK Revenue and Customs Sports and Leisure (RCSL) have pleasure in issuing this invitation to all European Customs Sports Association (ECSA) member countries to participate in the ECSA Mountain Bike Cycling Championship, to be held in the United Kingdom between Thursday 16th May and Saturday 18th May 2024.

Arrival

Air travel to the area will be some distance from the hotel and course. **Airports include Leeds Bradford and Manchester, Tees Valley is also accessible.** Competitors are encouraged to arrive on or before the morning of 17th May. Arrival details should be notified to Andrea Scott-Lewis, email: andrea.scott-lewis@hmrc.gov.uk **as soon as possible.** For those arriving by air, where possible we will look to provide assistance with travel from and to the above airports on Thursday 16th May and Saturday 18th May.

Anyone travelling outside these dates, or from different UK Airports, may need to arrange their own travel to the event. Andrea Scott-Lewis can provide assistance with arranging transfers.

Accommodation

Two night's accommodation for Thursday 16th to Saturday 18th May 2024 has been arranged at the Premier Inn Pickering. Full details are available here: [Pickering hotel | Premier Inn](#)

Non-participating guests will also be welcome to come along, subject to space being

Information is available in large print, audio tape and Braille formats.
Type Talk service prefix number – 18001



Awarded for excellence



available, they will be able to accompany the cyclists as spectators and attend the presentation and prize giving.

Any special accommodation needs should be notified to Andrea as soon as possible and recorded on the accommodation form.

Meals

Breakfast and evening meals will be provided at the hotel each day. There will be presentations and prize giving after the event on Friday 17th May.

Any special dietary needs should be recorded on the accommodation form.

Competition:

Thursday 16th May 2024:

Arrivals and collection from airports close to the venue. If ECSA participants cannot arrive at these and have to use another airport, then Andrea can help with transfers.

Friday 17th May 2024:

The ECSA event will run concurrently to the UK RCSL event which consists of Regional Team MTB Championships (for teams of 2 or 3 riders with the top 2 scores per team counting). Individual riders can be paired with a UK participant and a singles competition will also take place at the championship and standard distances for individual competitors.

Event format (subject to final confirmation):

The main championship event is up to 62km with around 1005m of climbing and has a 7-hour time limit. The shorter standard distance event is 39km with around 565m of climbing and has a time limit of 6 hours.

Goathland was used as the film set for much of the series Heartbeat and also Goathland station was the set for Hogsmead Station in the Harry Potter films. Those still around at the weekend may wish to visit nearby Dalby Forest for some trail centre riding before heading home.

The North Yorkshire Moors are wild and beautiful and offer some great riding. The routes travel through plenty of special countryside, including wild and barren open moorland as well as some forest areas. The route is predominantly off-road with only a few short road sections to link together the fantastic trails in the area.

There are views to stop and admire, especially if in no hurry, with some open hillside single track descents to induce the smiles. The routes are generally low in technical difficulty, there are hills to climb/walk up, but for those who came last year to the Yorkshire dales the climbs here are all shorter. Remember though, what goes up must come down (if you're nervous you're always welcome to walk the steeper sections).

Presentations and prize giving will follow.

Saturday 18th May 2024:

If required, return to designated airport on Saturday or details of suggested leisure cycling rides in the local area will be made available for those wishing to stay longer (at extra cost).

Entry details

Entries are required on the attached form by close of play 14 February 2024.

Please confirm your preferred arrival and departure points in the UK so help can be given to get participants to the venue and accommodation.

Costs

The total cost of accommodation to each participant will be **£143** (UK pounds sterling) for 2 nights, including 2 course dinner, bed and breakfast, based on two sharing a room. There will also be a **£10** competition entry fee.

Extra night's accommodation is available on application but may be in a different hotel nearby or within easy travel if the hotel is fully booked.

Non-cyclist residential package **£143** per person, dinner bed & breakfast for 2 nights based on two sharing a room.

Single rooms may be available if there is availability after all the teams have been accommodated. A single supplement of **£46.50** per night will apply, the total cost for two nights will be **£236 (£246 including entry fee)**.

Cycle Hire

There are a couple of hire shops very close to the hotel. [Dalby Bike Barn Limited](#) and [Big Bear Bikes | Online Bike Shop - Big Bear Bikes - Pickering & Yorkshire](#)

Payment

All payment should be made in £ sterling by bank transfer, along with the submission of entry forms. Bank account details are listed below. Please note any bank charges will be the responsibility of the country making the payment.

Bank name:	Lloyds
Name:	RCSL Cycling Section
Account No:	54719268
Sort Code	30-64-18
IBAN:	GB63LOYD30641854719268
BIC	LOYDGB21664

Entries

Entry and accommodation forms should be completed and returned to the event coordinator, Andrea Scott-Lewis, email: andrea.scott-lewis@hmrc.gov.uk as soon as possible and before the closing date of **Wednesday 14 February 2024**. Entries will not mean a commitment to attend at this stage with the global COVID-19 pandemic still in place.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Andrea.

RCSL looks forward to welcoming our ECSA colleagues to the United Kingdom, to an enjoyable event and to old friendships being renewed and new ones made.

Yours faithfully

ANDY LEGGETT

Chairman, HM Revenue & Customs Sports & Leisure