



2020 6-12-24 HOUR WORLD TIME TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS CANCELLED

It is with very heavy heart that we must cancel the 2020 edition of the 6-12-24 Hour World Time Trial Championships scheduled for October 29th-November 1st in Borrego Springs.

As we stated in our previous communications, if we did not receive clear and definitive information from San Diego County by September 25 regarding the issuance of the permit for this event, we would make a decision on whether or not we could confidently move forward and hold the race.

We received word from the County late yesterday that they could not issue a permit for the event at this time. While similar events have been allowed to move forward in other parts of the country, such as the Texas Time Trials this month, the State of California has taken a much more cautious approach in dealing with COVID-19. Statewide restrictions on gatherings of 10 or more people remain in affect. While ultra-cycling is a social distancing activity by nature, the State is applying their restrictions on events as a blanket policy.

Between May and September we made numerous modifications to the event, worked with County staff to satisfy all of the requirements for a safe and healthy event, re-filed the permits several times, and pursued every possible avenue to secure the required permits. We believe the County supported our position. But, in the end, the State guidelines prevailed.

Our understanding is the Belgian Waffle Ride, the most popular bicycle race in Southern California, suffered the same fate. Many of the BWR participants have also raced RAAM, RAW and the WTTC. The race organizers are well respected. They too postponed their event and pursued every viable option to conduct this year's race. They learned of their fate and announced the cancellation of this year's BWR about the same time we did.

We could continue to hope that the event will be given a last minute reprieve and the required permits will be issued. However, we feel that it would be unfair to the racers to be kept in limbo, especially those who may be traveling from out of state, or if allowed, from outside the United States. We also do not want to be in the position of moving forward with planning the event, only to be forced to cancel in the days leading up to the race.

After delaying opening registration and moving the date of the race to later in October, we had high hopes that it would happen. Cancelling it now is not a decision that was come to easily or lightly.

We are fully committed to holding the 6-12-24 Hour World Time Trial Championships in 2021 in Borrego Springs. This race has become one of the most popular and highly attended events on the ultra-cycling calendar, having sold out the past three years. We expect the 2021 edition to be the biggest yet. With the expanded format, we can increase the size of the race field to be even larger. We have no doubt the 2021 race will sell out as well.

Again, thank you for your patience and understanding as we attempted to navigate this difficult time. We hope to see you in 2021. In the meantime, we hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

Sincerely,
WTTC Race Management

DATED: September 28, 2020