



## **Wirtgen Group - Centrals Junior Tour**

**52nd Junior Tour of the Central Districts Cycling Club  
Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> 2019**

Angaston, Barossa Valley, South Australia

The Barossa Valley in South Australia offers some of the best cycling in Australia and it is alive with spectators and the world's best cyclists each year during the Tour Down Under. This excitement and atmosphere will be replicated by our junior cyclist during the Wirtgen Group – Centrals Junior Tour which is being held over the weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2019.

The Central Districts Cycling Club president, Graeme Zucker said: *"It is fantastic to have the Wirtgen Group as our principle sponsor again this year for our club's Junior Tour. The support of the Wirtgen Group over the last 4 years has ensured the ongoing running of the event. Our event is regarded as one of the safest Junior Tours in Australia, it has a Pro Tour atmosphere with horns & flashing lights complete with a convoy of lead cars, race officials, medical support vehicles, mobile communications and accredited corner marshals, this would not be possible without the support of the Wirtgen Group."*

Wirtgen Australia is a member of the WIRTGEN GROUP, an expanding and international group of companies doing business in the construction equipment industry. The group includes most equipment used in road construction such as WIRTGEN, VÖGELE, HAMM, KLEEMANN, BENNINGHOVEN and CIBER. As the technological leader Wirtgen offer their customers solutions for road construction and repair, for mining and processing minerals, as well as for recycling construction materials.

*Greg Astill, General Manager – Mineral Technologies, Wirtgen Group, said "Wirtgen are very pleased to be involved with the Centrals Junior Tour, we look forward to the event every year. Engagement with a sporting event which is focused on both team outcomes and individual performance is close to our hearts. Importantly though, this event is about contributing to the competitive spirit amongst the future of Australian sporting legends."*

*People may not always RECOGNISE the Wirtgen name, but would be very surprised at just how close the connection between the race and the use of our machinery in road construction is, no matter where you ride I'm sure we have been there as well!"*

The tour will be based in the heart of the Barossa, where the vineyards meet Angaston, at the South Australian Company Store. Angaston and the surrounding Barossa district have fantastic facilities and plenty for the supporting families to do before and after the racing. The courses remain similar to previous events retaining the challenges, but most importantly they remain on the low traffic areas of the Barossa region for the conducting of a safe event.

This tour is the only junior Tour held in South Australia and has been a crucial stepping stone for many of this states junior cyclist. It is usually the first multi stage event they enter and gives them the opportunity to be competing in larger fields and against interstate riders. This year's event is a round of the newly adopted National Junior Road Series, the series will see a lift in the profile of junior road racing and will see many more interstate entries, this will add to the competition and atmosphere.

This event, in its 52<sup>th</sup> year, has a strong history of seeing junior cyclists competing at the highest level in conditions and courses similar to that of the Elite World Tour cyclists. The Central Districts Cycling Club has modelled the event on the Classic Tours held both nationally and internationally and adapted it for the junior entrants with 3 road stages and a time trial for each age and gender group.

This Junior Tour has been a stepping stone for many cyclists whom have progressed to represent Australia at the Olympics, Commonwealth Games and World Championships. Some have joined an UCI World Tour Team and raced in The Tour de France. These riders form an impressive list of champions and include Alexandra Manley, Annette Edmondson, Alex Edmondson, Miles Scotson, Josh Harrison, Brett Aitken, Scott McPhee, Jack Bobridge, Stuart O'Grady and Callum Scotson to name a few.

The 2019 Tour again includes stages over Mengler Hill, which is a popular hill climb for cyclists and has been a regular KOM stage for UCI World Tour competitors in the Tour Down Under. This stage is a great spectacle for cycling enthusiasts to come out to Angaston and see our young cyclists competing. The under 17 Males traditionally have strong fields and it should be exciting to see them battle it out up Menglers Hill.

This year promises to be another great event supported by Wirtgen Group.

