



Mt. Keira Downhill Challenge

Event Application

Prepared by the Australian Skateboard Racing Association (ASRA)

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1. Event Overview

The Australian Skateboard Racing Association (ASRA) requests the endorsement of Wollongong Council to host the 2011 Australian National Championship at Mount Keira (the Event). The working title of this event is the Mt Keira Downhill Challenge 2011 and will be held on 25-27 November 2011.

The Mt Keira Downhill Challenge 2011 will be a three-day downhill skateboarding competition taking place on Mt Keira Road in Wollongong. It is anticipated that this event will host the Australian National Downhill Skateboarding Championships, in addition to carrying sanctioning from the International Gravity Sports Association (IGSA), making it an official event on the World Cup circuit, and giving it international credibility while drawing upon competitors, spectators and media from a range of countries around the world.

The Event will be a free, all ages event and is designed to engage with the youth and local community of the Wollongong region through providing a safe, enjoyable, and above all memorable experience at Mt. Keira. Members of the community will be encouraged to visit the track to witness first-hand the excitement of world class downhill racing.

This event is similar to the downhill races which have been run by ASRA (and sanctioned by IGSA) on Mount Panorama in 2008, 2009 and 2010. It is anticipated that the event will generate significant revenue for the local economy in addition to a great deal of positive broadcast and print exposure for the Wollongong region.



Douglas Dalua (Brazil), Patrick Switzer (Canada), Kevin Reimer (Canada) and Cristoph Batt (Switzerland) race through Forest Elbow, Mount Panorama, Newton's Nation 2010

1.1 What is Downhill Skateboarding?

Downhill skateboarding has a rich history, with the first competitions taking place in the 1960s in California. Downhill has gained prominence in the past decade, with the development of an international world circuit and thousands of participants worldwide.

Downhill is run by heats of four riders racing to beat each other to the bottom of a designated race course. Competitors utilise specialised skateboards / longboards that are capable of handling high speeds and tight corners. In addition, skaters employ a variety of techniques to accelerate and decelerate as the course requires.

1.2 Who is ASRA?

The Australian Skateboard Racing Association (ASRA) is the official body representing skateboard racers and longboard skateboarders in Australia. The association was developed to coordinate and encourage the safe running of skateboard racing events in Australia, be a reference point for information about skateboard racing and longboarding, and to represent the voice of the community to government and industry. We endeavour to provide safe guidelines and encouragement for the participation of individuals and groups within the skateboard racing scene.

ASRA was established in 2006 and is a non-profit incorporated association fully run by volunteers. ASRA is headed by a management committee of five people:

President	Hagbarth Strom, Solicitor
Vice-President	Dave Robertson, Shop Manager
Secretary	Colin Beck, Technical Writer
Committee members	Pete Smith, Major Events Site Manager David Blackwood, Small-business owner

1.2.1 Other ASRA Events

ASRA has extensive experience running skateboard racing events. Since its founding in 2006 ASRA has played an integral role in organising and sanctioning a host of regional and national events. These events include:

Newton's Playground IGSA World Cup Races 2008, 2009 and 2010, held on the iconic Mount Panorama race track in Bathurst, NSW. This event forms part of the World Circuit and attracts the top 200 riders internationally and domestically.

National Slalom Skateboard Series 2006-2010, with events in QLD, NSW, ACT and Victoria.

Dozens of smaller and regional slalom, skateboard racing, and downhill events, held at various venues in NSW, ACT and Victoria.

ASRA also provides extensive support and event management assistance to many other skate events around Australia.

1.2.2 ASRA Website

ASRA has a highly active, community-based website where members access information about events and equipment, as well as to make contact with like-minded individuals. The site is a helpful source of information for beginners and people interested in taking up the sport, as well as for experienced riders.

Website: <http://www.skateboardracing.org.au>

1.3 Who is the IGSA?

The International Gravity Sports Association (IGSA) (website: <http://www.igsaworldcup.com>) was established in 1996. Since its inception, the goals of the association have been to foster strong and fair competition, to provide reasonable rules, to administer the competition program with impartiality, and to reduce the hazards associated with the sport.

The IGSA organises an World Cup Series, which is comprised of downhill races across the globe. Australia has hosted three World Cup races, in 2008, 2009 and 2010. ASRA was the organising body of these events, which were sanctioned by IGSA.

ASRA President Hagbarth Strom serves on the IGSA board of directors as the Asia-Pacific representative.

It is intended that this event will be a IGSA World Cup event, giving it international credibility and drawing upon competitors, spectators and media from a range of countries around the world.

2. Event Details

2.1 Event Timeline

The proposed dates are as follows:

Thur 24 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bump in - hay bales and build track • Competitor registration • Equipment and safety checks • Marshal & volunteer training
Fri 25 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice
Sat 26 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice and qualifying
Sun 27 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finals racing • Australian National Champion declared
Mon 28 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bump out • Track cleared

Please see the Traffic Management Plan for details around the proposed road closures.

2.2 Road Closure

ASRA requests road closure for three days from 7am-6pm. Any affected tenants (potentially only one affected resident) would still be able to access their property, provided a 10-minute warning is given to prepare for shut-down of the road. This is the model utilised at Mount Panorama, where there are a number of affected residents. All residents are able to access their properties throughout the day, but may be subject to a short wait while the track is cleared of riders.

The road to be closed would be Mount Keira Road, between the Start and Finish as indicated in the picture below. Please note that Queen Elizabeth Dr will remain open, as we would like to involve the proprietors of the Mt Top Restaurant & Function Centre and minimize any inconvenience for the business.

It will be necessary to have a mobile traffic control on the days before and after the Event, in order to facilitate bump-in requirements, ie. hay bales for safety, signage etc. This may cause slight delays in traffic of up to 5 minutes.

Refer to the Transport Management Plan.

2.3 Rider Safety

The safety of competitors is paramount to running a successful competition.

2.3.1 Hay Bales

Riders will be protected from possible impact points by the placement of hay bales. Hay bales minimise injury by providing impact softening in crash zones, efficiently decelerating riders from high speeds to a standstill.

ASRA places all hay bales in bags, which means minimal hay is left on the road. This decreases the level of clean up required after the event and ensures the road remains safe for motorists and cyclists.

2.3.2 Track Marshalls

Track Marshalls will be placed at specified points along the race course. Their role is to:

- Communicate the status of the course (open or closed) to the race controller,
- Ensure hay bale and other safety items are correctly positioned and in good condition.

2.3.3 First Aid

First aid services will be available to riders as well as spectators. Please see site map for first aid locations.

2.3.4 Equipment Check

ASRA will conduct equipment safety checks on all competitors' equipment to ensure that it is in good working order and conforms with IGSA's safety standards.

2.4 Spectators

2.4.1 View Points and Safety

Spectators will be able to view the race from several viewpoints along the track.

Spectators will be restricted to areas of the track that minimise danger to themselves. Fencing, hay bales and water barriers will be used to protect these areas.

2.4.2 Transport

Spectators will be able to access viewing points along the track by either of two methods:

- (a) hop on/off shuttle bus service regularly driving up and down track,
- (b) walking access via Ring Track.

The bus shuttle will also take spectators to and from their cars, which will be parked at the Mountain Top Restaurant.

2.4.3 Food

A food cart will likely be located by the start line. It is hoped the Mountain Top Restaurant will be involved in catering this.

2.4.4 Toilets

Will be located several places along the track. Please refer to site map for locations.

2.4.5 Security/Crowd Management

Security personnel will be employed to monitor crowd control at the event end help ensure orderly movement of spectators. ASRA does not expect large numbers of spectators to be at event, however, we will take the necessary precautions.

Three to four spectator points will be set up along Mt Keira Road (see site layout). These spectator areas will be blocked off by the placement of water barrier. This, as well as the presence of marshalls and roving security, will ensure that spectators do not move into unsafe positions on the road.

ASRA has strong ties with several security companies and will utilise personnel familiar with the style of our event. In addition, ASRA will develop a security management plan in conjunction with the nominated security provider.

2.4.6 Public Liability Insurance

ASRA carries suitable public liability insurance for this event, with coverage up to \$20 million available if required by Council. ASRA will provide Council with a copy of the certificate of currency prior to the event.

ASRA will ensure that any other organisations participating in the event (food carts, bus companies) have suitable insurance coverage in place.

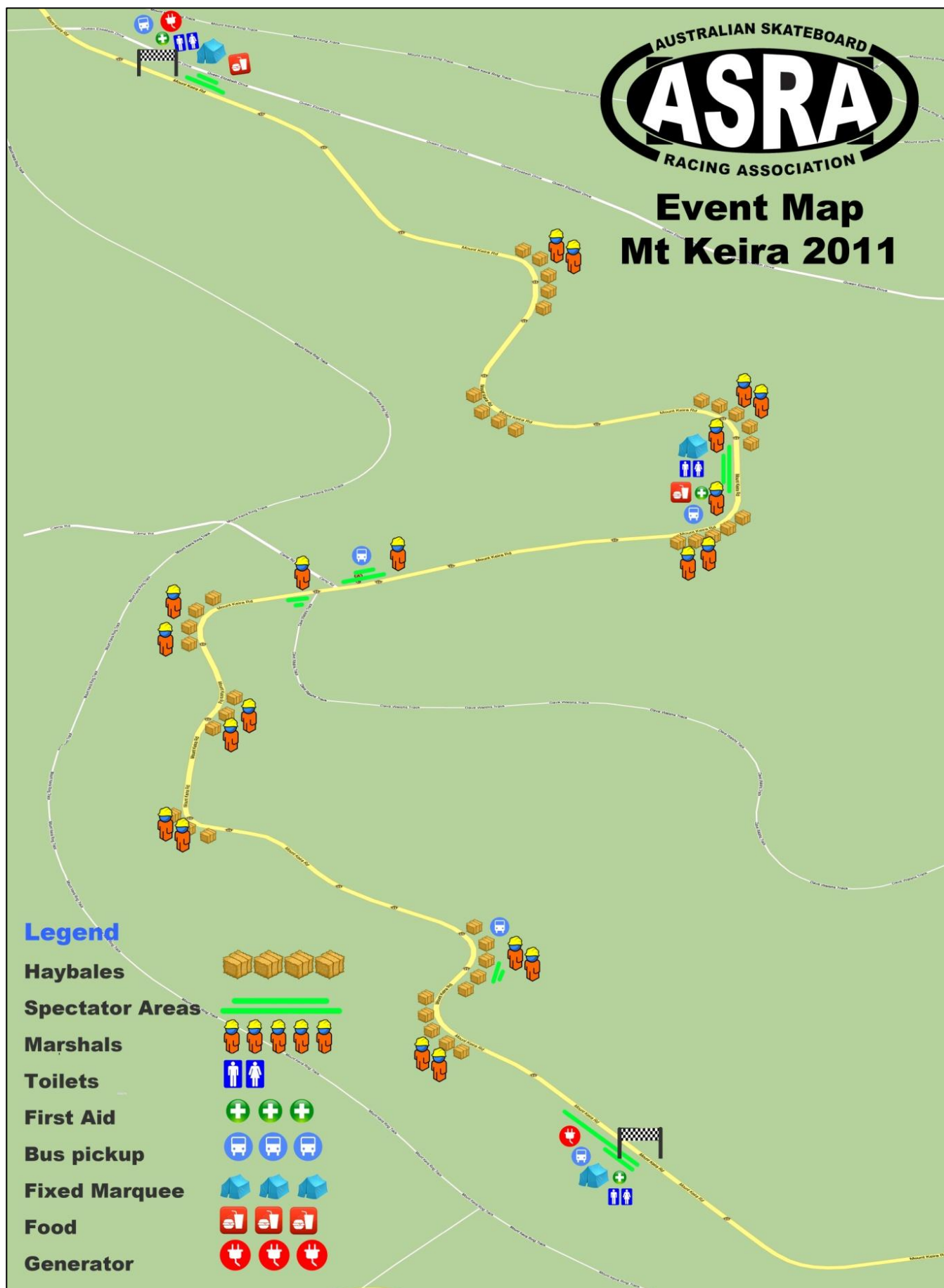
ASRA provides public liability insurance to event promoters that comply with ASRA event management and safety plans and have provided insurance for a number of events in the past three years.

2.5 Site Plans

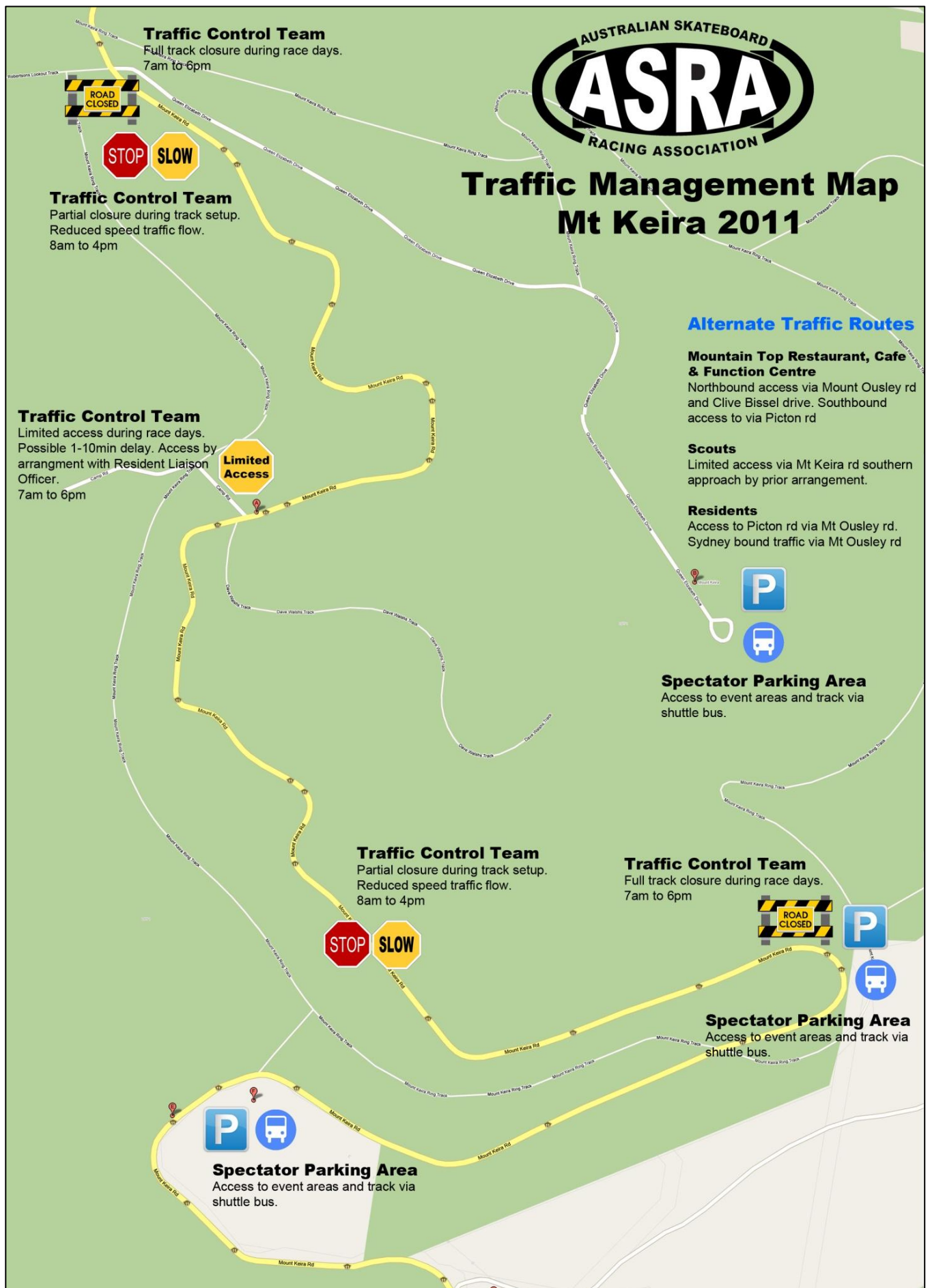
Refer to the following two site plans below:

- **Event Site Map** (page 9)
Shows the locations of the start and finish lines, spectator areas, safety marshalls, haybales, toilets, first aid, bus pickup areas, marquees, food stalls, power generators etc.
- **Traffic Control Site Map** (page 10)
Shows the location of parking areas, as well as details of the traffic control teams, road closures, and alternative traffic routes.

2.5.1 Event Site Map



2.5.2 Traffic Control Site Map



3. Stakeholders

ASRA seeks to involve the stakeholders on Mt Keira Road to the fullest extent possible.

Mt Keira Scout Camp

ASRA has made approaches to the Mt Keira Scout Camp, and we plan to book out the entire camp for the event. Competitors and friends and family, will be encouraged to stay at the Scout Camp and utilise their facilities. By booking out the entire Scout ASRA seeks to minimise any problems associated with the lack of public access during road closure times.

Mountain Top Restaurant

ASRA is aware that the Mountain Top Restaurant often hosts weddings. In order to ensure access to the venue Queen Elizabeth Drive will remain open from the top. Please refer to our Traffic Management Plan for more details. Haggy Strom spoke with the restaurant on 4 May 2011 and it was agreed to speak closer to the date of the event.

NPWS

NPWS have been contacted and are aware of this proposal.

Mt Keira Girl Guide Camp and Illawarra Archery

Access to the Girl Guide Camp and Illawarra Archery will not be affected by the road closures, although access to the properties will be limited to the eastern approach of Mt Keira Road.

4. Benefits for Wollongong

It is envisaged the event will be held over two days. This will encourage competitors and spectators to book accommodation and stay in Wollongong for the weekend.

ASRA recognises that the future success of this event relies on growing the support from the local community. The event will be marketed locally as a free youth event, family friendly, all ages and alcohol free. In the lead up to the event ASRA will be encouraging all parts of the community to be involved. We will be working with local youth organisations, to make them aware of the event and also to provide a positive role model.

ASRA will also be engaging with local businesses to help them promote their businesses through this unique event and also sell their goods and services where appropriate.

This is a Wollongong event, and should showcase all that is great about the region.

Some of the anticipated benefits that the Event will bring to the Wollongong Region include:

- Provision of an economic boost
- Increased visitors with the potential for repeat visits at other times of the year

- Engages with Wollongong's youth population
- Engages with the University of Wollongong
- Diversifies the visitor base to the Wollongong Region
- Potential creation of Wollongong's next hallmark event

5. Transport Management Plan

5.1 Event Summary

Event Name:	Mt. Keira Downhill Challenge
Event Location:	Mt Keira Road
Event Date:	24-28 November 2011
Event is:	On-Street Moving

5.2 Contact Names

	Event Organiser	Police	Council
Name	Haggy Strom Australian Skateboard Racing Association	TBD	TBD
Phone	0417 499 404		
Fax			
Mobile	0417 499 404		
Email	hagbarthstrom@gmail.com		

5.3 Traffic Control Plan

5.3.1 Overview of Road Closures

Residents and visitors are advised that the following temporary road closures on Mt. Keira Road will be in operation from approximately 7 am to 6 pm on Thursday 24th November to Monday 28th November, to control the movement of spectators and competitors involved with Mt. Keira Downhill Challenge.

5.3.2 Residents

There are two properties on the affected section of Mt Keira Road:

- the Scout Camp, and

- an unidentified residence.

The Scout Camp will be booked in its entirety by ASRA and will not be affected by the road closure. However, the camp will be closed to the public during the hours of the event. Camp officials, in addition to the resident at the bottom of the course, will be granted access to and from their properties at any time upon providing the resident liaison officer or traffic controllers 15 minutes notice.

5.3.3 Detailed Traffic Management Plan

Thursday 24th November

Times: 7:30am – 5:30pm

Location: Mt. Keira Road from Queen Elizabeth Drive to Hiking Track Parking Area (reference map)

What:

- Delivery & positioning of 500 haybales
This will involve approximately 15-20 people unloading haybales from the back of flatbed trucks and stacking them according to ASRA's safety management plan
- Erection of marquee at start
- Placement of toilets/food stalls

Traffic Management:

- Ticketed traffic controllers in place above and below haybale unloading with swivel signs to warn traffic to proceed slowly
- Relevant signage in place to warn oncoming traffic prior to traffic controllers

Friday 25th, Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th November

Times: 7:00am – 6:00pm

Location: Hard closure from start to finish on Mt Keira Road

What:

- Practice & qualifying
- Racing

Traffic Management:

- Road closures in place with traffic controllers above Startline and below Hiking Track Parking Area
- Only access through road closures will be by shuttle buses and vehicles bearing AAA-access or Resident Vehicle Stickers
- Impacted Resident Driveways:
 - The only impacted resident driveways are Scout camp and one other one
 - Residents will be granted access to & from their property upon 15 minutes notice being given to the Resident Liaison Officer. This will be coordinated in consultation with on-track organisers

Monday 28th November

Times: 7:30am – 5:30pm

Location: Mt. Keira Road from Queen Elizabeth Drive to Hiking Track Parking Area (reference map)

What:

- Loading up and removal of 500 hay bales
- This will involve approximately 15-20 people loading hay bales onto the back of flatbed trucks and stacking them according to ASRA's safety management plan
- Take-down of marquee at start
- Removal of toilets/food stalls

Traffic Management:

- Ticketed traffic controllers in place above and below hay bale loading with swivel signs to warn traffic to proceed slowly
- Relevant signage in place to warn oncoming traffic prior to traffic controllers

5.3.4 Draft Advertisement of Road Closures for Newspaper

MOUNT KEIRA DOWNHILL CHALLENGE 2011

MT KEIRA ROAD TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

Residents and visitors are advised that road closures on Mt Keira Rd will be in operation from approximately 7.00 am on Friday 25th November to Sunday 27th November, to control the movement of spectators and competitors involved with the Mt Keira Downhill Challenge 2011.

The closures will affect the portion of Mt Keira Rd between Queen Elizabeth Drive to the Hiking Track Parking Area above the Archery Club. Queen Elizabeth Drive will remain open to the public coming from the Bissel Road and easterly-bound direction.

There will be no public access to Mt Keira Scout Camp during the road closure times detailed above.

Control of Traffic

Traffic will be controlled on the above roads from approximately 10.00 am on Thursday 24th November until Monday 28th November 2011.

Parking

Parking for the event will be available at the Mountain Top Restaurant. While limited parking is available at the Hiking Track Parking Area, spectators are advised to park at the Mountain Top Restaurant.

For further information please contact Council's Events Assistant [] on [].

Any inconvenience is regretted.

*To be advertised in the Illawarra Mercury on [] 2011.

5.4 Parking Plan

Please refer to Traffic Management Map. Parking will be centred at the Mountain Top Restaurant, with some capacity at the Hiking Track turnaround.

6. Emergency Response Plan

ASRA will run the event in accordance with its Risk Management Plan. This ensures that any risks to competitors, spectators, and ASRA staff and volunteers are minimized.

For more significant emergencies, all ASRA staff will have a list of emergency contacts at their disposal, including contact details for the police, fire department and ambulance services. Prior to the event discussions will be had with each of these agencies to brief them about the event and determine appropriate contact details.

7. Statement of Environmental Effects

Name: Australian Skateboard Racing Association

Proposed Event: Mt Keira Downhill Challenge

Dates: 24-28 November 2011

Overview

The Mt Keira Downhill Challenge is a “green” event. The focus of the event is on the competitive usage of self-powered skateboards. Structures will be temporary and ASRA will ensure that rubbish is adequately provided for.

Number of People

The event will attract approximately 150 competitors. Estimated spectator numbers are difficult to gauge, but ASRA estimates that anywhere from 500-1000 people may attend throughout the weekend.

Hours

The event will take place during the road closure of Mount Keira Road, which is from 7am-5pm on 25th to 27th November.

Noise

Noise will be limited. The competitors make very little noise, riding non-motorised vehicles. There will be a localised PA at the startline and noise from buses carrying competitors and spectators up the hill.

Parking

Parking is covered in Section 5.4 of this proposal.

Lighting

No lighting will be utilised.

Waste Management

ASRA will provide an appropriate number of garbage and recycling bins at the start and finish areas, as well as at spectator viewpoints.

Toilet Facilities

ASRA will provide an appropriate number of toilet facilities at the start and finish areas, as well as at the main spectator viewpoint. Please see site map for locations of toilet facilities.

Temporary Structures

Shade tents/marquees will be placed at the start and finish area. These marquees are temporary and will not cause any permanent damage or effect to the area in which they are placed.

Food Stalls/Mobile Food Vans

It is anticipated that there will be a food stall at the start area.

Security

This is covered in Section 2.4.5 of the proposal.

Disabled Access

Disabled individuals will have access to the spectator points via the shuttle bus.

Emergency Procedures

Refer to Section 6. of this proposal.

8. Appendixes

The following forms are appended.

- M2 Development/Building Application
- M4 Activity Application
- Application to Occupy a Roadway/Footpath