THE NITTANY STAGE RACE



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Centre County to Host State Championship Bicycle Race

State College, PA. The Penn State Cycling Club is proud to announce that the *Nittany Stage Race* will be the *Pennsylvania Elite Women's Road Race* on Saturday, August 1st 2015. This event will be the championship race for top female cyclists throughout Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

The *Pennsylvania Elite Women's Road Race* will begin in Black Moshannon State Park on August 1st at 12:30. It will take competitors on a 64 mile course with more than 5,700 ft. of climbing, finishing along the beautiful mountain top lake of Black Moshannon. On Sunday morning these cyclists will then compete in two more races on the campus of the Pennsylvania State University and in the downtown. The entire weekend will feature 19 races, six categories of cyclists and a total prize purse of \$12,000.

"The Pennsylvania Cycling Association (PCA) is a Local Association for USA Cycling, managing amateur racing in Pennsylvania and West Virginia," says David Mitchell, president of the PCA. "Over 150 female athletes are registered with the PCA, and Female cyclists are affiliated with 53 of the more than 60 teams ranked in its year round competitions." Last year the PCA awarded over \$2000 to grow the sport and 50% of that amount was given to programs that exclusively support women's racing. Since 2011 the number of women licensed riders in PA has grown every year and in 2014 15% of all PA licensed riders were women, beating the national average of 13%.

The Nittany Stage Race is promoted and organized by the Penn State Cycling Club. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Bestwick Foundation, a local charity that supports residents of the Centre region. For more information about the Bestwick Foundation please contact event coordinator Chuck Morrison at <u>chuck@bestwickfoundation.org</u>. For more information about the **Nittany Stage Race** or the cycling club please visit <u>RaceStateCollege.com</u>.