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Louisville-Based Junior Cycling Team to Debut at Local Event

Louisville, Ky. (October 16, 2007) — Red Zone Cycling, a new Louisville-based junior development cycling team, today announced its roster for the 2007-2008 racing season. Twenty-seven young cyclists, ages 6–16, will make their team debut at the presentation of race numbers to Elite competitors in town for the Papa John’s Derby City Cup. The event is Friday, Oct. 26, 5:30 pm, at the Kentucky Derby Museum. The team then will compete in racing all weekend at the newly named “Champions Park,” formerly the River Road Country Club.

The formation of Red Zone Cycling ends a decade-long absence of a dedicated junior cycling program in Louisville. The team consists of two squads. The elite junior team is comprised of 16 United States Cycling Federation (USCF) racing license holders, ages 10-16 years old. They will be joined by 11 members of a “junior” junior squad, kids between the ages of 6-9 who will race “kids races” during USCF sanctioned cycling races.

Team members range in all levels of experience. They also represent many area schools, including: Dunn Elementary, St. Matthews Elementary, St. Agnes, Holy Trinity, Walden School, Meyzeek Middle School, Coleridge Taylor Elementary, Highland Latin School, Montessori School of Louisville, and some home schooled students.

The new cycling team will officially begin competing throughout Cyclocross season, which started in September and goes into January. In December, several of the team members will compete at the USCF Cyclocross National Championships in Kansas City, Mo. The team will then switch gears to focus on training for Mountain Bike and Road seasons that begin in spring of next year.

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Red Zone Cycling began as a “what if” conversation between several parents. The idea gained steam during the summer when Papa John’s Racing Team Captain Robert Bobrow started “Kids Cross” practices. With many of the kids already involved in bike-riding through their competitive cycling parents, Red Zone Cycling team members already have scored four Kentucky State Road Championships in London, Kentucky in early September and have wins in road, cyclocross and mountain biking disciplines. They look forward to competing in the junior Derby Cup events on what is essentially their “home court” at Champions Park.

Several Louisville companies are offering monetary sponsorship for the new team in order to offset uniform costs and race fees. In the future sponsorship money will also ensure junior cycling community outreach projects. Current sponsors include: Sam Swope Auto Group, GM Goodwrench, 2WheelSports, Clarksville Schwinn and Walton Jones Realtors Inc.

The Papa John’s Derby City Cup, presented by Toyota is the first stop on the 2007 United States Gran Prix of Cyclocross. It is the first UCI sanctioned cyclocross race ever to take place in Louisville. The weekend kicks off with a Friday afternoon Clif Bar Kids’ Cross Clinic with world championship silver medalist Danny Summerhill at Champions Park. Friday evening is the athlete Number Presentation Ceremony at the Kentucky Derby Museum. Racing starts at 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning, Oct. 27.

For more Red Zone Cycling information, please contact Lesley McShane at 727-9471, lmcshane@insightbb.com or visit www.redzonecycling.com. Visit www.2wheelsports.com or www.usgpcyclocross.com for Papa John’s Derby City Cup information.

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