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Media Contacts:

City of Charleston: Tina Stinson, <u>Tina.Stinson@cityofcharleston.org</u>, 304-444-6782

Spilman Thomas & Battle: Tiffany Fridley, <u>TFridley@spilmanlaw.com</u>, 304-720-3441

Charleston CVB: Leslie Smithson, <u>Leslie.smithson@charlestonwv.com</u>, 304-546-0046

Mayor and CVB Announce Presenting Sponsor and 2025 Dates for USA Cycling Event

Pro Road National Championships presented by Spilman Thomas & Battle take place May 19-26

Charleston, W.Va. – Mayor Amy Shuler Goodwin and the Charleston Convention & Visitors Bureau today announced the dates for the 2025 USA Cycling Pro Road National Championships presented by Spilman Thomas & Battle are May 19-26. This year's event is expanded to include the debut of the Under-23 (U-23) Women's Road Race as a standalone event and the addition of Para-cycling. The Para-cycling discipline includes athletes with visual or physical impairments who compete on bicycles, tricycles, and handcycles.

Race times are to be announced, but these events are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, May 19: Para Road Race
- Tuesday, May 20: Individual Time Trial for Para, Women Junior, and Men Junior
- Wednesday, May 21: Individual Time Trial for Women U-23, Elite Women, Men U-23, and Elite Men
- Thursday, May 22: Criterium for Women Junior, Men Junior, Women U-23, and Men U-23
- Friday, May 23: Criterium for Para Handcycle Relay, Elite Women, and Elite Men
- Saturday, May 24: Road Race for Women U-23 and Men U-23
- Sunday, May 25: Road Race for Men Junior and Women Junior
- Monday, May 26: Road Race for Elite Women and Elite Men

CVB officials made the announcement at the offices of Spilman Thomas & Battle the event's new presenting sponsor.

"One of the most remarkable aspects of our first year hosting the USA Cycling Pro Road National Championships was the way our community rallied behind cycling—folks showed up to cheer on world-class athletes, volunteers offered their time to help along the race routes, and local businesses embraced the energy of race week. We are preparing for our second year and could not be more excited – especially with the addition of Para-cycling this year," said Mayor Amy Shuler Goodwin. "Thank you, Spillman Thomas & Battle, for your generous support of the USA Cycling Pro Road National Championships and your ongoing commitment to our city."

Michael Basile, Managing Partner with Spilman Thomas & Battle, said, "Sponsoring the USA Cycling Pro Road National Championships is an exciting opportunity to support both elite athletics and our regional economy. This event not only highlights Charleston as 'Bike City USA,' but also fosters community engagement and economic growth – visions to which we have committed our support in this community since 1864!"

The 2024 USA Cycling Pro Road National Championships made a significant impact on the city. The inaugural event generated an estimated \$4.6 million economic impact. Visitor spending was up 22% and the city hosted 2,794 overnight guests.

Four-hundred, thirty-five athletes from 46 states competed. Kristen Faulkner, the winner of Charleston's 2024 Elite/U-23 Road Race, earned two gold medals at the Olympic Games in Paris.

The Charleston community embraced the race and the athletes. Hundreds of volunteers dedicated 2,400 hours of service to marshal the race, families hosted riders, and people packed the streets to cheer and ring cowbells. In September, the USA Cycling Pro Road National Championships Volunteers and the Charleston Community were awarded the 2024 Spirit of West Virginia Award at the Governor's Conference on Tourism.

"Winning a cycling race takes more than just speed and endurance — it requires strategic thinking, planning, teamwork, execution, and – perhaps foremost – the ability to navigate obstacles in real-time. The same is true in the practice of law. At Spilman, we pride ourselves on accessing client interests, crafting and then executing winning strategies for our clients, just as racing teams access the course, plan strategies, and then execute – all toward finishing first. We are honored to support an event that embodies the principles by which we live and work every day," Basile said.

Charleston Convention & Visitors Bureau Charlestonwv.com

For more information on the USA Cycling Pro Road National Championships presented by Spilman Thomas & Battle, visit <u>charlestonwv.com</u>.

For more information on Bike City USA, visit Bike City USA.

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