



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Embargoed until Friday May 15, 2009**

### **Greatest Supercross racer of all time to race in Canberra**

*America's Jeremy McGrath confirmed to race in Canberra's first ever Super X race*

Canberra Stadium will be transformed into a massive dirt colosseum for an epic Supercross showdown between two of the sport's greats when Super X storms into Canberra for the first time on November 7.

America's Jeremy McGrath, who is the greatest Supercross racer of all time, will battle it out with Australia's two time world Supercross champion, Chad Reed, to claim top spot on the podium in the fourth round of the 2009 Australasian Supercross Championship.

McGrath and Reed share two decades of success in America's AMA Supercross Series, which is the highest level of the sport in the world.

Widely attributed as the rider behind the highly successful phenomenon of Supercross, McGrath injected a new breed of talent and sportsmanship into the emerging action sport, which resulted in an explosion of its popularity.

The rivalry is set to be fierce between the seven time world champion McGrath and Reed, who admits to idolising the 'King' as he progressed through the local ranks of competition before setting his sights on the international stage.

Organisers believe this match up will draw a crowd of over 15,000 to Canberra Stadium for Canberra's first race of the revolutionary Supercross series.

"The decision to bring Super X to Canberra was an easy one," said Michael Porra the promoter of Super X. "There is a huge dirt bike following in and around the region and Canberra Stadium is a perfect venue for Supercross. The fact that fans will get to see such a mouth-watering matchup between two Supercross legends just adds to the excitement.

"The crowd will be right on top of the full sized US track that will be moulded from 6,000 tonnes of dirt. A track like this has never been seen in Canberra before and the racing will be fast and cut-throat. Everyone knows Canberra fans are loud and get right behind their sport so the atmosphere will be unbelievable."

Super X is expected to inject almost \$2 million into Canberra by attracting fans from all over the region and surrounding areas as well as Super X personnel, teams, riders, families, sponsors and manufacturers, which will all be part of the monumental event and will fill hotels restaurants, pubs and shops.

In 2008 Super X saw 90,000 people fill stadiums across Australia and an incredible four million viewers tuned in to watch the series live on television in its inaugural year.

Australia has never seen a Supercross series like it with a combination of exciting new race formats, full sized US tracks, international Supercross legends and live television coverage of every round, which was a first for any Supercross series in the world.

In 2009 Super X will be back bigger and better with more new race formats, Jeremy McGrath competing at several rounds, Australian world Supercross champion, Chad Reed, back to defend his title and amazing new venues including a race in New Zealand.

In 2009 the most exciting and popular race formats will return to Super X as well as all new formats that will test riders and their differing strengths. There will also be an exciting and unique exhibition race to add to the entertainment for fans at every round.

Survival, Triple Challenge, Quadruple Challenge, Round Robin, 2 x 10 lap races and the traditional 20 lap race will all feature as a final format in the Open class. This year the 250cc class will also race several events over the new formats.

Porra said the different formats were a massive success in 2008 because they are much shorter and faster than the traditional 20 lap races, which resulted in closer racing with no room for error.

“The exciting new formats in Super X provide a way for every good rider to have a chance of winning on his day. This made for extremely competitive racing because every rider on the track believed they had a chance and went for it. This competitiveness will only get stronger every year, which is great news for Supercross fans.”

All of the Australian riders who competed last year will return to the championship in 2009 as well as more international and top Australian riders who compete in the US to be announced over the coming months.

Fox Sports will once again cover every race live and Network Ten will run a one hour highlights package the weekend after each round. Tracks will be custom designed and built for each venue by internationally renowned American track designer, Jason Barker, and will incorporate many new challenges for riders.

For more information and ticket announcements stay tuned to [www.superx.com.au](http://www.superx.com.au)

Series schedule:

Date	Location	Venue	Final race format
October 17	Tasmania	Aurora Stadium, Launceston	TBC
October 24	Victoria	Skilled Stadium, Geelong	TBC
October 31	Western Australia	Burswood Dome, Perth	TBC
November 7	Canberra	Canberra Stadium	TBC
November 14	New South Wales	Parramatta Stadium	TBC
November 21	New Zealand	Waikato Stadium	TBC
December 5	Queensland	QSAC stadium, Brisbane	TBC

#### **PR Contact**

Jaime Mortimer

Global Action Sports

Ph: 02 9979 5322 or 0402 320645

Email: [jaime@globalactionsports.com.au](mailto:jaime@globalactionsports.com.au)

