



For Immediate Release

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## **Cascade Cycling Classic presented by Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon Announces UCI Status and Category Changes**

The longest running professional stage race in the nation, the Cascade Cycling Classic is pleased to announce that the Pro Men and Pro Women's races are now sanctioned by the UCI (International Cycling Union). The UCI is the world governing body for sports cycling and oversees international competitive cycling events. Having UCI 2.2 status allows pro continental as well as international teams to compete in the CCC whereas they were not allowed to participate prior to the sanctioning change.

MBSEF, the organizer of the Cascade Cycling Classic has already been contacted by several international teams. Chad Sperry, the race promotor of the Cascade Cycling Classic said "this is very exciting news for the race because it will bring many of the top teams from all over the world to Central Oregon. The level of competition will be better than ever!"

The other exciting change is that the Cascade Cycling Classic is making the amateur race an elite 4 day stage race. The amateur race will be a Category 2/3 Men's Race with a maximum field size of 130. This change will allow the organizers to focus their efforts on the men's and women's professional races and the elite Cat 2/3 amateur race.

The Cascade Cycling Classic p/b Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon will be held on July 19-23, 2017 in Bend, Oregon.

Team applications will be reviewed in January with team selection decisions to be made in February by the race organizer, MBSEF.

Please contact Molly Cogswell-Kelley at the MBSEF office: 541-388-0002 if you have any questions. [molly@mbsef.org](mailto:molly@mbsef.org). [www.cascade-classic.org](http://www.cascade-classic.org).