



Stuart Ayres

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events

Minister for Sport

MEDIA RELEASE

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FIM ASIA SUPERMOTO CHAMPIONSHIPS SECURED FOR NEWCASTLE

Regional NSW has again confirmed it is home to major international sporting events, with the Australian round of the FIM Asia Supermoto Championships secured for Newcastle for the next three years.

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events and Minister for Sport Stuart Ayres was in the region today to make the announcement, and said this would be the first time a round of one of Asia's premier motorcycle competitions will be held in Australia.

"This event secured exclusively for Newcastle, by the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency Destination NSW, is a major coup for Regional NSW with the event expected to attract over 3,330 overnight visitors with a total visitor spend of \$1.9 million over the three year period," Mr Ayres said.

"The 2016 FIM Asia Supermoto Championships will be a four round series consisting of the top 20 Asian Supermoto riders, combining on-and-off road elements on specially designed tracks, and we are delighted to have the opportunity to further showcase the region's fantastic facilities to a global audience.

"Our State continues to be the country's biggest draw card when it comes to attracting sports, we look forward to welcoming competitors and spectators to Newcastle later this year for this Australian first event."

Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter Scot MacDonald said events such as the FIM Asia Supermoto Championships are great for our local visitor economy.

"Newcastle is one of Australia's leading major events and tourism destinations, and hosting this event over the next three years will generate significant economic benefits for the area," Mr MacDonald said.

"We are excited to highlight the region's vibrant cafes and restaurants, spectacular beaches and provide visitors with the chance to explore the wineries and beautiful scenery of the nearby Hunter Valley."

The Australian round of the 2016 FIM Asia Supermoto Championships will be held at Foreshore Park in Newcastle on 3 & 4 September.