SALT LAKE CITY (April 2, 2019) – The Ultimate Challenge presented by University of Utah Health, a non-competitive, gran fondo-style bicycle ride hosted by the Larry H. Miller Tour of Utah, returns for a 10th year on Saturday, Aug. 17. For the first time, both the start and the finish will take place at Canyons Village at Park City Mountain. Riders who register online before May 1 qualify for $20-25 discounts on the standard entry fees for two route options.

This unique event has become a bucket-list event for cyclists, allowing individuals and amateur teams to ride one of the demanding mountain courses that is used by the professional cyclists at the Tour of Utah stage race. The Ultimate Challenge riders and the Tour of Utah pros will share a start and finish location at Canyons Village at Park City Mountain on Saturday. However, while the pros compete on a new Stage 5 course that day, the UC participants will preview the Tour of Utah Stage 6 course.

The Ultimate Challenge will follow the roads that the pros will tackle on the final day of the seven-day stage race. The 93-mile Ultimate Challenge long route will include 8,300 feet of elevation gain and two major climbs. A shorter 43-mile option is also available with 2,080 feet of climbing. The full route includes the infamous seven-mile climb of Empire Pass along Pine Canyon Road. It will also be the only opportunity for amateur cyclists to test climbing skills on the eight-mile ascent through exclusive Wolf Creek Ranch. Ride times over these two sections will be recorded to determine King and Queen of the Mountain awards, recognizing the top man and woman with the lowest cumulative, combined scores on the full course.

Highlights for The Ultimate Challenge presented by University of Utah Health include:
- Two ride options available at distances of 93 miles and 43 miles
- Start and finish hosted at Canyons Village at Park City Mountain on Aug. 17
- King of the Mountain and Queen of the Mountain awards
- Ultimate Challenge T-shirt and commemorative pint glass at packet pickup
- Fully-stocked hydration support at multiple locations along the course
- Mechanical support provided on the route by Hangar 15 Bicycles
- Watch Party area at Canyons Village at Park City Mountain for friends, family and riders
- Post-ride meal and a concert following conclusion of Stage 5 (Tour of Utah)
It is the second year for The Ultimate Challenge to start at Canyons Village at Park City Mountain. It marks the fifth year for University of Utah Health to support the event as the presenting sponsor. The Ultimate Challenge is also part of the Summer of Cycling program, which provides entry for a total of four Utah cycling events as well as training programs and discounts.

The Ultimate Challenge will have staggered start times for the two rides, 93-mile full course begins at 10:30 a.m. and 43-mile short course begins at 12:30 p.m. After May 1, the regular registration fee for the full course will be $140; the short course will be $95. Information on registration, packet pickup locations, limited-edition merchandise from DNA Cycling, and lodging specials can be found at www.rideutlimatechallenge.com. Details of the course will be unveiled in June, when the final route for all seven race days of the Tour of Utah will be announced.

The 2019 Larry H. Miller Tour of Utah on Aug. 12-18 remains a 2.HC-rated stage race on the UCI America Tour, making it one of the premier events for professional cycling teams in North America. It is also one of the prominent road cycling events that is part of USA Cycling’s Professional Road Tour. The Tour of Utah is free to all spectators, making professional cycling one of the most unique professional sports in the world today.

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About the Larry H. Miller Tour of Utah

The Larry H. Miller Tour of Utah, referred to as "America's Toughest Stage Race™," is a week-long, professional cycling stage race for the best men’s teams in the world. The 2019 event will be held Aug. 12-18. Last year the Tour covered 548 miles of racing and 43,780 feet of elevation gain. Now in its 15th year, the event was elevated in 2015 as a 2.HC-rated UCI stage race, making it one of the premier events in North America. The Tour of Utah is owned by Larry H. Miller Sports & Entertainment. More information about the Tour of Utah and host venues can be found by visiting www.tourofutah.com, as well as social channels Facebook (tourofutah), Twitter (tourofutah), Instagram (thetourofutah) and YouTube (tourofutah).

Editor's Note

All times listed are MDT.

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