

I want to support the initiative that you are taking at the Giba Gorge MTB Park to encourage the development of BMX in South Africa.”

Ellen Bollansee UCI BMX co-ordinator

KZN BMX Academy

The KZN BMX Academy is a KZN BMX initiative supported by KZN Sports & Recreation. The academy aims to fuse various goals and objectives under one program in order to bring about a revival in BMX participation. The goal is to create home grown national and international sporting heroes, as we support and drive South Africa to becoming globally competitive in the sport of BMX.

The route to becoming globally competitive rests in two focus areas, 1) to build and develop world class training and racing facilities and 2) to identify and develop talented individuals.

Through a combined partnership between Cycling KZN, KZN BMX, KZN Sports & Recreation & Giba Gorge MTB Park these objectives will be achieved by addressing the following ;

- Mass participation
- Talent ID
- Lowering the barrier to entry
- Building a UCI certified Supercross and challenge class track
- Training facility
- Skills transfer through international riders and coaches
- Hosting of international events
- Further development of training & recreational facilities throughout KZN in both rural and urban areas



GIBA Community Upliftment

Giba Gorge MTB Park has been successfully running a cycling development & transformation program aimed directly at the local communities of the park since 2007. The program has taken riders from absolute grass roots level of cycling to obtaining podium positions at a national level. Giba has also been integral in playing a role in developing skills both on and off the bike that have enabled riders to take on career paths within the cycling industry.



Vision

To create a self sustaining Athlete Development Program to primarily support the grass roots development of riders from disadvantaged backgrounds. We aim to develop an International High Performance BMX & MTB Training Facility comprising of an upmarket B&B designed for high performance teams, a world class Supercross BMX Track & world class MTB trails. The target audience would be European Elite teams who are looking for an alternative training destination during their winter months, as well as local, national and recreational riders looking to make use of the facility. The revenue raised from the hiring of the facility would be used to sustain the Giba Athlete Development Program for BMX & MTB, to benefit development and transformation through the local communities as well as providing a world class training facility for South Africa's Elite and Junior Elite athletes.

Objective

The primary objective of this program is to identify natural talent at grass roots level with the intention of nurturing & guiding the riders in a structured and safe environment so that they may one day become national and international champions in their respective cycling disciplines.

Giba Gorge MTB Park proposes that the following objectives within the sport of cycling can be achieved by making Transformation & Development within the sports of bicycle motocross (BMX), mountain biking (MTB) one of the PRIMARY OBJECTIVES of Giba Gorge MTB Park.

- Make sport & recreation accessible to all – by creating a platform for disadvantage persons to enter the competitive & recreational sport of off road cycling
- Ensure all athletes have equal opportunities to excel – by creating a safe training & recreation environment with supportive CSA certified coaches and mentors implementing outcome based development programs
- Engage local schools – Identify talent through schools selection process. Feedback pupil's achievements to schools for recognition.
- Create a platform of excellence with specific focus on woman and youth for participation as future South African Elite Athletes within the international sporting arena.
- Create a high performance training facility that will attract international competitors for training camps
- Create a mechanism that supports skills transfer by bringing international athletes and coaches to our facility where participants of our program can benefit from their experience
- Create a platform that supports skills development and promotes job creation such as; coaches, team managers & bike mechanics

