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## **DUPAGE SPORTS COMMISSION UNVEILS CONTINUATION OF DUPAGE TRIPLE CROWN IN INTELLIGENTSIA CUP SERIES**

*DSC invites the community to this summer's biggest race and a chance to win a special New Belgium Brewing bike while supporting Special Olympics Illinois.*

**OAK BROOK, IL** — At one of the most well-known and respected cycling races in the country, DuPage County is vying for fan favorite. In its tenth year, the Intelligentsia Cup cycling series will once again offer 10 continuous days of racing in different Chicagoland communities, with three criterium races in DuPage County: the Ray Whalen Builders Tour of Lake Ellyn (July 23), the Winfield Criterium & Summerfest (July 24), and the Lombard Cycling Classic (July 26) — forming the “DuPage Triple Crown.” Launched in 2019 by the DuPage Sports Commission (DSC), the DuPage Triple Crown offers another layer of fun and excitement for riders and spectators.

“We are looking forward to a great summer of competition,” said Igor Bakovic, who leads the DuPage Sports Commission and is responsible for securing and supporting sporting events that are a good fit for the DuPage community. “DuPage is the healthiest county in Illinois, even ranked number one for the best outdoor recreation. Intelligentsia Cup and DuPage are a perfect fit.”

The popular cycling series regularly welcomes more than 900 racers representing as many as 38 states and 12 foreign countries ranging from beginners and juniors to professional athletes. Intelligentsia Cup is popular for a reason — each location offers a different experience for races whether open green space or a sophisticated downtown district, gritty heart-racing turns, numerous food truck offerings and festive atmosphere for fans complete with no tickets required. Winners are announced at each race location for different categories.

Within the Intelligentsia Cup series, the DuPage Triple Crown will be its own omnium — known in the cycling world as a multiday event — to include the racers at Glen Ellyn, Winfield and Lombard in the following five (5) categories: Men Cat 3, Masters 50/60+, Women Cat 2/3, Men Cat 2, and Masters 40+. The omnium leader in each category respectively at Glen Ellyn, Winfield and Lombard will each receive a DuPage Triple Crown jersey. The final scoring, using Intelligentsia Cup’s collective points scoring method, will determine the five (5) final DuPage Triple Crown champions — the rider in each of the five categories with the most collective points in the three DuPage races. The five winners will be crowned at the Lombard Cycling Classic, each walking away with a Triple Crown cash prize of \$300 in addition to other race purses, and bragging rights as among the very best in competition.

Fittingly, FAT TIRE will join the festivities by raffling off a limited 2022 New Belgium Brewing-branded bike at the Lombard Cycling Classic. Raffle tickets are available for purchase all day on race day until 8pm at the DuPage Sports Commission tent: five for \$25 or 10 for \$40. The winning ticket will be pulled at 8pm. Raffle participants must be present to win. All proceeds of the raffle will benefit Special Olympics Illinois, located locally in the Village of Lombard. Special Olympics began in Illinois in 1968 and today Special Olympics Illinois serves more than 21,000 athletes each year with training and athletic competition, along with health education, leadership and personal development. Their work ensures people with and without disabilities benefit from the joy and transformative nature of sport.

“Part of the mission of the DuPage Sports Commission is to positively impact our community through support of athletic programming,” said Bakovic. “The DuPage Triple Crown provides a platform for us to acknowledge the important work of Special Olympics Illinois and ask others to join us in supporting their mission – a mission that ultimately speaks far beyond sport to quality of life, leadership, and personal development. A special thank you to New Belgium Brewing for their commitment to this event and the amazing bike that one lucky winner will get to enjoy.”

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**ABOUT THE DUPAGE CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**

The DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau (DCVB) is the official destination marketing organization for DuPage County, Illinois’ second largest County comprised of 38 communities. The DCVB works in partnership with community business and civic leaders to maximize travel and tourism opportunities which ultimately contribute to the economic vitality of the County and its residents. For more information, visit [www.DiscoverDuPage.com](http://www.DiscoverDuPage.com).

Centrally located for all of the 10 Intelligentsia Cup events, DuPage County is a good choice for athletes and visitors, offering comprehensive hotel options and the best dining, shopping and entertainment outside of Chicago. “The Villages of Glen Ellyn, Winfield and Lombard are proud to welcome participants, fans and families,” said Bakovic. “Make it a long weekend. Shop the quaint downtown of Glen Ellyn. Dine at PIER 19 Restaurant at Kline Creek Golf Club in Winfield. Stroll beautiful Lilacia Park or take the family to the award-winning Paradise Bay Water Park in Lombard. There is a lot to do in these communities and there is no better time to plan a getaway in DuPage.”

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#### About the DuPage Sports Commission

Created by the not-for-profit organization DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau (DCVB), the DuPage Sports Commission (DSC) was founded in 2019 to harness the power of sports tourism on behalf of the County’s 38 communities and one million residents. The DSC is uniquely positioned to advocate for and actively impact the health of DuPage communities through strategic growth as an amateur, youth and professional sporting destination. For more information, visit [www.DuPageSportsCommission.com](http://www.DuPageSportsCommission.com).

#### About Intelligentsia Cup

Founded in 2012 as the Prairie State Cycling Series, the Intelligentsia Cup brings competitive bicycle races to the Chicago metro area, featuring top-level professional and elite amateur athletes. Each race venue includes exciting racing complemented by healthy and fun family activities, a lifestyle expo, as well as food and beverage from local vendors. For the complete schedule, visit: [www.intelligentsiacup.com](http://www.intelligentsiacup.com).



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