



**World Wide Sport Agency  
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## **“Never Say Never” Rucker to Bite Back at Crocodile**

**Shaken and stirred by the harsh reality of Australia's remote Far North, the cyclist who twice vowed never to return to the Crocodile Trophy has inked a deal to suit up to for a third (and likely final) shot at winning Australia's most prestigious endurance cycling event in 2007.**

**Austrian Stefan Rucker (Elk Haus) entered the 2006 Croc Trophy in career-best form, but his dream of winning the coveted classic went horribly off-track when he took a wrong turn on the opening stage.**

**“Stefan went up a dry gully last year , as you Australians would say,” Race Director Gerhard Schoenbacher commented as the parcours for the 2007 event was revealed.**



**Stefan Rucker**

**“He gets another chance this year, but the course will be tougher and the competition stronger in what I believe will be the most competitive Crocodile Trophy we have yet seen.”**

**The retirement of 2006 winner Christophe Stevens has opened up the race in 2007, and all eyes are on the return of consistent Hungarian Attila Marton, Czech hard-man Andrej Fojtik and the rider who had victory in his sights in 2006, Dane Michael Borup.**

**In a similar cruel twist of fate to Rucker, a navigational error cost Borup (Team Ghost) dearly in last year's race, but the Dane fought back to record numerous stage wins – vowing all the while to return “gladiator style” in 2007 and seek his vengeance.**

**The task this time around may not be so easy for Borup and his cohorts. The Trophy for 2007 will be staged over 10 days, with 1400 kilometres of racing packed into the schedule - and no rest day.**

**The final five days are expected to be particularly brutal, with an average of 150 kilometres per day on the soul destroying back roads across the savannah country and rainforest mountains at the Southern end of Cape York.**

**“We know from experience with this race, if it is hot, and normally that is the case, many of the riders will struggle to finish,” Schoenbacher said.**

**“It is our purpose with the Crocodile Trophy to find a worthy champion and it should not be forgotten that in Europe, indeed across the world, the title of 'Crocodile Trophy Winner' carries with it a certain prestige.”**



**Michael Borup**

**Sixty cyclists from 13 countries have already signed up for the Crocodile Trophy of 2007, among them inspirational Belgian ironman Marc Herremans, who aims to become the first hand cyclist to complete the race on a custom built bike.**

**A full field of seventy cyclists is expected at the start line in Mareeba on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, with Australia's Flight Centre team, anchored by 2006 stage winner David Wood, waiting until the completion of Australia's biggest one day mountainbike event, the Flight Centre Epic, to finalise its team roster.**

**Several other high profile signings for the race will shortly be announced.**

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**Crocodile Trophy - Laura Far North Queensland**





## 2007 Stage Plan

<b>Mareeba – Irvinebank</b>	<b>120km</b>	<b>23/10</b>
<b>Irvinebank – Koombooloomba</b>	<b>128km</b>	<b>24/10</b>
<b>Koombooloomba – Wombinoo</b>	<b>117km</b>	<b>25/10</b>
<b>Wombinoo – Chillagoe</b>	<b>169km</b>	<b>26/10</b>
<b>Chillagoe – Chillagoe</b>	<b>100km</b>	<b>27/10</b>
<b>Chillagoe – Mount Mulgrave</b>	<b>145km</b>	<b>28/10</b>
<b>Mt Mulgrave – King Junction</b>	<b>163km</b>	<b>29/10</b>
<b>King Junction – Laura</b>	<b>156km</b>	<b>30/10</b>
<b>Laura Cooktown</b>	<b>142km</b>	<b>31/10</b>
<b>Cooktown – Cape Tribulation</b>	<b>148km</b>	<b>01/11</b>

