



**World Wide Sport Agency
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Ready to Go in Crocodile Trophy 2007

The contenders in the Crocodile Trophy of 2007 made their intentions clear at yesterday's pre-race briefing in Australia's tropical capital of Cairns.

Relaxing on a wide open verandah, the largest field ever to assemble for the event listened intently as race supremo Gerhard Schoenbacher described the race route for the 13th staging of the epic race.

No-one was paying closer attention than Dane Michael Borup and Austrian Stefan Rucker, who both had chances to win the 2006 edition of the Crocodile Trophy, before straying from the parcours.

This year will be a more difficult task for both.

"I know that I am one of the strongest riders and one of the favourites, but I also think that this year there are other riders that are very strong too," Rucker said.

"Maybe there are better riders than last year, so it will be even harder."

Borup agreed with Rucker's prediction, knowing he too will be in for a more difficult campaign in his second attempt at the race.

"Wide open I would say given Stevens (2006 champion Christophe) has retired, so wide open," he said.

Lurking in the background at the race briefing, Felt Dream Team leader Mauro Bettin will wait until the end of today's opening stage before making any strong predictions.

"I think after tomorrow I look and see if my legs are of a winner," Bettin said.



2007 Stage Plan (Updated)

Mareeba – Irvinebank	80km	23/10
Irvinebank – Koombooloomba	107km	24/10
Koombooloomba – Gunnawarra	122km	25/10
Gunnawarra – Chillagoe	140km	26/10
Chillagoe – Chillagoe	140km	27/10
Chillagoe – Mount Mulgrave	120km	28/10
Mount Mulgrave – Laura	148km	29/10
Laura - Cooktown	142km	30/10
Cooktown – Daintree	106km	31/10
Daintree – Cape Tribulation	32km	01/11



*Cooktown .. a magic stage
finish atop Grassy Hill*