*Press Release*

*For Immediate Release*

**2023 Amashova Road Closure and Roadworks Update**

As race day approaches, the Amashova team remain dedicated to ensuring a safe and enjoyable event for cyclists with full road closure from Pietermaritzburg to Durban. Although the benefits from a tourism perspective of hosting a sporting event of this magnitude is enormous, the Amashova Race organisers are cognisant of the impact the race has on residents and small businesses along the route on race day. To try minimise disruptions and facilitate travel planning for residents, businesses and the public, the Amashova Race organisers are appealing to all locals to share the comprehensive list of road closure details for the areas along the route that will be impacted on Sunday, 22nd October 2023.

“We are collaborating closely with esteemed partners such as the Road Accident Fund (RAF), eThekwini Metro Police, SAPS, Msunduzi Traffic, RTI and other safety and logistics experts to secure the Amashova cycling route for race day. With the RAF partnering with us this year and for the next two consecutive years, we are further strengthening safety measures on the route on race day through strategically placed branded haybales along the race route for added protection for the cyclists. In addition, we've teamed up with Netstar to enhance our ability to track event vehicles effectively, which will further ensure the safety of our riders whilst on the route. We extend our sincere gratitude in advance to the residents and businesses along the route, who often are on the side lines cheering on passing cyclists while cooperating and adhering to road closures and safety measures on race day,” says Annie Batchelder, Amashova Durban Classic Race Director.

According to Batchelder, there is a small but significant route change going through Hillcrest this year, where the cyclists will not go along Kassier Road past Busamed Hillcrest Hospital and enter the M13 at Assagaai. Instead they will go up Old Main Road and turn into Hospital Road past Hillcrest Primary School to than enter the M13 via Plantations on Shongweni Road.

**Amashova 2023 Road Closure Details:**

* Chief Albert Luthuli Street to Alexandra Road: 04:00 AM - 09:00 AM
* Alexandra Road to Umlaas Road: 04:00 AM - 10:30 AM
* Umlaas Road to R103 Inchanga / 1000 Hills: 04:00 AM - 12:00 PM
* R103 Inchanga to Botha's Hill Butchery: 04:00 AM - 13:00 PM
* R103 Patna Road to R103 Galloway Road: 04:00 AM - 13:30 PM
* Old Main Road Hillcrest - Hospital Road: 04:45 AM - 13:30 PM
* Hospital Road / Shongweni Rd - M13 Hillcrest: 04:45 AM - 13:30 PM
* M13 Hillcrest to M13 Westville (Westbound) Pietermaritzburg bound: 04:00 AM - 14:30 PM
* M13 Westville to M13 45th Cutting (Westbound) Pietermaritzburg bound: 04:00 AM - 14:30 PM
* N3 outbound to Monty Naicker Street: 04:00 AM - 15:00 PM
* Monty Naicker Street (Pine Street): 04:00 AM - 15:00 PM
* Masabalala Yengwa Ave (Southbound): 04:00 AM - 16:00 PM

**Notice to Cyclists Regarding M13 Roadworks**

“We have recently engaged with several engineering companies overseeing the M13 upgrade near Westwood Mall. Due to the extensive roadworks currently underway on the N3 and M13 within this area, additional precautionary measures have been put in place. We are pleased to report that the engineers and roads department are fully aware of the upcoming Amashova event, and are committed to assisting us with signage and flag-wavers to ensure cyclists are well accommodated. These road closures and safety measures will be similar to those successfully implemented in 2019. We thank everyone for their patience and cooperation, and we look forward to yet another successful event,” adds Batchelder.

Late entries will still be accepted for those still eager to participate in the Amashova Durban Classic. Simply [click here](https://www.shova.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Amashova-Late-Entry-Form.pdf) to download an entry form from our website and submit the completed form to number collection at the Suncoast Globe during the following dates and times:

Friday, 20th October : 09:00 AM - 18:00 PM

Saturday, 21st October : 09:00 AM - 16:00 PM

Stay updated with all the latest news and updates by following @Amashova on Facebook and Instagram.

**ENDS**

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**Amashova Classic**

***About Amashova Durban Classic***

The Amashova Durban Classic began in 1986 making it SA’s oldest ‘classic’ cycling race. The idea of having a bicycle race on the route of the world famous comrades marathon was the dream of veteran Springbok Cyclist, Dave Wiseman and his friend Tony McMillian. Over the years the improvements on the route and road closures, accompanied by a steady increase of entries year after year and the involvement of some of the country’s top sponsors has helped make the ‘Shova’ one of the most loved and KZN’s biggest cycling race.

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