

BIG ENTRY EXPECTED FOR 2015 DJ RUN FOR CLASSIC MOTORCYCLES

By Roger Houghton, 18 January 2015

An entry of close to 100 riders is expected for the 2015 DJ Run, a regularity rally for classic motorcycles between Durban and Johannesburg, which takes place on March 6-7.

This annual event commemorates the original road race between these two cities which was staged between 1913 and 1936, the year in which the authorities banned racing on public roads on the grounds of safety. Therefore only motorcycles manufactured up to the December 31 1936 may participate in the 2015 DJ Run.



Ian Holmes will not be riding his 1934 500cc side valve Triumph in the 2015 DJ Run from Durban to Johannesburg on March 6-7.

Instead this former chairman of the Vintage Motorcycle Club has taken over the reins as Clerk of the Course and chief organiser of this famous, international event.

(The Triumph has a long DJ history and has completed over 20 DJ's under different riders including Betty Richmond).

“Only 40-odd entries had been received by early January, but traditionally the competitors enter nearer the closing date for entries, which is January 30 this year, so we expect to end up with a field of close to 100 competitors again,” commented the clerk of the course Ian Holmes, who heads up a committee which organises this international rally on behalf of the Vintage and Veteran Club of SA.

“We have had several enquiries from would-be competitors outside SA and Mark Palmer, of England, has entered already. We certainly expect the 2015 DJ Run to have a true international flavour by the time entries close,” added Holmes.

The 2015 DJ Regularity rally starts at 06:00 from the Oxford Village Shopping Centre in Old Main Road, Hillcrest, on March 6 and finishes from 15:00 the next day at the Classic Motorcycle Club's clubhouse on the corner of Power and Refinery Roads in Germiston after an overnight stop in Newcastle.

The Oxford Village Shopping Centre is a new start venue and the owners are making us most welcome as are the various towns on the route. However, the final section from Newcastle to the finish in Germiston will be very demanding on the riders due to road works between Perdekop and Greylingstad with some of the deviations in very poor condition with bad potholes.

“Originally we had looked at a route going from Pietermaritzburg and back to Pietermaritzburg due to the road works but the groundswell of opinion from competitors was that they wanted the event to run from Durban to the Reef as was the case with the original road races, despite them knowing of the poor road conditions they will encounter.”

The entry for the 2015 DJ Run is divided into four average speed groups – 50, 60, 70 and 80km/h – and five classes, with the first four based on engine capacity – 250cc, 350cc, 500cc and over 500cc – and the fifth class being for motorcycles with a sidecar.

Contact details for clerk of the course Ian Holmes are: Tel: 011-793-7304, Cell: 083-646-3089 and E-mail: ianhol@iafrica.com

Regulations have been posted on three websites: www.pomc.co.za, www.classicmotorcycleclub.co.za and www.vintageandveteranclub.co.za

Sponsors: Bike SA, Castrol, Harvey Travel. Classic Motorcycle Club, Maizey Plastics, Xerox, African Electroplating and Mad Mac Motorcycles.