

MEDIA RELEASE**For Immediate Release****Inaugural OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship to feature
7 national teams from the region, led by SEA Games double gold medallist
Hariff Salleh**

SINGAPORE, 28 August 2015 – A day before Singapore witnesses OCBC Cycle 2015, the thrill and excitement of the event is starting to build among the South-East Asian (SEA) teams who will battle it out for the OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship title.

OCBC Cycle 2015 unveils 7 national teams from South East Asia at Hotel Jen Orchardgateway Singapore.

- 1) Brunei
- 2) Cambodia
- 3) Indonesia
- 4) Malaysia
- 5) Myanmar
- 6) Philippines
- 7) Singapore

Representing the Malaysia national team is SEA Games double gold medallist - Mohd Hariff Bin Salleh, who ended a 10-year gold medal drought for his nation when he was crowned the winner of this year's SEA Games Men's Criterium. The cyclist from Terengganu Cycling Team also bagged gold in the men's 165km mass start road race.

The Malaysian ace will be looking to lead his team to victory on Saturday, 29 August 2015, but is under no illusions that the journey will be smooth with the Singapore team, powered by Team Singapore Captain, Junaidi Bin Hashim, and team mate Low Ji Wen, who was part of Singapore's SEA Games squad in June.

Speaking at the race's press conference held today at Hotel Jen, Hariff said: "I'm excited to be back in Singapore again within a short span of 3 months. Winning two gold medals during the SEA Games in June in Singapore meant a lot to me and my country. The competition at the OCBC Cycle SEA Championship may be tough, but we are all gunning for a win here. I am going to give it my all with my team. The new race format of a speedway race is unique in this part of the world. It's going to be an exciting race. I can't wait for tomorrow."

Joining him on stage was Low, who will be representing Singapore for this event. Echoing his Malaysian counterpart's sentiments, he said: "I think the unique race format will be a hit with the local and regional cycling scene. As it's going to be a condensed race, we will be seeing higher speeds, which will make things slightly more thrilling. Competition will be stiff, especially from the Malaysian team, but Team Singapore is ready to roll."

Singapore Cycling Federation's President, Mr Suhaimi Haji Said, was upbeat about the race, saying, "The inaugural OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship created quite a fair bit of buzz within the cycling community as it gives a platform for the region's best cyclists to pit their skills against each other in, undoubtedly, the most exciting and unique racing format. This will likely establish itself to become one of the cycling arena's key regional highlights in the years to come. I'm expecting a thrilling race with the teams from Indonesia and Philippines looking strong as well."

Indonesia will be boasting a strong line-up, including Robin Manullang who won the Men's Individual Time Trial 40km at this year's SEA Games, Endra Wijaya, champion of both Tour of Borneo in 2013 and the National Championships Indonesia (Road Race Champion), and team-mates Fatahillah Abdullah, who secured a second place at the GC Speedy Tour d'Indonesia in 2010, Projo Waseso, stage three winner of Tour Of East Java in 2010, and Elan Riyadi, who shared the podium spot with compatriot Wijaya at the National Championships Indonesia (Road Race Champion) last year when he clinched third place.

The thrilling new format, a first in Singapore and the region, will see four riders in each team riding a total of 10 laps in pairs, around a fast and flat 1-kilometre course.

The first two cyclists will ride five laps handing it off to the second pairing who will finish off the remaining laps. The race will offer fast, awe-inspiring action in a spectator-friendly format. The OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship can be viewed from many vantage points along the course, and will give the spectators an up close and personal experience as they watch the riders whizz by. Prizes of \$6,000, \$4,000 and \$2,000 will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams respectively.

Ms Koh Ching Ching, Head of Group Corporate Communications, OCBC Bank, said: “We introduced the OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship as a new competitive component in OCBC Cycle 2015. As a regional bank, our support for a SEA race makes a lot of sense for us. We are very excited with the participation of 7 national teams in our first OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship race. This race will see these teams pit their skills against one another in a whole new and unique race format. Through this race, we have the opportunity to witness where each team stands amongst the region’s best. We wish all teams the very best for tomorrow’s race. May the best team win! We are very excited to award the winning team the inaugural OCBC Cycle 2015 SEA Speedway Championship trophy and prize money of S\$6,000.”

The OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship will be held on Saturday, 29th of August 2015 at the Singapore Sports Hub. Also on the same day, there will be other categories taking place: the Mighty Savers Kids and Family Rides, together with the OCBC Cycle Speedway Club Championship where 15 top local cycling teams will be competing in. The community rides, The Straits Times Ride and The Sportive Ride, will be held the following day. All foreign riders taking part in the OCBC Cycle SEA Championship will be housed at Hotel Jen Orchardgateway Singapore.

More details on the activities leading up to OCBC Cycle 2015 can be found on www.ocbccycle.com .

Programme Schedule**A. Saturday, 29th August:**

Time	Event Categories
1230hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway Club Championship Qualifying 1
1305hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway Club Championship Qualifying 2
1340hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway Club Championship Qualifying 3
1415hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway S.E.A Championship Qualifying 1
1450hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway S.E.A Championship Qualifying 2

Time	Event Categories
1550hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway Club Championship Semi Finals 1
1625hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway Club Championship Semi Finals 2
1700hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway S.E.A Championship Semi Finals
1800hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway Club Championship Finals
1835hrs	OCBC Cycle Speedway S.E.A Championship Finals

B. Saturday, 29th August:

Event Categories	Distance/ Duration	Flag Off Time
Mighty Savers® Kids Ride (2 – 5 years old)	100m	0900hrs
Mighty Savers® Kids Ride (5 – 9 years old)	20 minutes	0930hrs, 1030hrs
Mighty Savers® Family Ride (5 – 9 years old)	20 minutes	
Mighty Savers® Kids Ride (10 – 12 years old)	30 minutes	1130hrs

C. Sunday, 30th August:

Event Categories	Distance/ Duration	Flag Off Time
The Sportive Ride	42km	0515hrs
The Straits Times Ride	23km	0700hrs

SOCIAL MEDIA ASSETS

Keywords:

#OCBCCycle, #cycling, #SpeedwayChamp, #SEA



Suggested tweet: OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship to feature regional field led by SEA Games double gold medalist Hariff Salleh



Suggested Facebook post: OCBC Cycle SEA Speedway Championship to feature regional field led by SEA Games double gold medalist Hariff Salleh.

For more details, please visit www.ocbccycle.com.

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC Bank is consistently ranked among the world's strongest and safest banks by leading market research firms and publications.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has over 630 branches and representative offices in 18 countries and territories. These include the more than 330 branches and offices in Indonesia operated by subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and 95 branches and offices in Hong Kong, China and Macau under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which has received increasing industry recognition as Asia's Global Private Bank, and was voted "Outstanding Private Bank in Southeast Asia in 2014" by Private Banker International.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com.

List of countries participating in the OCBC SEA

Championship

S/N	Country	Cyclists
1	Brunei	Abdul Hadrie Morsidi Azmi Bin Abd Hadzid Mohammad Radzi Bin Tamat Mohd Shahrom Ayub Bin Hj Yakob Reduan Bin Yusop
2	Cambodia	Eng Lin Keo Ratha Nhonh Lenh Seng Kheang Yoeun Phyuth
3	Indonesia	Elan Riyadi Endra Wijaya Fatahillah Abdullah Projo Waseso Robin Manullang
4	Malaysia	Mohd Hariff Bin Salleh Mohd Saiful Anuar Bin Aziz Mohd Sharul Bin Amat Amin Muhamad Adiq Husainie Bin Othman Muhammad Fauzan Bin Ahmad Lutfi
5	Myanmar	Aung Phyo Wai Aung Myo Naing Kyaw Tun Oo Soe Thant Zaw Win Ko
6	Philippines	Mark Rhone Antonio George Luis Oconer Jerry Jr. Aquino Rustom Cabanilla Lim
7	Singapore	Junaidi Bin Hashim Lee Shern Mun Benedict Low Ji Wen Mohamed Elyas Yusoff Syed Amir Haziq Ahmad