



## **Motorcycle Trials World Championship at Sequatchie, Tennessee**

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### **World championship motorcycle trials competition returning to Tennessee, April 26-27**

Sequatchie, Tennessee, U.S.A. —The best waterfall-leaping motorcycle riders in the world will test their courage against some of the United States' most stunning terrain here Saturday and Sunday, April 26-27.

“As we saw in our 2006 world event, this is beyond extreme,” said event organizer Dan Brown. “And it happens in only one place and on only one weekend in North America.”

An elite group of 42 motorcycle trials riders from throughout Europe, Japan and North America will compete the last weekend of April at the Trials Training Center (TTC) in Sequatchie, Tennessee, the third of 10 locations that comprise the 2008 world championship series of the Federation Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM). Riders competing in the world-championship series will be coming to the U.S. from the second round at Bangor, Ireland. Other rounds in the series are being held in Japan, Spain, France, Italy, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Luxembourg, and Portugal.

The competitive field of riders includes the new defending world champion Tony Bou (Montesa HRC) facing former champs Adam Raga (GasGas), Takahisa Fujinami (Montesa HRC) and 7-time champ Doug Lampkin (Beta). Raga and Bou come to TN tied for the lead in championship points for the world title,

A young group of U.S. riders will compete in the World Youth class for ages 18 and under, including 17 year-old AMA 2007 national champion Patrick Smage (Sherco). Smage, from Wisconsin, is the only American competing in the entire series of events worldwide and is currently in 3rd place, close behind his rivals Jack Challoner from the UK and Francesc Moret from Spain. 2007 AMA Indoor trials champion Cody Webb (Sherco) and a number of other up-and-coming American teenagers will also compete in this class.

The TTC is the nation's premier trials training facility, and its rugged terrain have helped it receive national and international acclaim in motorcycle trials circles. The challenging course will be set at the site of the 2006 event and includes a variety of sections with huge streambed boulders, massive hill climbs, and undercut rock ledges, many in a picturesque river setting with spectacular waterfalls.

Photos and video clips of many of the sections can be viewed on the web site for the event at [www.trialsusgp.com](http://www.trialsusgp.com). The most common reaction among spectators at their first world championship trials? Stunned amazement at the incredible skill these motorcycle gymnasts use to defy the laws of physics.

Following a trend from the 2006 event, even more of the obstacle sections will be located close to the parking, pit and podium area, making the event more pedestrian/spectator-friendly than ever, with concessions and facilities out on the course to accommodate the crowds.

Tickets are available at the gate (\$20 adult; \$10 children 6-12; children 5 & under: free) and can be purchased for individual days or the entire weekend. On-site camping is also available, with additional camping spots nearby along the Little Sequatchie River at the neighboring Sequatchie Cove Farm. Also visit the [www.trialsusgp.com](http://www.trialsusgp.com) web site to get directions to the event, download a loop map, and follow a blog with ongoing updates on all the festivities.

Note to reporters: fully equipped and staffed press facilities will be available at the Trials Training Center on both days of the event, including internet wi-fi access.