

Date: August 3, 2021

For: Immediate

**Release TARGA NEWFOUNDLAND *ROTOURA* POSTS ITS FIRST SCHEDULE!**

We have created an “in between” event which will be four days in duration. We have named it after its New Zealand counterpart, the town of Rotuora. The word is a Maori word meaning two lakes. While our event’s name is pronounced the same, please note that it is spelt differently. It is a contraction of the words “round” and “tour” meaning a “rotating tour”. It suits our event and is now a pure Newfoundland word.

Newfoundland is now at COVID Level 2, and is continuing to improve daily. The Atlantic Bubble as well as travel inside Canada is open. Things are getting better so “still we rise”. There are now talks ongoing that may lead to the Canadian/American border being open in the near future.

To facilitate the Rotoura having a full field of entries, we have elected to delay the event and run between **Thursday October 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> inclusive**. We realize that this is the Thanksgiving weekend, so we have scheduled the events so it will be complete on Sunday afternoon. We will require a minimum of 20 entries for this Rotoura event to proceed. That being said we will only accept a total of 30 competitive entries on a first come, first served basis. There will be an update on this shortly at **targanfld.com**.

Added to the above schedule will be our Course Familiarization Program (CFP). This will be held before the event on **Tuesday and Wednesday (October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> respectively)**. The CFP will be compulsory for all competitors. This course and the Targa Rotoura will provide all participants with two full days of Course Familiarization and on-the-road practice, followed by the fast-paced, fun, four-day Rotoura event.

Those volunteering as officials in the event as well as those entering the event and their crews, must show proof of full COVID vaccination. All participating in the event will be tested to ensure they are COVID free. The car preparation rules for the Targa Rotoura will be the rules that are currently in effect for the Bambina event. We have elected to go with these rules as they are better suited to the shorter events and make the logistics of running the event simpler. These rules and the COVID procedures that competitors and volunteers must follow, will be available at registration.

An “Around St. John’s” configuration has been designed for this year’s Targa Rotoura. The daily format will see transiting to stages from 8:30am to 9:30am, and then competing from 10:00am to 12:00 noon. Lunch and open-air shows will be held from 12:00 to 2:00 followed by competition from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Dining and entertainment events will be held subject to COVID regulations. We will be working closely with the host communities to set up both a revenue-sharing program and to ensure that COVID safety practices are in place. The entry fees have been adjusted to provide the necessary additional funding. To balance this, we will provide an upgraded version of the services offered in past events. Detailed schedules will be available at registration.

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