

# 2016 TOUR OF THE GREAT SOUTH COAST August 10 – 14



August 10, 2016

## CROME SHINES AFTER DAY ONE OF TOUR

Twenty-two year-old Bendigo rider, Sam Crome, has stormed to victory and into the tour leader's yellow jersey in the afternoon's stage on the opening day of the Lakes Oil-Fulton Hogan Tour of the Great South Coast in Mount Gambier today. Heavy rain and at times hail threatened the 65km circuit stage around Mount Gambier's iconic Blue Lake as the peloton split mid-race when a group of 21 riders including Crome, formed and stayed clear for the remainder of the race.

Crome, riding for the Avanti Isowhey Sport team, stormed home in an uphill finish to beat State of Matter/MAAP's Ryan Cavanagh (21) and Lakes Oil's Nathan Elliott (26) in a time of 1hr 34:04. He leads the tour by fifteen seconds from Cavanagh with a further four seconds back to Patrick Shaw (30) (Avanti/Isowhey Sport) in third place.

"That was brutal, it was just a brutal day", Crome said after his win. "We had numbers there (break), so we knew it was in our favour'. The trio slipped away from the lead group in the closing stages and managed to hold off any challengers, "I think about a lap-and-a-half to go we got away and lucky I had the legs to finish it off", he explained. "It all worked out perfect".

The strong Avanti outfit enjoyed the opening day of the tour with Patrick Shaw in the yellow jersey after the morning's stage and leading the Scody King of the Mountains competition after the completion of the afternoon's stage. "We've got a few cards to play", added Crome. "The main thing was we took a lot of the big sprinters out of the race".

"We really wanted a decisive day to split it up, we knew the rain was going to come and we took our chance and it worked out".

The day's earlier stage, a 36km criterium around Vansittart Park in Mount Gambier, was won by current National Under 23 Criterium Champion Jesse Kerrison (22) (State of Matter/MAAP) from Queensland. Kerrison powered home over the top of Scott Sunderland (28) (Inform Racing) with a gap back to Avanti's Patrick Shaw.

.../2



# 2016 TOUR OF THE GREAT SOUTH COAST August 10 – 14



- 2 -

Held in cool and overcast conditions the peloton didn't allow any break to form with the team of Avanti Isowhey Sport prominent at the front for the majority of the race. Cyrus Monk (20) (Pat's Veg Cycling) from Warragul in Victoria, had a good start to the day winning three of the championship jerseys on offer including the Campolina Sprint Points leader's jersey, the CFMEU Young Riders jersey and the Westvic Resource Management, Gordon Hotel & Porthaul Most Aggressive Rider Award.

Kerrison was pleased to get an early win on the board in the tour. "The first stage of the tour of the Great South Coast is always intense, everyone's gunning for it and it played out like that", said Kerrison. "I was feeling a bit under the weather for the first twenty laps so I sat out of it". "I was lucky that Pat Shaw went early and dragged me up through to the front and then it was a drag race with Scott (Sunderland)", added Kerrison.

Kerrison leads the Campolina Criterium Championship after the opening day while Lakes Oil's Benjamin Hill (26) has a one point lead over Monk in the Campolina Sprint Points competition. Crome's Avanti teammate, Shaw, leads the Scody King of the Mountains competition and Cavanagh will wear the CFMEU jersey as the tour's leading under 21 rider.

The tour continues tomorrow with a 137.6km road stage starting and finishing in Port MacDonnell and taking in Allendale East, Pelican Point, Carpenter Rocks, Blackfellows Caves, Blue Lake Golf Links, Donovans, Brown Bay, Riddoch Bay and Race Course Bay. The Lakes Oil-Fulton Hogan Tour of the Great South Coast is part of the 2016 Subaru National Road Series.

[http://metarace.com.au/road/tosc/2016\\_tosc\\_Stage1\\_Result](http://metarace.com.au/road/tosc/2016_tosc_Stage1_Result)

[http://metarace.com.au/road/tosc/2016\\_tosc\\_Stage2\\_Result](http://metarace.com.au/road/tosc/2016_tosc_Stage2_Result)

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nv9drse2if858fe/AAC-60NxSHHVCqdUPS1N-JJOa?dl=0>

## FURTHER INFORMATION:

Kipp Kaufmann  
Cycling Victoria  
0430-303577

John Craven  
Caribou Publications  
0408-558469



LAKES OIL N.L.

