

World BMX title a target

SOUTH West Academy of Sport scholarship holder Lauren Reynolds will be chasing the number one plate at the 2009 UCI BMX World Championships this week.

The talented Clifton Park teenager will be among 2000 riders from 40 nations competing for a total of 52 different titles over four days of racing at the Adelaide Showground.

Reynolds said she was ready to hit the stadium's dirt track and battle it out with top competitors from countries such as the United States, Netherlands and Columbia.

"The world championships are always a race that everyone looks forward to and gets excited about," she said.

"This year is an extremely big one for me personally."

Despite winning silver and bronze in previous world championships, the number one spot has so far eluded Reynolds.

She finished third in the under 16s girls category in 2007 and second in her first year of junior elite in 2008.

"Having the worlds here in Australia is a big advantage and I've been putting a lot of time and effort into training," Reynolds said.

"I'm so psyched about the race and really think the home crowd will get me over the line.

"I'm really hoping I can bring it home this year."

Reynolds is one of 10 outstanding athletes to receive support through the South West Academy of Sport's inaugural individual scholarship program.

The scholarships were made available to young South West athletes who were excelling in sport but whose code was not covered by the academy's partner sports of Australian Rules football, soccer, basketball and hockey.

South West Academy of Sport chief executive Bernice Buthion said SWAS was pleased to support Reynolds as she pursued a career in BMX.

"We will certainly be cheering for Lauren from here in Bunbury," she said.

"She's worked extremely hard to get to this level of competition and we wish her all the best for the championships."

The 2009 UCI BMX World Championships officially get underway today.



Talented Bunbury BMX star and South West Academy of Sport scholarship holder Lauren Reynolds is aiming for glory this weekend in the World Championships.