



## Reece Bancell Scholarship Press Release

January 2013

Since 2004, the Reece Bancell Scholarship has been awarded to and provided support as a pathway for many of Australia's current top riders including Gareth Jones, Rick Olson, Jed Metcher, Mike Jones, Jack Miller, Chris Casella as well as the Reece Bancell Association supplying safety equipment to Race Safe and Team Medical and funding safety and medical facilities at race tracks around Australia.

Over the past few years and especially during 2012, we became increasingly concerned about the state of road racing in Australia at the "elite" level and for this reason, and other more personal reasons, we decided to put on hold the Reece Bancell Scholarship, specifically for the Australian Superbike Championship or AFX Superbike Series.

However, as they say, "never say never", we are now very pleased to announce our commitment of the Reece Bancell Scholarship to the MRRDA series.

We have always been a strong supporter of Junior Road Racing in Australia, having supported the Moriwaki Junior series and more recently the MRRDA and believe that the best support we can now offer is within this junior category of the sport.

The MRRDA provides a brilliant opportunity for young riders to safely learn their craft and hone their skills as well as teaching them the 'correct and professional attitude' required in today's ultra competitive and professional sport as well as providing a pathway to overseas via the Red Bull Rookies Cup trial entry.

Australia has always produced some of the world's best road racers but unfortunately the situation is near impossible for riders to be professional full-time racers in Australia where they can become a "house-hold" name, like the V8 Supercar drivers, and/or earn any living from it; therefore the aim of most of our riders is to go overseas.

With this in mind, and the connections available to us within the local Australian motorcycle industry and manufacturers as well as overseas racing teams, we believe that the support of the Scholarship and the MRRDA will go a long way to securing a racing future for the incumbent rider.

Plans for 2013 include running a joint auction dinner with the MRRDA to help fund both the Reece Bancell Scholarship and the MRRDA, along with working closely with the MRRDA media partners AMCN and Speed TV. We will be releasing more information on the Auction dinner which will be attended by some of Australia's best known motorsports stars, along with details of the Scholarship in the coming weeks

We are therefore very pleased and excited to offer our full support to the MRRDA Series in 2013 and beyond.