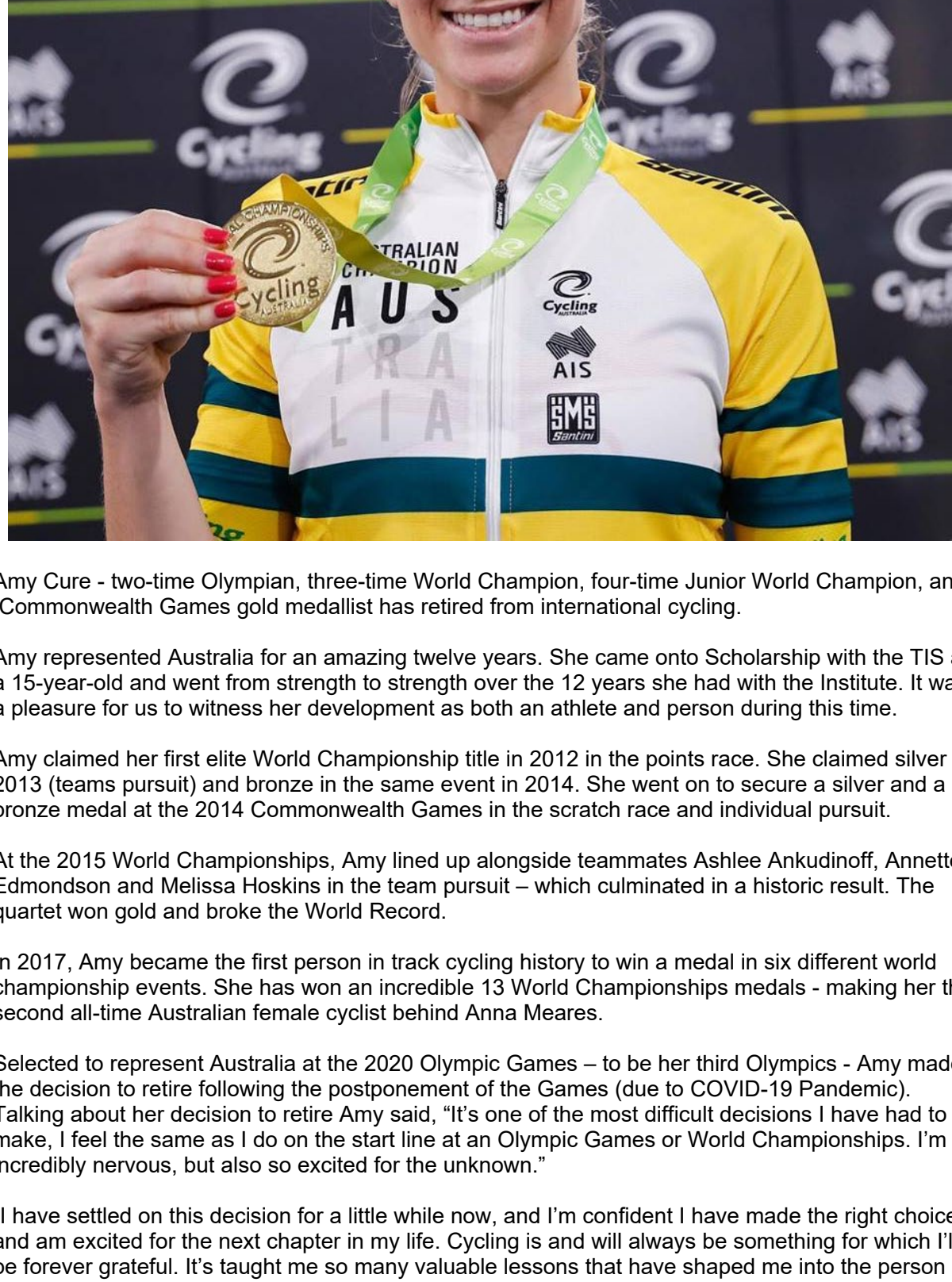


Amy Cure retires from international cycling



Amy Cure - two-time Olympian, three-time World Champion, four-time Junior World Champion, and Commonwealth Games gold medalist has retired from international cycling.

Amy represented Australia for an amazing twelve years. She came onto Scholarship with the TIS as a 15-year-old and went from strength to strength over the 12 years she had with the Institute. It was a pleasure for us to witness her development as both an athlete and person during this time.

Amy claimed her first elite World Championship title in 2012 in the points race. She claimed silver in 2013 (teams pursuit) and bronze in the same event in 2014. She went on to secure a silver and a bronze medal at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in the scratch race and individual pursuit.

At the 2015 World Championships, Amy lined up alongside teammates Ashlee Ankudinoff, Annette Edmondson and Melissa Hoskins in the team pursuit – which culminated in a historic result. The quartet won gold and broke the World Record.

In 2017, Amy became the first person in track cycling history to win a medal in six different world championship events. She has won an incredible 13 World Championships medals - making her the second all-time Australian female cyclist behind Anna Meares.

Selected to represent Australia at the 2020 Olympic Games – to be her third Olympics - Amy made the decision to retire following the postponement of the Games (due to COVID-19 Pandemic). Talking about her decision to retire Amy said, "It's one of the most difficult decisions I have had to make. I feel the same as I do on the start line at an Olympic Games or World Championships. I'm incredibly nervous, but also so excited for the unknown."

"I have settled on this decision for a little while now, and I'm confident I have made the right choice and am excited for the next chapter in my life. Cycling is and will always be something for which I'll be forever grateful. It's taught me so many valuable lessons that have shaped me into the person I am today. I've learnt to be disciplined, perseverant and optimistic, but I think one of the biggest things I've learnt is how to be resilient."

"I'm satisfied with the achievements I've accomplished across my career, and my time with the Australian Cycling Team has given me so many incredible things in my life, and I'm so thankful for the opportunities and experiences I have had and the friends I have made."

"But after making cycling my priority for the last decade, my relationships with family and friends are my priority now."

"I've been fortunate to have some pretty influential people in my career, both on and off the bike. It is hard to thank everyone, but I would like to mention Matthew Gilmore, who has been beside me all 15 years of my career. Whether it was in the TIS as a coach or CA, he has been such an influential mentor to myself personally and my career as a cyclist."

TIS Head Cycling Coach, Matt Gilmore said, "It has been humbling and extremely satisfying to have played a role in Amy's career for the past 15 years. In her formative years, Amy was one 'outside the box' in that her testing data didn't always show great numbers and she wasn't the best trainer – she was a born racer, and her success proved that. A girl from West Pine that went on to conquer the cycling world, is something all of Tasmania can be very proud of. We will miss having Amy's energy and professionalism in our training environment, but I am very happy for her to explore the next chapter in her life."

Congratulations amazing Amy on a stellar international cycling career! You've been with us for 12 years and from everyone at the TIS, we wish you every success and happiness for the next chapter.

Career Highlights

2019 UCI World Track Championships, Poland: 1st Individual Pursuit, 2nd Madison

2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast: 1st Scratch Race, 1st Team Pursuit

2017 UCI World Track Championships, Norway: 3rd Omnium, 3rd Madison, 2nd Team Pursuit

2016 UCI World Track Championships, London: 5th Team Pursuit

2016 Olympic Games, Rio: 5th Team Pursuit

2015 UCI World Track Championships, France: 1st Team Pursuit, 2nd Scratch Race, 3rd Individual Pursuit

2014 UCI World Track Championships, Columbia: 1st Points Race, 3rd Team Pursuit, 3rd Individual Pursuit

2014 Commonwealth Games, Glasgow: 2nd Scratch Race, 3rd Individual Pursuit

2013 UCI World Track Championships, BLR: 2nd Team Pursuit, 2nd Individual Pursuit

2012 Olympic Games, London

Daniel Watkins - lock-down and Olympic preparations

Like most people, my year has been turned upside down due to COVID-19 but I'm not at all worried.

I was lucky enough to be selected for my debut Olympics in February and was training hard in Sydney up until the end of March.

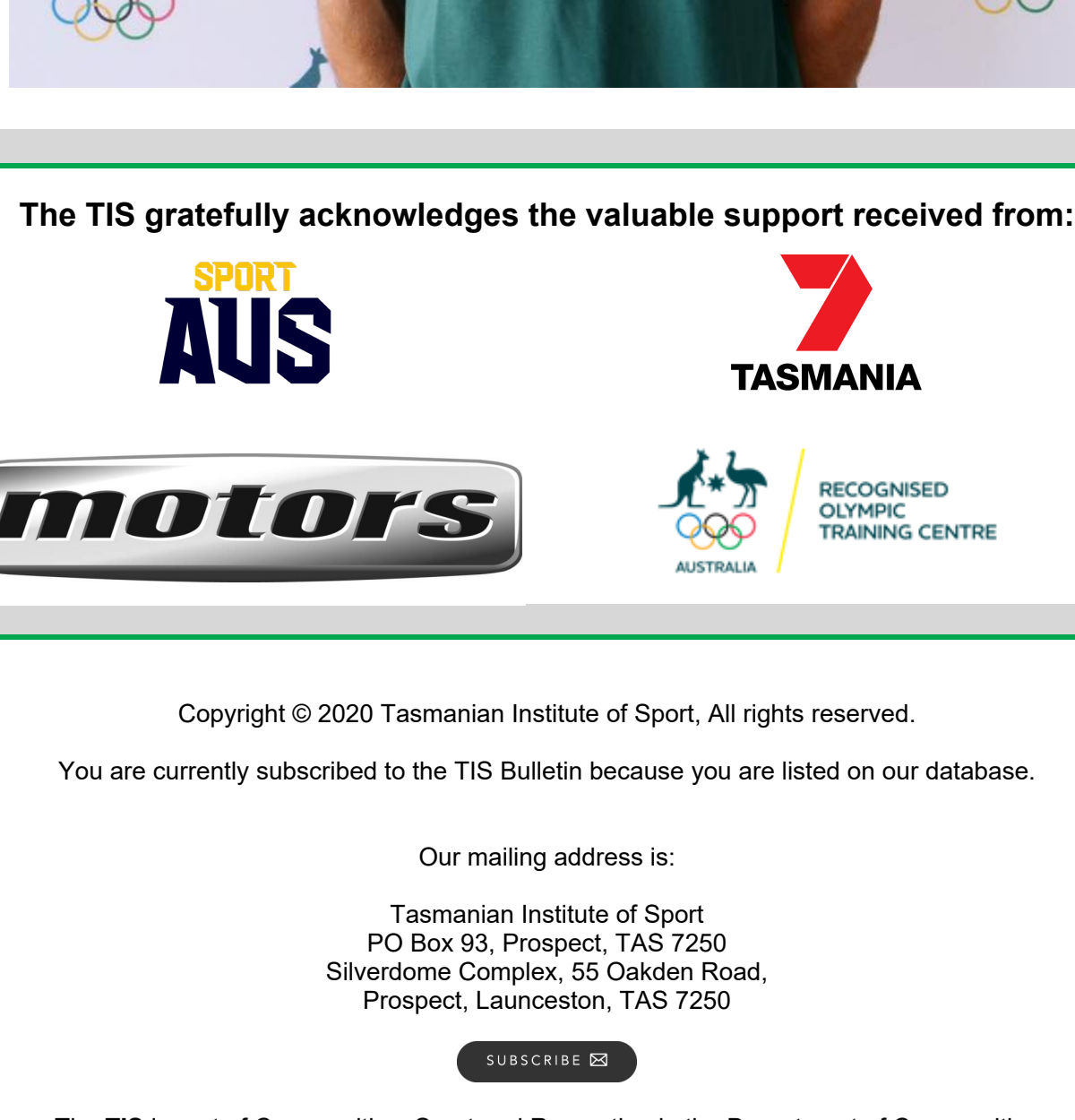
The last few weeks of training were difficult with the Olympics up in the air. But once the Olympics were postponed, borders shut and training centres closed I got to come home to Hobart. After two weeks of quarantine and having my spot in the Olympics confirmed for 2021 I was feeling happy with where I was. Although we had a lot of restrictions and couldn't spend time with friends I was happy to have some extra time in Tasmania to spend with family.

Training never changed too much for me with free flowing rivers running 24/7 close to home, I was able to train in pairs all of lock-down. Now that lock-down has lifted I am pleased to have an extra year to prepare for the games as I believe I'm not at the peak of my career and every year that goes on I have a better chance at higher results.

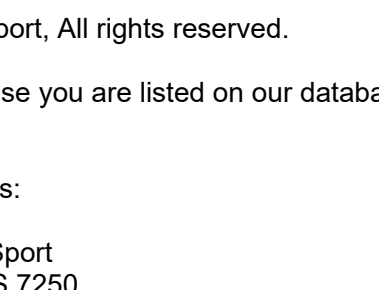
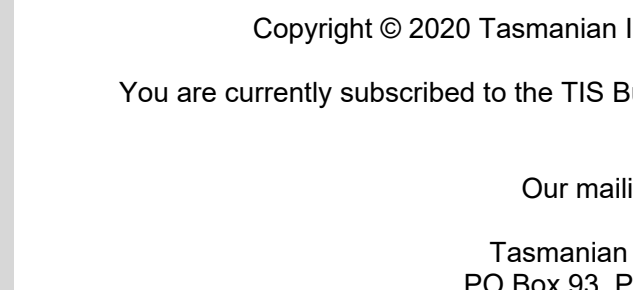
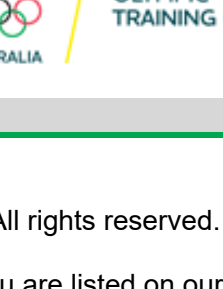
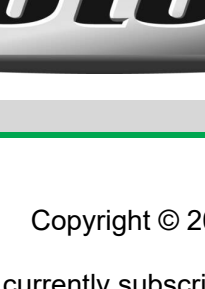
This is my first full winter in 10 years so I am looking forward to the challenges of that and ordering lots of new training gear to stay warm on the water!

Daniel Watkins

Photo Credit: Australian Olympic Council



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