

Lake Tahoe not chosen for 2012 Tour of California

By Kathryn Reed

Lake Tahoe will not be part of the 2012 Tour of California.

The 13 host cities for the prestigious bike race in May were announced early this morning. Santa Rosa, hometown of three-time Amgen Tour of California Champion Levi Leipheimer, long ago had been picked as the start city.



Amgen cyclists will not have to contend with Tahoe snow in 2012. Photo/Lisa J. Tolda

The route for next year is:

- Stage 1: May 13 – Santa Rosa
- Stage 2: May 14 – San Francisco to Santa Cruz County
- Stage 3: May 15 – San Jose to Livermore
- Stage 4: May 16 – Sonora (new for 2012) to Clovis
- Stage 5: May 17 – Bakersfield (Individual Time Trial)

- Stage 6: May 18 – Palmdale to Big Bear Lake
- Stage 7: May 19 – Ontario (new for 2012) to Mt. Baldy
- Stage 8: May 20 – Los Angeles/L.A. LIVE.

Lake Tahoe was one of the more than 100 places wanting to be part of the race in 2012.

Before today's announcement, Carol Chaplin who heads LTVA, had told *Lake Tahoe News* she would not be surprised if Tahoe were not on the list of host cities for next year, but that would not preclude the area from trying to be on the map in the future.

This year the race was supposed to start on the South Shore, with the first day ending in Northstar. The second leg was to start in Squaw Valley.

Snow prevented the riders from doing either section. It came down to the last second before the race was called. The cyclists had been dressed on their bikes for the start.

Securing the event had been a joint endeavor by the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority and North Lake Tahoe Resort Association.