**Media Release**

**GO!Durban Cycle Academy Riders – take junior honours in last weekend’s Roag Stihl Sharks Classic**

The GO!Durban Cycle Academy, which was launched in January this year, in an endeavour by the eThekwini Municipality to encourage and develop a culture of cycling in the city, is fast becoming a team to watch. Last weekend they notched up some impressive podium appearances at the Roag Stihl Sharks Classic that was held in Shongweni on Sunday (December 4).

On the starting line were five of the Academy’s most experienced riders from the eNanda Adventure Park site along with one of the coaches.

The team which started in humble beginnings in the F batch in their first races this year, began this race in the C batch and the six managed to ride through the field up to A batch, claiming the top three positions in the junior category, and also first place in the under sixteen category.

“This would be the first podium the boys have achieved and it's really amazing seeing them so fired up and excited,” enthused team manager Shaun Peschl of Peschlsports Pro Development, official mentors of the GO!Durban Cycling Academy.

“It's been a great team effort from all sides with partners GO!Durban  and the Durban Green Corridor managements, as well as all the coaches from Peschlsports and the three GO!Durban Cycle Academy sites in KwaMashu, eNanda and KwaDabeka,” said Shaun Peschl. “I really think that we are now ready to get five of our ladies on the start line in the races next year. Thanks must go to the collective team effort that  supports these development riders.”

The GO!Durban Cycle Academy team results for juniors were 1. Blessing Ndlovu, 2. Sabelo Ngcono, 3.Collin Gumede and 6. Lungani Mbambo. Linda Maphanga took the top honours in the under 16 category with Mmeli Ndimande, a Durban Green Corridor Coach, taking ninth place in the under 23 category.