

For someone else's sake, the race is on

BEN O'HALLORAN

Steve Hammond is excited to get on his bike for a good cause this weekend as he takes on the "Ride for someone who can't" challenge.

The event, held in conjunction with the Dwellingup 100 MTB Classic, is a fundraiser organised by the Muscular Dystrophy Association of WA. Muscular dystrophy is a disease that weakens the muscles that move the body, leaving most sufferers in wheelchairs.

Mr Hammond will ride the 40km event on behalf of Joel Slinger, a 29-year-old Perth man who has muscular dystrophy.

"I felt privileged to be asked by Joel's family if I'd be a part of it," Mr Hammond said. "It's pretty inspiring. It's given me an insight into the great work and dedication of the par-



Team: Joel Slinger who has muscular dystrophy, with his race rider, Steve Hammond. Picture: Nic Ellis

ents of muscular dystrophy kids and also an insight in to the hard work that the MDA do."

Mr Slinger is looking forward to watching Mr Hammond cross the finish line. "I've never done something like this before and it's good that Steve is riding for me," he said.

The association's CEO, John Gummer, will represent 16-year-old Dylan Needham, of Stirling, in the ride.

Mr Gummer said the association was a world leader in research into the disease but it relied heavily on public support.