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Amgen will push back 2010 race

SACRAMENTO -- The country's largest professional cycling race will push back its 2010 schedule in hopes of catching better weather in the spring.

Amgen Tour of California spokesman Michael Roth confirmed Wednesday that AEG Sports, presenter of the race, will move the date from mid-February to take advantage of warmer, drier weather.

Roth declined to confirm a report on the bicycling Web site VeloNews that said the California race would move to May 16-23.

Those dates would compete with another major cycling event, the Giro d'Italia.

Roth said a statement announcing the 2010 dates will be issued next week.