

Athens Olympic Games: certification of the ORIS system for Mountain Bike

The certification tests of the ORIS system (Olympic Results and Information Services) for the Mountain Bike competitions at the next Olympic Games were successfully held on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of March 2004 at the headquarters of ATHOC (the organising committee of the 2004 Athens Games). In the presence of Messrs. Enrico Carpani, Press Officer and Régis Alexandre, Sports Coordinator-Mountain Bike of the UCI, Mr. Thierry Gindraux (Swiss Timing) and several officials from the Games organisation, various normal and breakdown situations were simulated to ensure that the system is operating correctly and that information on the entire network set up for the Olympic Games is correctly broadcast under all circumstances. These tests proved the reliability of the system. New tests, full-scale this time, will take place on the 15th and 16th of May on the site of the Mountain Bike Olympic competitions.

BMX: Supercross in California this weekend

The first heat of the 2004 UCI BMX Supercross will take place this weekend at Stallion Springs in California. The competitions, in which the world's best specialists will take part, will be organised at Woodward West, the largest sporting complex on the West Coast of the United States.

Launched a year ago by the UCI, BMX Supercross immediately caught the interest of several television channels, which, after the success of the 2003 competition, will again broadcast images from the event in more than 40 countries, thus contributing to the promotion of BMX, a future Olympic discipline (starting in the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008).

More information on this event is available on our website: www.uci.ch.

The UCI Cycle-Ball World Cup starts in a week

The first heat of the UCI Cycle-Ball World Cup will take place on the 7th and 8th of May 2004 in Brno, the Czech Republic. Ten teams will do battle, including the World Champions, the Czechs Miroslav Berger and Jiri Hrdlicka.

The 2004 UCI Cycle-Ball World Cup consists of 9 heats. All the results will be available on our website: www.uci.ch.

The elite of Spanish BMX greatly appreciate the WCC circuit

In the context of their preparations for the third heat of the European Championships which will take place on the 8th of May 2004 in Esselbach, Germany, seven Spanish specialists have been training on the BMX circuit of the WCC from the 26th of April and will be here until the 5th of May. They have all appreciated the excellent quality of the facilities at the WCC, and particularly the provision of a starting gantry which calculates the reaction time of the athletes. This kind of device makes it possible to reproduce the actual conditions of the competition as closely as possible, allowing for optimum training.

Qualification tests for the Paralympic Games at the WCC

On the 24th and 25th of April 2004, the Swiss Association of Cycling for the Disabled started a series of pre-selection tests on the WCC track with a view to the Paralympic Games which will take place from the 17th to 28th of September 2004 in Athens. The athletes selected will be named during the month of June.

News on the anti-doping fight

On the 14th and 15th of May 2004, Dr. Mario Zorzoli, the UCI Doctor, will participate in the 3rd Sports and Science Forum, organised in Monte-Carlo under the patronage of the Medical Commission of the IOC. Many representatives from institutional bodies, sporting and scientific institutions, the media and athletes will share their knowledge in the principal areas of sports medicine.

The following riders have been sanctioned for doping offences

Javier GOMEZ, sanctioned by the **Unión Ciclista de la Republica Argentina**, disqualification of Vuelta Ciclista al Uruguay 2003 and suspension of 2 years from 9 January 2004 to 8 January 2006.

Gregorio BARE, sanctioned by the **Federación Ciclista Uruguay**, disqualification of Rutas de America (URU), 9 March 2003, suspension of 2 years from 1st March 2003 to 1st March 2005.

Alvaro Franz MONTAÑO CANDIA, sanctioned by the **Federación Boliviana de Ciclismo**, disqualification of Doble Copacabana GP Fides (BOL), 6 November 2003, suspension of 6 months from 21st November 2003 to 21st May 2004.