

First Deutschland Tour in the UCI ProTour era: great success in sporting terms and with the public

The 2005 Tour of Germany, 21st race in the UCI ProTour, was a resounding success, on a sporting level as well as an organisational level, even in spite of the poor weather conditions.

According to the organisers and police, more than 4 million people gathered along the 1,500 km of a superb circuit which had in particular superb mountain stages. The TV channel ARD-1 showed live coverage of all stages (at least 3 hours). During the 7th stage, more than 4,32 million TV viewers watched the race. More than 600 journalists representing 300 media stations provided coverage of the race. Belgian, French and Dutch TV channels sent their teams to the Tour of Germany.

The event was also shown in Denmark, Spain, Italy and via Eurosport, France. Other countries like Monaco, Andorra, Luxembourg and Switzerland as well as twenty or so others bought the TV rights for the event in order to show highlights.

UCI ProTour Gala: a big celebration in honour of the current greatest cyclists

The main parties involved in the UCI ProTour, riders, teams, organisers and National Cycling Federations, will take part in a gala on 15th October 2005 in Como, Italy, a few hours after the end of the Giro di Lombardia, last race in the series.

Besides the UCI ProTour stars, the best riders from UCI Continental Circuits will also be present. The UCI ProTour Gala will officially mark the end of the season, in a friendly, party atmosphere. The highlight of the ceremony will undoubtedly be the awarding of trophies to the winners of the individual team and country rankings of the UCI ProTour and UCI Continental Circuits. The evening will also pay tribute to the performances of the 2005 UCI ProTour stars, showing a film of the best moments of the season. The gala will finish with a big official dinner.

Training and development: more than 105 trainees from 52 countries coached at the World Cycling Centre in a year

More than 105 trainees, athletes and coaches, from 52 countries of the five continents, were coached at the World Cycling Centre (WCC) from August 2004 to September 2005.

During this period, 16 young track riders (from 13 countries) and 15 road riders (of 11 nationalities) attended a 9 month course at the WCC. For the UCI top level Training Camps designed for athletes and

their coaches, 32 mountain bike trainees (from 22 countries) and 19 BMX trainees (from 11 countries) stayed at the WCC.

In addition, 23 coaches from 17 countries received specific training as part of the «UCI International Coaching Course».

Since its opening in 2002, the WCC has already welcomed 243 trainees coming from 72 countries.

Visit of the National Physical Education Institute of Catalonia to the World Cycling Centre

On 8th September, a delegation of around thirty lawyers taking part in the Masters programme in Sports law from the INEFC (National Physical Education Institute of Catalonia), an institution linked with the University of Lleida, in Spain, visited the headquarters of the International Cycling Union. After hearing a presentation from Christian Varin, Anti-Doping Manager, their visit ended with an initiation to track cycling, given by Robert Dill-Bundi, Olympic individual pursuit champion in 1980.

2nd International Cycling for All Conference: briefing on new 2006 features

The 2nd International Cycling for All Conference will be held at the World Cycling Centre in Aigle, on 15th and 16th September 2005, and will be attended by the UCI President, Hein Verbruggen. It will bring together International Federations and other South African, German, Belgian, Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch and Swiss cycling bodies.

After a first series which enabled participants to compare their experiences and make their contribution to the development of cycling for all, this 2nd series will be one of achievement. Several new features will be introduced in 2006 in particular, a fuller international calendar (with contact details for events) and publication of international rules for cycling for all included in the UCI rules. This new text will govern elements such as the standardization of licences and the minimum requirements for quality and safety.

The following riders have been sanctioned for doping offences:

Daniele BENNATI (ITA), tested positive with betamethasone during the race Gent-Welvegem (BEL) on 6 April 2005, sanctioned by FED. CICLISTICA ITALIANA, warning. Eric BERTHOU (FRA), tested positive with salbutamol during the race Circuit Cycliste Sarthe – Pays de la Loire (FRA) on 8 April 2005, sanctioned by FEDERATION FRANÇAISE

DE CYCLISME, warning and disqualification of the event. Thomas ABERG (SWE), did not come to the anti-doping control during the event World Masters Time Trial Championship (AUT) on 25th August 2004, sanctioned by the COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT, suspension of 1 year from 5th October 2004 to 5TH October 2005, disqualification of the race. Marc LOTZ (NED), sanctioned by the ROYALE LIGUE VELOCIPEDIQUE BELGE for admission of doping, suspension of 2 years from 1st June 2005 to 31st May 2007. Oleksandr ONOSKO (UKR), tested positive with nandrolone during the event Int. Presidency Turkey Tour (TUR) on 7th May 2005, sanctioned by the FEDERATION UKRAINIENNE DE CYCLISME, suspension of 2 years from 5th July 2005 to 5th July 2007, disqualification of the race.