

UCI Continental Circuits recommence

With the 2005 season barely over, the first events of the 2005-2006 UCI Continental Circuits have already taken place. The UCI Europe Tour opened on 15th October, while the UCI Africa Tour, the UCI America Tour, the UCI Asia Tour and the UCI Oceania Tour began on 1st October.

The first leaders in the individual rankings are Sergiy Matveyev (UKR) in the UCI Europe Tour, David Jungels (FRA) in the UCI Africa Tour, José Rujano Guillen (VEN) in the UCI America Tour, David McCann (IRL) in the UCI Asia Tour and Simon Gerrans (AUS) in the UCI Oceania Tour.

The UCI is pleased to announce that it will be providing more information on the 2006 Continental Circuits through the dedicated websites:

www.ucieuropetour.com, www.uciafricatour.com,
www.uciamericatour.com, www.uciasiatour.com and
www.ucioceaniatour.com).

Seminar for UCI Golden Bike organisers: report on 2005 and preview of 2006

The annual seminar for organisers of UCI Golden Bike events, led by Messrs David Lappartient, the new President of the UCI Cycling For All Commission, and Mattias Kaestner, UCI Golden Bike Coordinator, took place on 11th November at the World Cycling Centre (WCC).

Discussions focused on a debrief of the 2005 season, changes to the responsibilities of race organisers, and new elements introduced by the UCI in consultation with the organisers for 2006. The major innovation is the Traveller's Club (and its Passport), which offers members a range of benefits and encourages them to take part in as many UCI Golden Bike events as possible.

The UCI Golden Bike series, which was created by the UCI in 1999, includes eight of the world's top mass participation cycling events. All the events meet strict safety and organisation criteria.

For further information about the UCI Golden Bike series and the new Travellers' Club, visit www.ucigoldenbike.com.

UCI Cyclo-cross World Cup: a hat-trick for Sven Nijs?

The 2005-2006 cyclo-cross season has begun. Thanks to his victories in the first two legs of the UCI World Cup in Kalmthout (BEL) and Tabor (CZE), Sven Nijs of Belgium sits comfortably at the top of the UCI

rankings, ahead of fellow Belgian Bart Wellens and Petr Dlask of the Czech Republic.

This weekend all the best specialists in the discipline will meet in Pijnacker in the Netherlands, where the men's and women's competitions of the final leg of the UCI World Cup will no doubt be enthusiastically supported.

Track cycling: flying start for the UCI Track World Cup "Classics"

The first of the four events of the UCI Track World Cup "Classics", which took place in Moscow and was won by the Russian team, gave convincing evidence that track cycling really is going from strength to strength. Sixty-five women and 178 men from 36 countries, plus two teams, took part in the event, which was of an extremely high technical standard. The track cycling elite will meet up again in December (9th to 11th) in Manchester, Great Britain.

French Cycling Federation visits UCI headquarters

On 16th and 17th November, a delegation from the French Cycling Federation (FFC) will be paying a visit to the UCI's headquarters at the World Cycling Centre. The delegation, which will include Federation President Jean Pitallier, Secretary General Patrice Roy, Federation Doctor Armand Mégret and Patrick Cluzaud, National Technical Director, will meet UCI President Pat McQuaid, Director General Dieter Schellenberg, and the Managers of the Sports Coordination, Events and Training and Development departments. Discussions are expected to cover sporting and technical issues, rules, medical and legal matters, and the development of cycling.

Second 'Tour du Monde sur piste' at the World Cycling Centre

The second edition of the 'Tour du Monde sur piste' will take place at the World Cycling Centre (WCC) from 11th to 12th November. Around a hundred riders in teams of five will ride a 24-hour relay in an attempt to beat last year's record (21,412 km), and perhaps come closer to the 42,000 kilometres of a real around-the-world trip. Myriam Saugy, this year's winner of the Grand Raid Cristalp, one of the world's most prestigious mountain bike events, will take part. All the proceeds from the event will go to the Swiss aid organisation Terre des Hommes.

The following riders have been sanctioned for doping offences:

Person PAULETTO (BRA), did not check in for the anti-doping control during the event UCI MTB World Cup, Santa Catarina (BRA) on 2nd July 2005, sanctioned by the CONFEDERAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE CICLISMO, suspension of 2 years from 2th July 2005 to 2th July 2007. **Francisco Miguel Silva FERREIRA (POR)**, tested positive with salbutamol during the race MTB Portugal Cup (POR) on 15th May 2005, sanctioned by the FEDERACÃO PORTUGUESA DE CICLISMO, warning and suspension of 1 month from 25th July 2005 to 25th August 2005.