

Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike

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Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike: Sarai and Gulino gain victory on the short distance

Villabassa/ Niederdorf (South Tyrol / Italy), 08 July 2017 – 60 kilometres, 1785 metres of difference in altitude – but only a few centimetres separated the gold and silver medallists on the short distance in the male category: Pietro Sarai was able to win out on Klaus Fontana from Valdaora/ Olang. In the female category Nina Gulino won the race with a commanding start-finish victory.

Sarai, Fontana and Marco Rebagliati crossed the finish line at today's Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike almost simultaneously, but it was 27-year-old Sarai to gain victory. "I gave everything, but it is always difficult to make the difference on the final sprint", says the athlete from Sardinia (Italy) after the race. Although he finished last year's edition on the long distance, today's race on the short distance was not an easy one: "I really had to mobilise all my forces", affirms Sarai, who makes a compliment also to the organisation of this major sports event: "The track was amazing and it is unbelievable how they prepared today's race after yesterday's storm."

Klaus Fontana from Valdaora/ Olang, who won the Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike in 2010, finished today in second position. „I am very satisfied about this result, it's just perfect“, says Fontana, even if he had lost out on Sarai in the final sprint. According to the 44-year-old he thought the final part of the track in Villabassa to be shorter: "I guess I started the final sprint too early", he says.

Bronze medallist Marco Rebagliati from Liguria (Italy), who is 17 years younger than Fontana, finished on the third place. He said the ascent to Prato Piazza was the toughest part for him. The 27-year-old affirms, that although he managed to catch up on Sarai and Fontana on the descent from Prato Piazza, he did not have enough forces on the final sprint.

Unlike the race in the male category, the victory in the female category was rather clear. Nina Gulino, born in 1988, had left the other top athletes behind already on the first ascent and finished with one and a half minutes ahead of Anna Oberparleiter from Valdaora/Olang. "Despite the clear advantage I had to fight until the very end" says Gulino, who participated in the Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike for the first time and has already announced to be back next year.

The local athlete Oberparleiter, however, is still not too satisfied with her result: „Last year second, this year second – it seems impossible for me to win this race.“, says the 27-year-old, who knows why she was defeated today: "I felt my legs already after the first ascent and



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I know that it's getting more and more difficult for me after two hours." Even if she took a considerable risk in the descent from Prato Piazza, it was not enough for the gold medal.

After Gulino and Oberparleiter, Nicole Guidolin from Trieste finished on the third place. She lost out on Oberparleiter on the final sprint. „It was an impressive finish“, says Guidolin, who was still very satisfied with her result. “Most of the time I was in second position and therefore hoping to finish on the second place as well. But eventually also the third place is more than I expected”, says the 34-year-old.

The „short“ track at this year's Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike lead over 60 km from Villabassa to Dobbiaco, the Lake of Dobbiaco and then via Carbonin and Prato Piazza to Braies and finally back to Villabassa. On the short track athletes had to face a total of 1785 m of difference in altitude.

For further information and pictures visit www.dolomitisuperbike.com

Elite Men, 60 km

1. Sarai, Pietro	(ITA)	2:13.32,1
2. Fontana, Klaus	(ITA)	2:13.32,6
3. Rebagliati, Marco	(ITA)	2:13.34,1
4. Pettinà, Nicholas	(ITA)	2:15.42,9
5. D'Agostino, Marco	(ITA)	2:16.09,7

Elite Women, 60 km

1. Gulino, Nina	(ITA)	2:42.44,8
2. Oberparleiter, Anna	(ITA)	2:46.17,9
3. Guidolin, Nicol	(ITA)	2:46.18,3
4. Menapace, Lorenza	(ITA)	2:48.22,5
5. Ellecosta, Nadine	(ITA)	2:48.56,0

All results and details are published at <https://services.datasport.com/2017/mtb/dolomiti>



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