

Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike

Von Kurz Platz 6 // Piazza Von Kurz 6
I-39039 Niederdorf // Villabassa
T +39 0474 740 871 · F +39 0474 740 871
info@dolomitisuperbike.com
www.dolomitisuperbike.com



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Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike: a competition dominated by marathon specialists from Italy and Switzerland

Villabassa/Niederdorf (South Tyrol/ Italy), 05 July 2017 – The Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike gave rise to several World Champions, World Cup Winners and top athletes, with Italy clearly leading the nation ranking.

Numbers give a clear picture: the roll of honour of the Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike shows a total of 13 Italian victories, nine in the male and four in the female category. The last Italian victories were conquered by Massimo Debertolis (2009) and Elena Giacomuzzi (2008). Italy is followed by Switzerland with nine and Germany with five victories respectively. The Austrian and British marathon specialists won the race four times each. Columbia conquered the gold medal twice, whereas athletes from Belgium, Norway, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Portugal and Greece finished on the first place one time each.

In the male category, the Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike is clearly dominated by Italian top stars. The team of the „Azzurri“ heads the ranking with a total of 9 victories. Far behind follow Switzerland with three, as well as Austria and Columbia with two gold medals each. German, Belgian, French, Czech and Portuguese athletes gained one victory each.

The Italian athlete Mauro Bettin is still the most successful participant on the long distance, finishing on the first place three times in a row between 2000 and 2002. He is closely followed by Massimo Debertolis from Italy (2008, 2009), Urs Huber from Switzerland (2008, 2009) and Leonardo Hector Paez (2006, 2016) from Columbia with two victories each.

In the female category, the Swiss athletes are leading by far with a total of six victories. Athletes from Italy, Germany and Great Britain could win the competition four times each.

Sally Bigham from Great Britain is holding the absolute record with four victories. Two other ladies were able to conclude the race at the first place twice: Maria Canins (ITA) in the first two editions of the Dolomiti Superbike in 1995 and 1996, as well as Esther Süss (SUI) in 2006 and 2007.

The organization committee from Villabassa has carried out 22 races since 1995, of which the one in 2004 had to be interrupted and cancelled due to rain and snowfall. Another breath-taking moment was the finish at the World Championship in 2008 between Roel Paulissen from Belgium and the incumbent Swiss World Champion Christoph Sauser. Paulissen won



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the gold medal, after Sauser was set back on the second place for obstructing the athlete from Belgium on the last metres. Urs Huber from Switzerland won the bronze medal on that day and the gold medal on the classic marathon distance the day after. In the female category, the Norwegian Olympic Champion Gunn-Rita Dahle became the new World Champion, followed by Sabine Spitz from Germany on the second place and Pia Sundstedt from Finland on the third place.

The three Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike editions in 2006, 2007 and 2013 were carried out officially as UCI-Marathon-World Cup races.

For further information and pictures please visit www.dolomitisuperbike.com



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