

## Press release of the 6th July 2008

### 14th Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike in Niederdorf/Villabassa (Südtirol/Alto Adige- Italy)

#### Italian victories on the short course over 56.9 km and 1,688 m of vertical drop – Second rank for Bianca Knopf from Germany

Niederdorf/Villabassa (Südtirol/Alto Adige), 6th July 2008 – Evelyn Staffler and Günther Huber, both from Italy, won the 14<sup>th</sup> Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike on the short distance. At the women's the German Bianca Knöpfle was ranked second, while Alessia Ghezzi from Rivoli next to Turin in third position. At the men's Johann Schweiggl from Kurtatsch (Südtirol/Alto Adige) crossed the finishing line as second and Silvano Janes from Trentino (Italy) was ranked third.

The 21-year-old Günther Huber from Bruneck/Brunico did the 56.9 km and 1,688 m of vertical drop in 2 hours, 11 minutes and 46 seconds. "On the first ascent to the "Plätzwiese" we were a big group that slowly dissolved on the descent towards "Schluderbach". In a group of three we firstly persecuted the leading cyclists who thereafter took the long course anyway. On the last ascent to the "Eggerberg" I rode full power once again and took the lead over my two persecuters". The 20-year-old Johann Schweiggl, Relay European Champion and Junior Italian Champion 2005 arrived at the finish with a delay of 28 seconds. „Günther was simply stronger today. We rode together for quite a long time, nevertheless on the last ascent he had more stamina“. It was 53-year-old Silvano Janes from Povo (Italy) to arrive at the finish as third. „Today everything was perfect. Because of the long concrete tracks the race was quite fast. Huber escaped me on the ascent to the "Plätzwiese". I am pleased that my training partner and Giro Winner Gilberto Simoni waited for me here at the finishing line“.

1. Günther Huber (ITA) 2:11.46
2. Johannes Schweiggl (ITA) 2:12.14
3. Silvano Janes (ITA) 2:12.16
4. Marco Zappa (ITA) 2:13.05
5. Ivo Zulian (ITA) 2:14.25
6. Riccardo Milesi (ITA) 2:14.51
7. Stephan Augscheller (ITA) 2:15.59
8. Roberto Petrone (ITA) 2:17.06
9. Stefan Ludwig (ITA) 2: 19.28
10. Hans Grasegger (G) 2:19.47

At the women's the winner was Evelyn Staffler from Nals/Nalles (Südtirol/Alto Adige). The 23-year-old finished the race after 2 hours, 38 minutes and 39 seconds. „The course did not correspond to my technical characteristics“, said the professional cyclist at the finish. „I consider today's race as a training session. This year I have not been able to take part at many races because of a virus infection.“ The athlete of the Italian National Team put a lot of effort into the first ascent and then rode the rest of the race pretty much alone. At the

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WCH on the Sulzberg she fell down already during the training and for this reason she did not participate at the race.

Happy about her second rank was Bianca Knöpfle from Donau-Eschingen in Schwarzwald (Germany). The 23-year-old was ranked 14th at the Marathon WCH yesterday. Today she started in the first starting block, but "too far behind", as she said, for which reason she continuously had to overtake participants during the first 15 km and thus lost a lot of precious time. Compared to Staffler the second-ranked lost 1'18".

Third was the Italian Alessia Ghezze with a delay of four minutes. "I felt amazingly well. From time to time I was even ahead, but then I had to struggle with stomachache and so I fell back again."

1. Evelyn Staffler (ITA) 2: 38.49
2. Bianca Knöpfle (G) 2:40.08
3. Alessia Ghezze (ITA) 2:42.49
4. Rachela Secchieri (ITA) 2:51.06
5. Liv-Susanne bachmann (G) 2:53.10
6. Sarah Bosch (G) 2:54.02
7. Veronika Walder (ITA) 2:54.40
8. Andrea Tasser (ITA) 2:55.34

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