



17th Südtirol Superbike 9 July 2011

Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike 3600 Registrations from 29 Nations Suspense is surging – Worlds top class at the start in Niederdorf

Niederdorf 6 July 2006 – Mirko Celestino, Alban Lakata, Urs Huber and Massimo Debertolis will be present on Saturday 9 July 2011 at the Mountainbike – Marathon together with the world's top class for the 17th Südtirol Superbike in Niederdorf. Pia Sundstedt, Birgit Söllner, Daniela Veronesi, Sally Bigham and Kathrin Schwing the top four and previous winners from previous events are in attendance in the Alta Pusteria Dolomites.

The Swiss candidate Urs Huber and Italian Massimo Debertolis have both won the Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike twice. 36 year old Debertolis was the world champion in 2004 and Huber 25, was third in the World Championship in 2008. Mirko Celestino, 37 is the reigning Italian Marathon Champion, third in the World Championships and first in the world rankings. He won the Sellaronda Hero last Saturday whereas ex-world champion Alban Lakata 31 was victorious a few days prior at the Kitzalp Bike. Celestino and Lakata have not stood on the upper stand of the winner's podium in the Alta Pusteria. Celestino crossed the finish line 25 seconds behind Huber who reached Niederdorf in second place while Lakata has never been under the top three. Alban Lakata defeated Celestino by only 5 seconds at the UCI-Worldchampionships in 2010. The Italian has an open account to settle with Lakata as well as Huber. Massimo Debertolis has not held his ambition to win as a secret.

In the Alta Pusteria's women's competition are the winners of two preceding marathons – Kitzalp Bike and Sellaronda Hero respectively won by Sally Bingham of England and Kathrin Schwing from Germany. Bingham is presently the number one in the UCI World Rankings after confirming a third place at the last Dolomiti Superbike event. Schwing lies 29th in the world rankings. She won the Dolomiti Superbike in 2009 and last year was placed sixth. Pia Sundstedt from Finland determined the classic for herself in 2005. In 2010 and 2007 she came in at second place; 2006 she was third and at the UCI-MTB-WM 2008 in Niederdorf she collected the Bronze Medal. Even the World Ranking number five from Germany Brigit Söllner can fall back on her longstanding experience. She is the current runner-up German marathon champion and a six time Tour de France competitor. In 2010 she narrowly missed the podium in Niederdorf coming in at fourth place. The Italian Marathon Champion

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Daniela Veronesi is a hidden favourite at the start. The former road racer wants to equate Mirko Celestino after his exchange to the Mountain bike combined with his previous road successes.

Ski World champion at the start

Alongside the Mountainbike stars, ski champions will be taking part in the 17th Dolomiti Superbike. So on Saturday the Super-G-World Champion and Combination-runner-up champion Christof Innerhofer accompanied by team mate and UNICEF ambassador Werner Heel and including the Super-G-runner-up champion of 2005 Lucia Recchia as well as the Südtiroler Sportswoman in 2010 joined by the Olympic fourth in the Super-G Hanna Scharf are at the line up in Niederdorf. The four Ski athletes will be at "House Wassermann" museum as part of an exhibition about the Olympic flame as well as to promote the Pusteria Olympic participants who will be on hand to sign autographs. They will take part in the Press conference scheduled for later. They will have the opportunity to measure themselves on Saturday against the best amateurs and are expected to be in attendance at the presentation ceremony.

Donation for UNICEF – Children's Help Programme

At the winner's ceremony and on behalf of the Südtirol Superbike, Kurt Ploner will hand over a cheque for € 2000, 00 to the representative of the UNICEF Children's Programme Werner Heel. For the last two years Heel has skied at the World Cup Ski Competitions with the UNICEFS emblem on his helmet. The renowned Ski racer will hand over the donation to UNICEF.

Information: www.dolomitisuperbike.com

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