



Niederdorf, 2 July 2009

Stars and starlets at the Dolomiti Superbike

Whether it's Gilberto Simoni; Mirko Celestino the newly crowned Italian Champion or the previous year's female victor Elena Giacomuzzi together with her new team Caprivesi, this year's 360 degree across the board representation at the Dolomiti Superbike will be sensational as in previous meetings. Almost 3 000 professionals, Hobbybikers and VIPs participating are from 27 nations and 82 Italian Provinces.

After last year's incredible clash between Roel Paulissen (Belgium/ World Champion) and Christoph Sauser, and including the participation of Olympic Champion Gunn-Rita Dahle, the 2009 line up can boast a superb selection of very accomplished athletes and teams at the start. "The South Tyrolean athlete Mike Felderer who recently as 10 days ago won the Black Forest Ultra Bike Marathon over 116 Kilometres at an altitude of 3150m will certainly be present at the race on 12 July. It will include his colleague Gilberto Simoni from Palu di Giovo who won the Giro two years in succession and from where the cycling legend Francesco Moser originated. Gilberto Simoni will be in Niederdorf with his team Diquigiovanni_Androni Giocattoli" stated the organisers of the 15th Dolomiti Superbike Contest. A top favourite for the first position is Mirko Celestino who last weekend was crowned Italy's Mountain Bike Marathon Champion in Montebelluna. He succeeded in achieving his goal by having a two seconds advantage over the South Tyrolean Mike Felderer.

"South Tyrol is well represented by Professionals and Hobby-Teams for example the all time Classic 'Sporthilfe Team' which will include Alpine skiers like Florian Eisath, Christoph Innerhofer and Werner Heel. Others representing the team are Triathlon members like Stefano Paoli and a Cross country specialist Stephanie Santer", explained Kurt Ploner. The Sporthilfe Team is maintained by Hobby Cyclist and Member of the Provincial Government Thomas Widman; Member of the Provincial Authority Veronika Stirner-Brantsch and the artist Peter Hiegelsberger all of which are sponsored by X-Bionic and have taken part in most of the races.

Ekkehard Dörschlag belongs to the long standing group of bikers having competed in the various 'Dolomiti Superbike' challenges over the years. He was the winner of the very first competition and will be at this next meeting. "During the last months I've concentrated on long Distances and during the past winter I set up a new world record in Tour Skiing at 18 288m above sea level over a period of 24 hours. Last weekend I attempted 'The Race across the Alps' an innovative 530km haul at 13 700m lashed with storms, rain and snow which I don't anticipate in 10 days time at the Superbike!"

The previous day before the final event will host the traditional children's race (16 hours) including last year's Special Dolomiti Superbike (14hours). The race track has been temporarily sign posted for testing. The final race signposts will be in place the last week leading up to finals. The tourist industry is expecting about 5 000 bikers and families during the week of the race.

For more information please consult www.dolomitisuperbike.com

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