



Sprinter summit in Hamburg: BEMER Cyclassics attract the fastest men in the world to Mönckebergstraße

The best sprinters in the world will meet in Hamburg on September 8. At the BEMER Cyclassics, not only the fans can expect a sprint royale on Mönckebergstraße after almost 200 kilometers, but apparently also the 23 teams that will be at the start. Almost every team is sending its fastest man in the squad to the Elbe a week before the European Championships. Six former winners are taking part in the showdown of the sprint elite. And at least as many who want to celebrate their premiere victory at the Cyclassics.

Jasper Philipsen (Alpecin-Deceuninck), **Jonathan Milan** (Lidl-Trek), **Tim Merlier** (Soudal Quick-Step) and **Olav Kooij** (Visma | Lease a Bike) are the four most successful sprinters this season. The quartet has an impressive 37 victories between them this year. Over their entire careers, that makes almost 150. What they are all missing is a victory in Hamburg. In 2024, each of the quartet will have the chance to change that, as they lead the Cyclassics' prestigious list of starters.

Biniam Girmay (Intermarché-Wanty) is also in the race and thus the green jersey of the Tour de France. The Eritrean also has five wins this season. Like Philipsen, he has won three of them in the world's most important cycling race. And what Girmay was at the Tour de France, Milan was at the Giro d'Italia. The Italian won the Maglia Ciclamino, the jersey for the best sprinter of the Giro, for the second time in a row. He also took this classification jersey at the recently concluded Lidl Deutschland Tour with three stage wins.

Alexander Kristoff (Uno-X Mobility) tops the list of former Hamburg winners. The Norwegian also has five victories to his name this season. Kristoff won the Cyclassics in 2014, while Arnaud Démare (Arkéa-B&B Hotels, 2012) and John Degenkolb (dsm-firmenich PostNL) are two veterans whose success dates back more than ten years. With Caleb Ewan (Team Jayco AlUla, 2016), triple winner Elia Viviani (Ineos Grenadiers, 2017 to 2019) and Marco Haller (Red Bull-BORA-hansgrohe, 2022) also taking part, only André Greipel, who has already retired, and last year's winner Mads Pedersen are missing from the illustrious list from the last twelve years.



However, the list of top sprinters will be supplemented by the German elite. **Phil Bauhaus** (Bahrain-Victorious) has announced his participation, as has **Pascal Ackermann** (Israel - Premier Tech).

In the event that the BEMER Cyclassics are not decided in the sprint, **Maximilian Schachmann** (Red Bull-BORA-hansgrohe) or **Nils Politt** (UAE Team Emirates) will also be there. The latter was only caught in the final meters of the home straight last year.

On the international stage, **Filippo Ganna** (Ineos Grenadiers), **Christophe Laporte** (Visma | Lease a Bike), **Ben Healy** (EF Education EasyPost) and **Sören Kragh Andersen** (Alpecin-Deceuninck) are among the candidates who could spring a surprise with an attack on the Waseberg.