



Hamburg celebrates Germany's biggest cycling event with the BEMER Cyclassics

The BEMER Cyclassics will move thousands of cycling enthusiasts for a whole weekend, before the professional race with the world's best sprinters on Sunday marks the highlight of the major cycling event.

On September 8, 161 riders from the 18 WorldTour teams and the five best second-division riders will roll through Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein over almost 200 kilometers to finally determine the best sprinter in a sprint royale on Mönckebergstraße. Although the Waseberg, which has to be crossed three times, has executioner potential, the star line-up of fast men and their teams will do everything they can to bring about a bunch sprint.

Jasper Philipsen (Alpecin-Deceuninck), Olav Kooij (Visma | Lease a Bike), Jonathan Milan (Lidl-Trek) and Tim Merlier (Soudal Quick-Step) are the four best sprinters of the season at the start. In addition, Biniam Girmay (Intermarché-Wanty), who won the green jersey at the Tour de France, Arnaud De Lie (Lotto-Dstny) and Alexander Kristoff (Uno-X Mobility) are further challengers who want to have a say in the fight for the Cyclassics title.

From a German perspective, Phil Bauhaus (Bahrain-Victorious), Pascal Ackermann (Israel - Premier Tech) and Max Kanter (Astana Qazaqstan) have the best chances. However, if the race goes differently, Nils Politt (UAE Team Emirates), Maximilian Schachmann (Red Bull - BORA - hansgrohe), John Degenkolb (dsm-firmenich PostNL), Simon Geschke (Cofidis), Georg Zimmermann (Intermarché-Wanty), Marius Mayrhofer (Tudor Pro Cycling Team) or Jannik Steimle (Q36.5 Pro Cycling Team) could also cause a surprise.

The Cyclassics will open on Friday. The Expo at the Rathausmarkt starts at 10:30 a.m. - and runs until 8 p.m. On 4000 square meters, almost 30 exhibitors will present their latest products from the fields of cycling, outdoor, lifestyle and sports nutrition. Several catering stands and infotainment activities enrich the offer, which also appeals to people who are still getting to know cycling. The trade fair is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

The BEMER Youngclassics will be the sporting prelude to the Cyclassics. The stars of tomorrow - Politt and Ackermann have also won here - from the U17 category will compete in four stages over three days. More than 100 talents from 23 teams and five nations will first



complete an individual time trial on Friday in Oldendorf/Luhe, Lower Saxony. On Saturday, a team time trial is scheduled at the same location before a circuit race is held in neighboring Soderstorf. The highlight will undoubtedly be Sunday, when the youngsters will race their final stage on the elite route from Barmstedt to the finish line in Mönckebergstraße and crown the winners in front of thousands of spectators before the pros battle it out for victory.

Saturday is all about the Bikeleasing Kids Race. Children between the ages of two and twelve, [who have registered in advance](#), will take part in small races in four age groups, running or cycling 200 meters along the elite finishing straight in Mönckebergstraße in a goosebump-inducing atmosphere. They compete against each other from 2 pm. The course can be used for a final training session one hour beforehand.

On Sunday, before the young riders and the elite, it's the turn of the amateur athletes. Around 11,000 participants will set off from the Kennedy Bridge between the Outer and Inner Alster at 7:30 a.m. on their 60 or 100-kilometre routes to master their very own Cyclassics. They will also be racing on the elite courses.

All traffic-related information and closures for the day can be viewed at www.cyclassics-hamburg.de/de/verkehr.

Comments on the BEMER Cyclassics

Andy Grote, Senator for the Interior and Sport of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg: *"In its 27th year, the BEMER Cyclassics has achieved enormous significance and is one of the top 10 events in Hamburg. As a WorldTour race, the Cyclassics are a must for many professional cyclists, offer an inspiring spectator experience and provide a strong impetus for children's, popular, junior and competitive sport in the Active City. They prove what a perfect setup the city offers for major events, also with a view to further national and international bids for major sporting events."*

Christian Prudhomme, Directeur Cyclisme Amaury Sports Organization: *"What impresses me is not just the race itself, but the many things that happen around it. The biggest difference between Germany and France in this context is probably that the approach here tends to focus on grassroots sport first and then the professionals come in. In France, it's the other way around. There is a connection between the two areas. And we want to strengthen this further."*



Matthias Pietsch, Managing Director of Gesellschaft zur Förderung des Radsports mbH: "The Cyclassics are the cradle for events that combine elite sport to watch, popular sport to participate in, expo for entertainment and the promotion of young talent. They are the blueprint for many such events in Europe and were also the largest for a long time. In Germany, they still are. For the future, we would like to be able to make a few changes. On the one hand, we would like to integrate Hamburg icons such as the Köhlbrand Bridge or the harbor into the route, and perhaps also a circuit in the city center to make the race even more attractive for spectators. In order to increase the number of participants in popular sports again, we could imagine including not only Schleswig-Holstein but also Lower Saxony in their routes."

Fabian Wegmann, Sports Director BEMER Cyclassics: "We are sticking to the route concept for the time being. Even though the race almost always ended in a sprint, it was still exciting because the decision as to whether there was one or not was only made in the final kilometers or, as in the previous year, on the home straight. That's why the finale is always great, not only for the riders but also for the spectators. And when I look at the starting field this year, it's really unbelievable."

Rick Zabel, ex-pro, rides the Cyclassics 100: "As a pro, I unfortunately rode in Hamburg far too rarely. I don't miss putting on a race number as much, but I would like to take the opportunity to cycle on a closed course and feel safe. I have a lot of friends who are at home in amateur sport. And I can now go for a relaxed ride with them. I'm looking forward to that."