



EKZ CrossTour is coming to Bern in 2017 and is aiming for a World Cup in 2018

Bern, 9.5.2017 - Swiss cyclocross series EKZ CrossTour is launching a new, sixth round in the Swiss capital Bern. The first event in Bern will take place on Sunday, October 1, 2017. This race will also serve as a test event for an aspired Cyclocross World Cup in 2018.

The EKZ CrossTour was launched in 2014. In the past three years, it has become the most international cyclocross series worldwide and the most important cyclocross event outside of Belgium. The 2017 EKZ CrossTour in Bern is intended as the start of something bigger: The Cyclocross World Cup in Bern in 2018. This would be the first cyclocross world cup race held in Switzerland since 2010.

Enhancing the positive image of Bern as a sports city

Bern features another cycling highlight after the Tour de Suisse, the Tour de France and the European Championship in Mountain Bike and Trial. Bern City Council Member Reto Nause welcomes this new event: «The EKZ CrossTour fits into the positive image of Bern as a sports city. This event has national and international appeal. The City of Bern hopes that the race will establish itself as a World Cup in the medium term.»

Christian Rocha, main organizer of the EKZ CrossTour, is excited: «We have everything we need for a long-term success. The constructive and supportive cooperation with the City of Bern is very helpful. In addition, we have the perfect racing ground, a good infrastructure, and excellent connections to public transportation for our spectators.» Rocha emphasizes that he can rely on a highly motivated and competent organizing team during the planning stages and beyond.

Outdoor swimming pool becomes a cyclocross arena

National mountain bike and cyclocross pro Lukas Flückiger is delighted: «It would be great if a World Cup was held in Bern in 2018. After the Swiss cyclocross boom in the past few years, the plans for a World Cup are taking shape just at the right moment. It is time for Swiss cyclocross to take a step forward.» Flückiger was the Swiss Cyclocross Champion in 2010 and 2014 and is himself an organizer of his own race, «Flückiger Cross», in Madiswil. «A home World Cup would be a huge motivation not only for myself as a professional, but especially for young Swiss athletes — it would be the main goal of the season for everyone.»

The race ground is located in the western part of Bern in the public swimming pool Weyermannshaus. The race track, looping around the largest artificial swimming pool in Europe, is designed to turn the area around the pool into a unique cyclocross arena for both audiences and athletes. Tricky corners and technically challenging passages, combined with very fast, steep sections will guarantee a high-quality, international race.

Cyclocross as a social meeting point and an occasion for the whole family

Cyclocross in Switzerland is not just a sport for professionals. The organizers of the Cyclocross World Cup Bern will ensure that this will be an event «in Bern for Bern». It will include all cycling groups and bike communities from the region of Bern. «It will not only be a sports event. It will be a social... →



event for everyone,» Rocha says. Races for kids, youth categories and hobby riders without a racing license are always part of the international series EKZ CrossTour.

ABOUT

EKZ CrossTour

The EKZ CrossTour is a Swiss cyclocross series that has developed into one of the world's largest and most important racing series of its kind in the last three years. The EKZ CrossTour season 2017/2018 includes races in Baden, Bern, Aigle, Hittnau, Eschenbach and Meilen.

EKZ CrossTour Bern 2017

Date: Sunday, October 1, 2017

Location: Freibad Weyermannshaus, Bern

Organization:

Main organizer: Christian Rocha, President, EKZ CrossTour; founder/owner of crossroads Event und Kommunikation GmbH.

Local organizing team: Christian Rocha, Roland Glaus, René Walker, Peter Basler, Sepp Freiburghaus, Regula Günter, Nina Tschanz, Stephanie Wille and Patrick Günter. An additional one hundred volunteers will be involved.

Cyclocross World Cup Bern 2018

The organizing committee is aiming for a World Cup event in 2018. The application for this event will be submitted to the International Cycling Federation UCI this summer.

For more information, please visit:

www.ekz-crosstour.ch/Bern

For any questions, please contact:

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