



Press release

THE MARATONA DLES DOLOMITES-ENEL 2018 WAS HELD TODAY



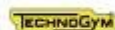
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IN A PERFECT BALANCE, BOTH ON HIS BICYCLE AND IN LIFE, TOMMASO ELETTRICO WON FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW THE 138 KM MARATONA LONG COURSE, 4230 m ALTITUDE GAIN

Alta Badia (South Tyrolean Dolomites - Italy) – A perfect start with mild temperatures and under a blue sky. These were the conditions at 6.30 am when **9239 cyclists** (including **978 women**) started the **32nd** edition of the **Maratona dles Dolomites – Enel 2018**. A challenge within another challenge, a passion shared by more than 32.400 applicants who sent their request to participate in the race, which you can actually participate in only if your name is drawn or thanks to the repechage. Seeing the long procession of racers that fill the road from La Villa to Campolongo with their colours for 30 minutes is, as always, pure emotion both for those who watched it live on TV on the Italian **raire** channel from 6.15 to 12.00 and for those who supported participants at the start. The finish line was, as always, in Corvara. This year the traditional starting pistol was fired by **Eddy Merckx**, a world cycling legend.

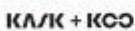
There are always many flags flying at the queen of the international granfondo sportives: **68 different countries** (from the five continents) were represented. This year 4,900 cyclists participated for the first time. And their total number was equally subdivided between Italians (50%) and foreigners (50%).

There are three courses over the passes, closed to traffic, that made history in cycling: **Pordoi, Sella, Campolongo, Falzarego, Gardena, Valparola, Giau**, all of them **strictly closed to traffic**.

Distances: **Maratona / long course 138 km** and 4230 m. altitude gain, **Middle course 106 km** and 3130 m. altitude gain and **Sella Ronda course 55 km** and 1780 m. altitude gain.

Many famous sportspeople, international business managers as well as several famous names from the show business participated.

Equilibrium, balance, was the topic of this edition, as it is expressed on a bicycle and in life, but also through **SOLIDARITY** which translates every year in the support by the Maratona of several charity projects financed by means of the charity entries. With devotion and precision, the funds have been distributed among: **Assisport Alto Adige** (www.sporthilfe.it) that supports veritable sports talents, i.e. young people who cannot afford participating in competitions; the **“Alex Zanardi Bimbingamba”** association (www.bimbingamba.com) that makes prostheses for amputee children who cannot benefit from healthcare; the association of groups **“Insieme si può...”** NGO (www.365giorni.org) that supports a project in the Kangole Boys Primary School in North Uganda financing the tuition and dormitory facility for pupils and the Costa Family Foundation with a new family home in the Tawang district in India.



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And, in order to further enhance the topic of equilibrium, great attention has been paid to consumer issues as well, perfectly in line with the concept of eco-sustainability: the Maratona has always promoted initiatives to reduce emissions and energy consumption.

The race. The start was at 6.30 am and athletes immediately had to tackle, after a few kilometres, the first pass (Campolongo) at 6:52. The leading group then climbed three passes in a row: passo Pordoi, passo Sella and passo Gardena (reached at 8:09), where Michiel Minnaert (Granfondoteam.be) was leading a group of six racers. The race then continued to the first transit under the Corvara finish line led by Kristof Houben (Storex GF Team), completing the Sella Ronda course in 1h49'49". The second transit at Campolongo was at 8:36, led by Francesco Avanzo (Biemme Garda Sport) and Matteo Cipriani (Infinity Cycling Team a.s.d.), who were actually doing the middle course. The first woman at the second transit at Campolongo was Ilaria Lombardo (A.S.D. Team Perini Bike) in 2h24'03". Under a wonderful sun, the Giau pass was first reached by a group of four racers led by Michiel Minnaert from Belgium in 2h45'46" and the first pursuers after just 11 seconds. The top of the hardest climb in the race, with an average gradient of 10% on 9.9 km of climb, was reached first by Michiel Minnaert and Cristian Nardecchia (USC Team Nardecchia) in 3h24"06. Ilaria Lombarda and Christina Rausch (Pacopeluche) took the lead of women in 3h55'19". In the meantime, Matteo Cipriani won the middle course beating in the final sprint Francesco Avanzo with a time of 3h29'09". Dario Giovine (Team Isolmant Specialized) ranked third with 3'01". Among the women, Annalisa Prato (Team De Rosa Santini) won the middle race in 4h05'39", followed by Olga Capiello from the same team (10'11") and Laura Cosentino (ASD Swatt Club) (11'52"). Something unexpected happened on the Falzarego climb with the disqualification of Michiel Minnaert. The Belgian cyclist is a professional racer and should not have participated in the competition based on the rules of the race. On the climb of passo Falzarego the race changed: last year's winner, Tommaso Elettrico (Team CPS), reached the peak alone, 35" ahead of Paolo Castelnovo (ASD Team MP Filtri) and Igor Zanetti (Scott Team Granfondo). The descent to the much feared Muro del Gatto/Cat wall did not see any changes in the times and, for the second year in a row, the winner of the Maratona dles Dolomites was Tommaso Elettrico from Matera in 4h38'13" followed by Igor Zanetti and Paolo Castelnovo, both after 50". The women edition was won by the German Christina Rausch. The winner of the 32nd edition of the Maratona dles Dolomites declared with tear-filled eyes: "I believe that today something great happened to me. I have been dreaming of this victory since April, I wanted to win again and leave a mark. I am speechless. So much effort, so many sacrifices but today a new dream has come true. I would like to thank all the people who support me, especially CPS and Franco Lauria, who know how important this event was for me. In comparison to last year, when I did 80 km of sprint solo, I attacked at the second transit at Campolongo and I understood that the decisive point was Falzarego and there I sped up and understood that I would win".

THE RESULTS



138 KM MEN

1. Elettrico Tommaso	1987	Team CPS	4:38.13,4
2. Zanetti Igor	1978	Scott Teamgranfondo	4:39.04,0
3. Castelnovo Paolo	1984	ASD Team MP Filtri	4:39.04,1
4. Paoloni Gianluca	1982	ASD Team Paoloni Marcellina	4:42.58,4
5. Pisani Vincenzo	1981	Team Falasca Zama Greco	4:45.02,2



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138 KM WOMEN

1. Rausch Christina	1973	Pacopeluche	5:19.03,5
2. Lombardo Ilaria	1970	ASD Team Perini Bike	5:22.58,6
3. Maltha Martha	1984	Derustit	5:32.27,0
4. Lancioni Barbara	1981	Somec-MG. K VIS-LGL	5:33.05,4
5. Van der Moeren Ils	1974	Grinta! Granfondoteam	5:35.04,1



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106 KM MEN

1. Cipriani Matteo	1983	Infinity Cycling Team ASD	3:29.09,9
2. Avanzo Francesco	1987	Biemme Garda Sport	3:29.10,2
3. Giovine Dario	1992	Team Isolmant Specialized	3:32.11,7
4. Pontalto Andrea	1987	Alé Cipollini	3:32.14,4
5. Gonzalez Martinez Bladimir	1978	ASD TRZ Zenato	3:35.27,7



106 KM WOMEN

1. Prato Annalisa	1998	Team De Rosa Santini	4:05.39,0
2. Cappello Olga	1963	Team De Rosa Santini	4:15.50,0
3. Cosentino Laura	1990	ASD Swatt Club	4:17.31,6
4. Bonfanti Monica	1975	ASD Dilettantistica Rodman Azimut Squadr	4:19.39,1
5. Turchi Chiara	1970	Cicloteam San Ginese	4:28.47,8



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55 KM MEN

1. Ferrari Davide	1976	ASD Team Perini Bike	1:55.31,1
2. Coertjens Rien	1990	Granfondoteam.be	1:57.52,5
3. Siviero Fabio	1985	New Team 2007	1:59.38,3
4. Alberti Nicola	1981	Il Team Pinarello	2:04.04,2
5. Wisthaler Wilfried	1973	ASV Dolomiti Superbike	2:04.18,1



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55 KM WOMEN

1. Nicolussi-Leck Vera	1976	ASV OK DOLOMITI SUPERBIKE	2:29.12,5
2. Wierer Dorothea	1990	Rasun di Sotto (BZ)	2:29.59,1



3. Tonini Beatrice	1985	FP Race ASD	2:38.41,9
4. Luypaert Katleen	1976	Granfondoteam.be	2:40.10,0
5. Purifico Sabina	1964	Speedwheel Genova	2:41.54,5



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FOR PICTURES AND VIDEOS:

Download videos at: <https://goo.gl/v8AmX4>

Download pictures at: <https://goo.gl/9cRjSO>

Results: www.datasport.com/press

For information:

Comitato Maratona dles Dolomites tel 0471/839536 fax 0471/839915

e-mail: info@maratona.it www.maratona.it

Press office Pizzinini Scolari ComunicAzione - www.pizzininiscolari.com

Christian Pizzinini Cell. +39 338/8543309

e-mail: christian.pizzinini@pizzininiscolari.com