

PRESS RELEASE

THE MARATONA DLES DOLOMITES-ENEL LOOKING AT TOMORROW WAS HELD TODAY

UNDER THE SIGN OF NUMBER 3: THE 33RD EDITION OF THE MARATONA DLES DOLOMITES – ENEL
AND THE TRIPLET OF TOMMASO ELETTRICO, WINNER OF THE 138 KM LONG COURSE,
4230 M ALTITUDE GAIN

A start blessed by the sun

Alta Badia (South Tyrolean Dolomites / Italy) – The rays of the sun caressed the **9038** cyclists, including **926** women, who started precisely at 6.30 a.m., as usual. **The 33rd edition of the Maratona dles Dolomites-Enel** dedicated to **Duman**, tomorrow, began under the best auspices. *“When I think of tomorrow, I think of her, Pachamama, that with her stoic wisdom waits like a patient mother that her children, sooner or later, reach adulthood that brings humbleness and the awareness that tomorrow is the result of yesterday.”* With these words **Michil Costa**, president of the Organizing Committee of the Maratona dles Dolomites-Enel, kicked-off the race together with **Martina Colombari**, patroness of the event. For more than half an hour, racers paraded on the road from La Villa to Corvara and then they tackled the first difficulty of the race, i.e. the Campolongo. It was a colourful procession that painted the hairpin turns and that then grew thinner and thinner as the road climbed to the mountain pass. These emotions were described live on TV, on the **RAI 2 channel**, that followed the entire race in a **6 hour long sequence of images**.

An event of international standing

It is numbers that crown the Maratona dles Dolomites-Enel as the queen of the international **granfondo sportives**: participants came from **72 different countries** and **five continents** and were equally subdivided between Italians (50%) and foreigners (50%).

Courses closed to traffic

The beauty of the Maratona dles Dolomites-Enel is the fact that you can ride over the passes that made history in world cycling, without being chased by cars and motorbikes. The **three courses** are those that have always characterized this race and that wind over the **Pordoi, Sella, Campolongo, Falzarego, Gardena, Valparola, Giau** passes, all closed to traffic. Distances were as follows: **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.

A TV marathon

This year live broadcasting was on the **RAI 2 channel** that followed the race from the start to the arrival of the first athletes of the long course. From **6.15 a.m. to 12** images showed not only the thousands of racers on the roads of the Dolomites but also the spectacular scenario surrounding the competition.

A more solidarity-oriented tomorrow, starting today

The theme of tomorrow highlighted the charity initiatives that have always been characteristic of the Maratona dles Dolomites-Enel. Tomorrow is closely linked to today, as evidenced by the initiatives of solidarity in favour of the **Colle Santa Lucia and Livinallongo** municipalities, through which the Maratona cyclists have raced for years. On October 29, 2018 a storm caused **huge damage and destroyed millions of trees, roads and paths**. For this reason, the Committee of the Maratona dles Dolomites - Enel organized this year a **fund-raising initiative for the two Municipalities** using special entries to the race and totalling 31,000 euros. **This is a small contribution to help these magnificent places to go back to normality.**

The Maratona looks at the larger world and this is testified to by the cooperation with **Healthy Seas**, a joint venture with the objective of cleaning the seas and oceans of the world from the so called ghost nets, and with the **'Insieme si può'** association that started a series of solidarity initiatives in **Uganda** including a **project for honey making in the Karamoja communities, in one of the poorest areas of the world. The solidarity and charity initiatives of the Maratona know no borders and no walls.**

RACE OVERVIEW

The start was at 6.30 a.m. and athletes immediately had to tackle, after a few kilometres, the first pass, the Passo Campolongo. The first riders transiting were Tommaso Elettrico (CPS Team) and Jurgen Van Goolen (Granfondoteam.be) at 6:53'10". The leading group then climbed three passes in a row: Passo Pordoi, Passo Sella and Passo Gardena (reached at 8:09'07"), where Tommaso Elettrico was first leading the group of 3 riders, together with Stefano Stagni (ASD Gianluca Faenza Team) and Vincenzo Pisani (Asd VIP Team Euronics Tufano).

The race leaders then continued to the first transit under the Corvara finish line led by Stefano Stagni who completed the Sellaronda round in 1h49'02", ahead of Vincenzo Pisani (6,8") and Tommaso Elettrico (32,3"), who was delayed by a puncture. The second transit at Campolongo was at 8:35'38", led by Stefano Stagni while Pisani and Elettrico followed (after 6" and 19", respectively). The first woman at the second transit at Campolongo was Christina Rausch (A.S.D. Brao Caffè Unterthurner) at 8:58'06,4".

In the meantime Davide Covolo (Love Velo) was first in the Sellaronda course in 1h57'27" ahead of Davide Ferrari (Asd Team Perini Bike) at 2' and Emanuele Ristori (Vita-in Cycling Team Asd) at 4'24". Among the women, Alexia Runggaldier (Sporthilfe) was first in 2h25'33,6", ahead of Dorothea Wierer (Rasun di Sotto - BZ) 25" behind and Marieke Brinkman (Holimites) at 8'15".

At the crossroads between the middle and the Maratona course, Stagni decided in favour of the middle course while Pisani and Elettrico headed towards the Passo Giau with a lead of more than 4' on their pursuers. They reached together the top of the hardest climb in the race, with an average gradient of 9.3% on 9.9 km of climb, after 3h23'25,4" from the start of the race (once again Elettrico was first) 4' ahead of their pursuers. Among the women, it was again Christina Rausch who transited first and alone, in 3h59'50,8".

In the meantime Stefano Stagni (ASD Gianluca Faenza Team) won solo the middle course in 3h25'49", followed by Piero Lorenzini (Argon 18-Hicari-Stemax), who was second after 3'57" and Pietro Dutto (Vigor Cycling team), third after 7'51". Among the women, the winner was Jessica Leonardi (Team Biemme Garda Sport Ssdrl), who soloed in

4h08'24,5", followed on the podium by Chiara Doni (Asd Team Privee) at 37" and Olga Cappiello (Team De Rosa Santini) at 2'42".

Down the Giau, the winner of the former two editions tried to make a decisive move and went solo but Pisani managed to reach Elettrico again at the beginning of the climb to Passo Falzarego. On the ramps to the Falzarego pass Elettrico tired again and this time he managed to leave the other behind and transited the Passo Falzarego alone, after 4h06'10" with a lead of 2'34" on Pisani (who suffered from cramps in the left leg) and of 4'42" on Jurgen Van Goolen and Fabio Cini (ASD Cicli Copparo). On the descent to the Muro del Gatto, Elettrico continued to increase his lead on his pursuers while Cini got closer and closer to Pisani.

For the third year in a row, the winner of the Maratona dles Dolomites-Enel is Tommaso Elettrico from Matera who crossed the finish line in Corvara alone, completing the course in 4h36'20". Cini was second at 3'59,6" after reaching and beating Pisani, who came third at 4'16,5". Among the women, Christina Rausch won for the second year in a row in 5h22'26,9", Martha Maltha (En Route) came second at 1'42,9" and Simona Parente (Team Isolmant-Specialized) third at 8'35,6".

The male winner of the 33rd edition of the Maratona dles Dolomites-Enel **Tommaso Elettrico** declared: *"It is truly an incredible emotion and a reward after all the sacrifices I made. Starting as the favourite and managing to win for the third time in a row is simply incredible. This is really a strong emotion and I thank all those who supported me, especially my team and my family. It was very important to me to win for the third time, it was great"*.

The female winner of the 33rd edition of the Maratona dles Dolomites **Christina Rausch** declared: *"Fantastic, really a wonderful victory, I did not expect this. I started cycling only 10 years ago and I feel I grow stronger every year. Winning again this year the Maratona, after my victory last year, is simply fantastic"*.

The theme of the next edition, that will take place on July 5, 2020, is ART.

ALL RESULTS

<https://bit.ly/2Xter1r>

FOR PICTURES AND VIDEOS:

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

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