

That was the Salzkammergut Trophy 2019 - the 22nd edition of the legendary race event!
Kindly publish the below report:

4,500 bikers defied the rain and cold temperatures at the Salzkammergut Trophy 2019:
World Heritage region once again became the hotspot the biker scene!

Bad Goisern; 4,402 participants took part on 3 event days, 7 marathon distances that stretched between 22 and 210 kilometers, 1,200 volunteers - that was the 22nd edition of "To the hell and back"!

The toughest of the toughest lined up as early as at 5 AM for the longest distance of the Salzkammergut Trophy – A heavy downpour welcomed the poor riders on the market square of Goisern . Yet, well over 500 bikers, including 9 ladies, tackled the legendary 211 kilometers through the Salzkammergut.

Konny Looser (SUI) makes the hat-trick happen!

Favorite and the previous Trophy winner of the last two years Konny Looser took charge of the race lead from the get-go, despite the stiff competition of the two Austrians Daniel Rubisoier and Robert Berger. As the kilometers ticked by, the Swiss distanced the competition continually. The rate of the 'did-not-finished' rose tremendously up to the final figure of over 40% [did not finish]. And the same was true for both Rubisoier and Berger. Given the relentless weather conditions, both riders surrendered and eventually did not finish.

Unexpectedly, the Tyrolean Martin Ludwiczek and Lukas Kaufmann from Upper Austria, who took second and third ultimately, made a very strong impression by applying clever race tactics.

Unsurprisingly and based on the previous years, the 'did-not-finished' rate of the women field was once again high due to the adverse conditions. Only one woman finished out of 9 starters.

The Viennese Katharina Fiala was the only women being able to cross the finish line in total darkness after grueling 16 hours and 18 minutes.

Hungarian and Austrian victory on the B-distance!

The B-distance with 873 starters boasted, as usually, the largest number of participants. This course entails 119 kilometers and 3,848 meters of demanding elevation. At the end of the race day Christoph Soukup (Lower Austria / KTM MTB Factory Team) won over Alexander Stadler (Upper Austria / Intersport-Genesis Team). His time of five hours and one minute is truly a respectable one. Third place went to the German Matthias Alberti, riding for the same KTM MTB Factory Team.

The winner of the women field comes from Hungary: Brigitta Poor defeated her strong rival Annette Griner (GER) and local hero Irina Krenn from Bad Goisern / AUT.

Tina Koller (GER / TSV Oberammergau) and Jiri Novak (CZE / Full Gasss) proved to be the winner of the Gravel Marathon, which is a well-received and established event of the Trophy program for a few years now.

Another 66 bikers took part in the Bosch eMTB Challenge supported by Trek. The winners were Greta Weithaler (ITA) and Emanuel Pombo (POR).

A wide-ranging side vents enriched the 2019 Salzkammergut Trophy weekend days. It was kicked off on Friday evening, with the unicycle downhill opener event. Almost 50 participants raced from the Predigstuhl that covers a 4.1 km long descent into the valley. The triple victory in both the women and men category go to South Tyrol. In the men's race, Florian Rabensteiner wins ahead of his team-mate Lukas Huber and Michael Rabensteiner. The women winners are the sisters Laura and Sarah Baumgartner and Anna-Maria Perkmann.

At the Pumptrack competition and the SCOTT Junior Trophy which featured a fast and tricky XC-Race and almost 400 kids took the challenge.

4,402 participants - 36 nations - 5 competitions!

A total of 4,402 participants from 36 nations competed in 12 different race categories of the Salzkammergut Trophy, making the World Heritage region around Hallstättersee the hotspot of the mountain bike scene again. On top of the sporting highlights, the Trophy program and side events once again featured an abundant entertainment. The Bike Expo highlighted over 80 exhibitors, many companies presented the latest bike models, equipment and trendy sports fashion.

The entire results of all competitions, current news and photos can be found on the internet at www.trophy.at

Link to the video footage:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vxju6mhi1uvb9tq/AADJLak1vtonkp2xYkrf88QHa?dl=0>

Please a note of the - 23rd edition of the Salzkammergut Trophy 2020: 17.-19. July 2020 !!!