

MTB World Cup XC #9 & DH #7 - CDM

Schladming, Austria, September 11-14, 2008

September 12: Elite women 4X

Labounkova takes win

By Luke Weber in Schladming – www.cyclingnews.com

Czech's Romana Labounkova rode safely to secure the win ahead of favorite Anneke Beerten (MS Intense Factory Racing), but it was Dutchwoman Beerten who claimed the overall World Cup title, ending her season on a high note. Beerten's achievement capped off a season-long campaign of wearing the leader's jersey, which she assumed in the very first round in Maribor.

The evening's racing started under clouds before a wave of heavy rain hit the shortened Schladming course. Predictably, the rain rolled off of the top of the soil, producing a slick set of heats from the quarter finals onward. Swiss rider Rachel Seydoux was one of the first favourites to get knocked out due to a crash. She was soon followed by Anita Molcik (4 Elements Yeti/Hotec/Rsp) and Mio Suemasa (MS-Intense Factory-Racing).

The final itself was a close but clean race with the wet track forcing riders to make a cautious way to the finish or face an uncomfortable night's sleep that would follow a crash.

Celebrations are already underway here in Schladming for the first champions, and tomorrow will feature the downhill competition. If heavy rains continue, the course will be transformed and an already treacherous descent will become more trying, especially over the exposed roots.



Eventually, Anneke was crowned champion.
Photo ©: Luke Weber

Results

Big finals

- 1 Romana Labounkova (Cze)
- 2 Anneke Beerten (Ned) MS-Intense Factory-Racing
- 3 Jana Horakova (Cze) Suzuki-RB
- 4 Angelika Hohenwarter (Aut)

Small finals

- 5 Fionn Griffiths (GBr) Norco World Team
- 6 Lucia Oetjen (Swi)
- 7 Emmeline Ragot (Fra) Suspension Center
- 8 Helene Valerie Fruhwirth (Aut)

1/4 finals

- 9 Mio Suemasa (Jpn) MS-Intense Factory-Racing
- 10 Diana Marggraff (Ecu)
- 11 Anita Molcik (Aut) 4 Elements Yeti/Hotec/Rsp
- 12 Tereza Votavova (Cze)
- 13 Neza Knez (Slo)
- 14 Eva Castro Fernandez (Spa)
- 15 Steffi Marth (Ger)
- 16 Rachel Seydoux (Swi)

Qualifications

- 17 Laura Brethauer (Ger)
- 18 Katarina Tothova (Cze)
- 19 Elke Rabeder (Aut)
- 20 Neven Steinmetz (USA)