

DH#2 : Maribor, SLO : 08-09.06.2002

Chausson & Kovarik Win Maribor Downhill

Anne-Caroline Chausson (FRA, Volvo-Cannondale) returned to the top of the podium this weekend in Maribor, Slovenia when the champion rider won both qualifying and the finals of round 2 to earn a perfect 250 points and vault from 15th overall to 3rd. Then, in the men's final **Chris Kovarik** (AUS, Intense Cycles) won his third-straight world cup - his second this season in a closely-fought battle of the world's best.

Women's racing was dominated by Anne-Caroline Chausson (FRA, Volvo-Cannondale) Sunday, as she won both the qualifier round as well as the afternoon's finals in a wet and slippery event. She beat **Sabrina Jonnier** (FRA, Intense Cycles) by nine seconds, but Jonnier takes over the series lead after two strong races this season.



Anne-Caroline Chausson, FRA

After receiving the #15 bib this week to reflect her standing going into the race, Chausson was motivated to improve her standings after last week's disappointment.

"I was really super motivated for this race after last weekend," Chausson said. "I didn't like that course and I just wanted to forget about it, so I went home for two or three days."

The rest helped, as she won in difficult conditions. *"The course was completely different from qualifying," she said. "I had to choose a mud tyre for the last off-camber section, and on the rocks it was really bad, but I didn't crash. The tyres were wet, but everywhere in the forest it was dry .."*

Jonnier had qualified sixth-fastest, and unseated a pair of young Austrian riders **Petra Bernhard** (AUT, Rainer-Wurz.com) and **Anita Molcik** (AUT, Bank of Austria National Team), who had previously sat in the hotseat. Besides Jonnier, all the other top-qualifying women had problems on the course, mostly due to the deteriorating weather conditions. This helped those who had gone earlier, but hurt the very last women as they struggled to retain their speed from qualifying.



Sabrina Jonnier, FRA

"I didn't have a good run," confirmed Jonnier. "It was difficult in the rain. This morning I wanted a good run but did a mistake in qualifying and was also tired from the four-cross last night. But the weather was bad for all of us."

Jonnier now has 330 points overall, taking the Tissot leader's jersey for the first time in her career with Tracy Moseley (GBR, Team Kona) and Chausson ranked 2nd and 3rd, respectively.

Words: **Ari Cheren**

Images: **Mark Dawson** www.fattirefotos.com



	#	UCI Code	Surname	Firstname	Team	Time	Gap
1	15	FRA19771008	CHAUSSON	Anne-Caroline	VOLVO-CANNONDAL	3:30.11	0
2	4	FRA19810819	JONNIER	Sabrina		3:39.28	9.17
3	20	AUT19801118	BERNHARD	Petra		3:39.35	9.24
4	11	AUT19801211	MOLCIK	Anita		3:41.01	10.9
5	16	FRA19830128	GROS	Celine	MORZINE-AVORIAZ	3:42.14	12.03
6	9	ESP19790704	BLAS	Miriam		3:42.40	12.29
7	2	NZL19761015	QUIN	Vanessa		3:46.62	16.51
8	18	SUI19810719	WALKER	Sandra		3:46.73	16.62
9	1	GBR19790412	MOSELEY	Tracy		3:48.02	17.91
10	26	USA19820226	PRUITT	Kathy		3:48.03	17.92
11	41	FRA19860527	RAGOT	Emmeline		3:48.12	18.01
12	7	SUI19770322	SANER	Marielle	GLOBAL RACING	3:49.00	18.89
13	8	FRA19780223	LE CAER	Nolvenn	FIAT ROTWILD	3:51.24	21.13
14	32	USA19820125	BUHL	Melissa		3:51.57	21.46
15	34	FRA19850921	BAUCHET	Claire		3:52.01	21.9
16	14	SUI19810612	REUSSER	Pascaline		3:52.38	22.27
17	10	JPN19830401	SUEMASA	Moi	TREK VOLKSWAGEN	3:52.57	22.46
18	5	GBR19820827	GRIFFITHS	Fionn		3:57.32	27.21
19	31	JPN19740606	MASUDA	Mami		3:57.97	27.86
20	35	SUI19790825	STIEGER	Sarah		4:00.97	30.86
21	6	GBR19830116	GASKELL	Helen		4:01.53	31.42
22	17	CHI19851019	PIZARRO	Bernardita		4:01.76	31.65
23	19	ECU19840319	MARGGRAFF	Diana		4:05.32	35.21
24	36	SUI19720921	HOHL	Sandra		4:05.63	35.52
25	33	ESP19821008	JANEIRO	Violeta		4:05.65	35.54
26	3	USA19730120	GIOVE	Missy	GLOBAL RACING	4:07.41	37.3
27	12	USA19750401	LAWYER	April		4:08.65	38.54
28	43	ITA19800703	MOLOGNI	Sara		4:10.62	40.51
29	42	SUI19710408	BOSSARD	Daniela		4:10.96	40.85
30	13	NED19820707	BEERTEN	Anneke	TEAM BE ONE	4:25.66	55.55