

Tissot/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup - 2000 - Coupe du Monde MTB

DL #1 - Les Gets, FRA - 20-21.5.2000

Jonnier and Lopes Win Dual Season Opener

Les Gets, the charming alpine town synonymous with world cup mountain bike racing in France, hosted the first round of the Dual World Series Saturday evening as thousands of spectators watched a fast-moving season opener under sunny blue skies. When the dust had settled, one of their own - **Sabrina Jonnier** (*FRA, Team GT*) had won the women's event while American **Brian Lopes** (*USA, Volvo-Cannondale*) dominated the men's race.

Several thousand people climbed the green hillside of this small town to line an extremely steep and fast course, which wound its way down to the expo area's finish line after only five corners. Racing began as the last rays of the sun settled in the mountains, 32 men and 16 women going head-to-head in the single elimination format. The dual, an official world cup discipline, awards a world cup championship in the same way as the downhill with riders accumulating points throughout the season.



Brian Lopes - USA

Men's racing was even faster than the women, several riders crashing out of their heats due to limited passing opportunities and tight bermed turns. The ranks were quickly thinned from 32 to 16, 8 and finally two final runs. The first final race - the consolation round for third place - was between top qualifier **Mickael Deldycke** (*FRA, Taillefer/Phaceia*) and **Wade Bootes** (*AUS, Trek-Volkswagen*). Deldycke has lost his first round against **Thomas Ryser** (*SUI, Cycle Craft*), but Ryser received a red card for intentional obstruction of Deldycke and was eliminated from the race. Bootes - who won round seven last season in Bromont - faced and lost to Deldycke in the semi-final round.

That left the top two men to battle it out in the final run, *Volvo-Cannondale* teammates **Brian Lopes** (*USA*) and **Cédric Gracia** (*FRA*) - who qualified 2nd and 4th fastest respectively. Both had clean starts and were within metres of each other for the entire run, but Lopes got in front of Gracia in the first critical turn, and never relented the rest of the way. This gave Lopes a good start to his season, after having injured his ankle in last season's round seven and subsequently losing the overall title.

Ari Cheren



Rank	Bib	UCI Code	Surname	Name	Team
1	2	USA19710906	LOPES	Brian	VOLVO CANNONDALE
2	4	FRA19780323	GRACIA	Cédric	VOLVO CANNONDALE
3	1	FRA19800826	DELDYCKE	Mickael	TAILLEFER/PHACEIA
4	3	AUS19740530	BOOTES	Wade	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN
5	5	SVK19820410	POLC	Filip	MERIDA KCK
5	8	GBR19720201	PAGE	Nigel	UPSTART TEAM
5	10	GBR19780602	BEAUMONT	Scott	TEAM KONA FORD FOCUS
5	27	AUS19771105	MCCARROLL	Sean	GIANT
9	7	USA19700306	CARTER	Eric	TEAM GT
9	12	GER19720223	BENEKE	Jürgen	GIANT
9	13	NED19680416	DE BEVER	Bas	BE-ONE TEAM
9	15	GER19760514	TSCHUGG	Guido	WHEELER
9	17	CZE19780529	MAROSI	Michal	AUTOR-RB SKODA AUTO
9	19	SUI19770916	CALUORI	Claudio	
9	22	IRL19770906	O'BRIEN	Glyn	
9	24	USA19730308	O'DRISCOLL	Chris	TEN.TEN
17	6	FRA19750118	AMOUR	Karim	VOUILLOZ RACING TEAM
17	9	GBR19741120	LONGDEN	Will	MB UK/JAMIS
17	11	GBR19810310	WARDELL	David	MB UK/JAMIS
17	14	AUS19810603	RENNIE	Nathan	YETI
17	16	CZE19810925	VAGNER	Adam	ROCK MACHINE
17	18	CZE19770622	JOCH	Petr	PROPAGACNI PODNIK EB
17	20	GBR19740617	PEAT	Steve	TEAM GT
17	21	SUI19780609	BUELER	Andy	FIAT-ROTWILD
17	23	USA19671103	TOMAC	John	TOMAC
17	25	GBR19721010	PONTING	Tim	ANIMAL ORANGE
17	26	FRA19790713	MOLIMARD	Thierry	
17	28	NED19720125	VAN DE HATERD	Wilfred	
17	29	FRA19730717	JANY	Stephane	
17	30	SVK19771129	CILLIK	Filip	
17	31	AUT19800707	BUBLA	Thomas	BANK AUSTRIA NATL TM
17	32	SUI19780409	RYSER	Thomas	CYCLE CRAFT