

MTB World Cup XC #2 - CDM

Offenburg, Germany, April 25-26, 2009

April 26: Elite women cross country

Ren comes back for win

By Rob Jones in Offenburg, Germany – cyclingnews.com

China's Chengyuan Ren demonstrated that her absence from the World Cup scene has not slowed her down. She won round two of the mountain bike World Cup after a perfectly timed attack, while Austrian Elisabeth Osl (Central Ghost Pro Team) hung onto the women's World Cup overall lead by virtue of her fifth place result.

The weather conditions were perfect as the women rolled to the line for their six lap, 36 kilometre race held in Offenburg, Germany, before a crowd of 20,000.

After a short start loop, it was Swiss rider Katrin Leumann who led the 93 rider field out onto the main circuit. However, the top names in the pro field quickly moved to the forefront, with world champion Marga Fullana (Massi), Lene Byberg (Specialized) and Irina Kalentieva (Topeak Ergon) leading after the first lap. They were closely followed by Osl, American Willow Koerber (Subaru-Gary Fisher) and Catharine Pendrel (Luna Women's Team).



Chengyuan Ren (Chinese National Team) wins
Photo ©: Rob Jones

Pendrel had impressively worked her way up from 52nd on the start grid within one lap. Defending World Cup champion Marie-Helene Premont (Maxxis-Rocky Mountain), who started next to Pendrel, struggled more in the early laps, but moved into the mid-teens, and eventually finished 14th.



World Champion Margarita Fullana (Massi) leads
Photo ©: Rob Jones

Fullana then attacked the rest of the lead group, carving out a lead that approached a minute by the fourth lap. The chase had reshuffled, with Kalentieva, Byberg, Pendrel and Osl dropping Koerber and Lechner, but being joined by Ren, who had also moved up from a poor start position.

Fullana looked to be in control, but Ren launched a strong attack in the fifth lap, with only Pendrel able to follow. Pendrel couldn't maintain the pace of the former Under 23 world champion and dropped back to the chasers, while Ren continued to steadily reel in Fullana, catching and dropping her on the final lap.

"It was the same place that Ren attacked last year, on the climb," said Pendrel. "I was able to get on her wheel, but the pace she was going on the climb was too high, and I had to back off. I was feeling really good, but that first lap, having to chase up so hard definitely had an effect."

Fullana hung for second, with Byberg repeating her third place from round one, followed by Kalentieva, Osl and Pendrel. Canada's Emily Batty was the top Under 23 finisher in tenth place, with Julie Bresset (Breiz Mountain) retaining the overall Under 23 lead.



Lene Byberg (Specialized Factory Racing)
Photo ©: Rob Jones

"I had no idea that I was moving up so much," exclaimed Batty. "I was working my way up, from group to group, and then I caught up with Marie-Helene. It was such an honour to ride with her at that level. She is one of my heroes."

According to a Chinese journalist, Ren will only attend the Offenburg and Houffalize World Cups, before returning to China to prepare for the World Championships.

Results

1	Chengyuan Ren (Chn)	1.49.56
2	Margarita Fullana Riera (Spa) Massi	0.49
3	Lene Byberg (Nor) Specialized Factory Racing	1.24
4	Irina Kalentieva (Rus) Topeak Ergon Racing Team	1.37
5	Elisabeth Osl (Aut) Central Ghost Pro Team	1.51
6	Catharine Pendrel (Can) Luna Pro Team	2.05
7	Eva Lechner (Ita) Colnago Cap Arreghini	3.44
8	Sabine Spitz (Ger) Central Ghost Pro Team	4.06
9	Nathalie Schneitter (Swi) Colnago Cap Arreghini	4.08
10	Emiliy Batty* (Can)	
11	Willow Koerber (USA) Subaru-Gary Fisher	4.31
12	Georgia Gould (USA) Luna Pro Team	4.56
13	Anna Szafraniec (Pol) JBG-2 Professional MTB Team	5.09
14	Marie-Helene Premont (Can) Team Maxxis-Rocky Mountain Bicycles	5.18
15	Petra Henzi (Swi) Fischer-BMC	5.53
16	Laura Turpijn (Ned)	6.04
17	Blaza Klemencic (Slo) Felt International MTB Team	6.18
18	Maja Wloszczowska (Pol) CCC Polkowice	6.43
19	Rowena Fry (Aus) Discovertasmania.Com	7.06
20	Caroline Mani* (Fra) Team Bikepark.ch	
21	Katrin Leumann (Swi)	7.57
22	Julie Bresset* (Fra) Breiz Mountain	7.58
23	Anja Gradl (Ger) Central Ghost Pro Team	
24	Adelheid Morath (Ger)	8.28
25	Mary Mcconneloug (USA)	8.55
26	Cecile Rode Ravanel (Fra) Lapierre International	9.13
27	Hanna Klein* (Ger)	9.28
28	Heather Irmiger (USA) Subaru-Gary Fisher	9.55
29	Githa Michiels (Bel) Team Saeco	10.13
30	Janka Stevkova (Svk)	10.22
31	Anna Villar Argente (Spa) Massi	10.24
32	Vera Andreeva* (Rus)	10.28
33	Barbara Benko* (Hun)	
34	Lea Davison (USA) Team Maxxis-Rocky Mountain Bicycles	10.36
35	Magdalena Sadlecka (Pol) CCC Polkowice	
36	Amanda Sin (Can)	11.02
37	Esther Suss (Swi)	11.10
38	Tanja Zakelj* (Slo) Mbk Orbea	11.35
39	Alexandra Engen* (Swe)	11.54
40	Aleksandra Dawidowicz* (Pol) CCC Polkowice	12.26
41	Laura Metzler (Fra) BH-Suntour	12.33
42	Julie Krasniak* (Fra)	
43	Marielle Saner-Guinchard (Swi) Team Bikepark.ch	13.14
44	Rosara Joseph (NZl)	13.18
45	Helene Marcouyre (Fra) BH-Suntour	13.30
46	Ivonne Kraft (Ger)	13.36
47	Kate Potter (Aus)	13.37
48	Sabrina Enaux (Fra) BH-Suntour	13.51
49	Nataliya Krompets* (Ukr)	13.54
50	Vivianne Meyer* (Swi) Colnago Cap Arreghini	14.05
51	Christel Ferrier-Bruneau (Fra) Team Scott Valloire Galibier	14.20
52	Mical Dyck (Can)	14.26
53	Maria Osl (Aut) Fischer-BMC	14.39
54	Jean Ann Mckirdy (Can)	14.54
55	Silke Schmidt* (Ger)	15.18
56	Evelyn Staffler (Ita) Colnago Cap Arreghini	15.20
57	Katherine O'shea (Aus) Torq Performance Nutrition	
58	Tatjana Dold (Ger)	15.41
59	Fanny Bourdon* (Fra)	16.27
60	Gracie Elvin* (Aus) Discovertasmania.Com	16.51
61	Oksana Rybakova (Rus)	17.17
62	Kajsa Snihs* (Swe)	17.24
63	Fiona Macdermid (GBr)	17.36
64	Fabienne Heinzmann (Swi) Team Bikepark.ch	17.46
65	Melanie Spath (Ger)	18.37

66 Elisabeth Brandau (Ger)	18.56
67 Fabienne Niederberger (Swi)	19.01
68 Sandra Santanyes Murillo (Spa) Cemelorca-Trek-Lorca Taller Del Tiempo	19.04
69 Lorraine Truong* (Swi)	19.25
70 Zoe King (Aus)	19.55
71 Carina Ketonen (Fin)	20.02
72 Stephanie Wiedner* (Aut) DS-Rennsport	21.02
73 Kristien Nelen (Bel)	21.45
74 Coralie Redelsperger (Fra)	23.15

Behind one lap

75 Sandra Walter (Can)
76 Virginie Pointet* (Swi) Team Bikepark.ch

Behind two laps

77 Kathrin Stirnemann* (Swi)
78 Judith Pollinger* (Ita) Sunshine Racers ASV Nals
79 Nicoletta De Jager (Ned)
80 Jennifer Sugesser * (Swi)
81 Nadine Rieder* (Ger) Fumic.Brothers.International
82 Jeanette Gerrie (NZl)
83 Lucie Vesela (Cze)
84 Irina Slobodyan* (Ukr)
85 Camille Devi* (Fra)
86 Karin Rappo* (Swi)
87 Cristina Mascarreras Sabria (Spa) Conor - Camping La Siesta
88 Silja Vetter* (Ger)
89 Marie-Claude Surprenant* (Can)
90 Laure Boulay (Fra) Keops
DNF Ines Thoma* (Ger)
DNF Alla Boyko* (Ukr)
DNF Sarah Holmes* (Aus)

*indicates Under 23

Teams

1 Central Ghost Pro Team	59 pts
2 Colnago Cap Arreghini	46
3 Luna Pro Team	45
4 Massi	35
5 Specialized Factory Racing	32
6 Topeak Ergon Racing Team	30
7 Subaru-Gary Fisher	23
8 JBG-2 Professional MTB Team	18
9 Team Maxxis-Rocky Mountain Bicycles	17
10 Fischer-BMC	16
11 Felt International MTB Team	14
12 CCC Polkowice	13
13 Discovertasmania.com	12
14 Team Bikepark.ch	11
15 Breiz Mountain	9
16 Lapierre International	5
17 Team Saeco	2