

# Pendrel sews up World Cup title

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## Final round win over Premont, Gould for Canadian



*Catharine Pendrel (Luna Pro Team) winning over Marie-Helene Premont (Team Maxxis-Rocky Mountain) (Image credit: Tour of Japan)*

Catharine Pendrel (Luna) was crowned as the new World Cup champion as the 2010 UCI cross country Mountain Bike World Cup concluded on Saturday in Windham, New York. Pendrel capped her World Cup season with her second victory of the year. For Canada, the women's race provided a strong lead in to the UCI World Mountain Bike Championships next week at Mont Ste Anne, Canada, as Marie-Hélène Premont (Maxxis-Rocky Mountain) showed her form of old, finishing second.

"This is amazing, to win my second World Cup of the season, and the World Cup title, all a week before the world championships take place in Canada," said Pendrel. "To win a World Cup race is always special, but to be consistent right through the season and win the title is hard. The race for the title was so

tight all season, that it is extra special to win it."

The 5.4-kilometre course was straightforward: a long climb followed by a quick descent. The riders zig-zagged their way up the climb, alternating open double track with loose, rocky and rooty singletrack, then descended through more of the same back to the start.

Pendrel and Premont distanced themselves from the rest of the field quickly as the five-lap race commenced. Pendrel, the World Cup leader coming into the race, had two worries: Eva Lechner (Colnago Arreghini Sudtirol) only 54 points back in the standings, and Willow Koerber (Subaru-Trek) at 59 points. Koerber was the bigger worry on this track, having won here in the national series race the previous year, and with a home crowd behind her.

It turned out that neither was a factor. Pendrel quickly shot to a 25-second advantage over Premont, with her Luna teammate Georgia Gould sitting in third, but steadily falling further behind through the race. Koerber started in fourth but faded badly to eventually finish sixth, 4:21 down, while Lechner was a distant 18th, over eight minutes in arrears.

The only real battle was at the front - Pendrel would start each lap approximately 25 seconds in front of Premont, who would close the gap on the climb, only to see it open on the descent. In the final lap, the 2008 World Cup champion gave an extra surge and caught Pendrel just before the top of the climb.

"I'm usually stronger in the first half of the race," said Pendrel. "So I wanted to go out hard and establish a gap. But Marie was climbing well, and I knew she was coming up. I was able to get the front into the descent and then I could control things, and it was enough."

Pendrel's winning margin was a scant four seconds over Premont. Gould took third, but over two minutes down, with Blaza Klemencic (Felt Oetzal X-Bionic) fourth and last year's World Cup champion Elisabeth Osl (Central Pro) taking fifth.

Premont, who struggled last year and earlier this season, was extremely pleased to see her form peaking just before the world championships take place in her hometown. She moved from 13th to eighth in the final standings.

"I had a very good start, and I was able to be at the front and stay within 15 to 30 seconds of Catharine," she said. "Then on the last lap I knew it was my final chance, so I gave it everything I had, but Catharine was able to get in front for the downhill. It's a good time to be in this shape, one week before the world championships. I know I can do well next week."

In the final overall standings, Pendrel won the title with 1044 points, followed by Koerber at 865 and Lechner at 810. Gould jumped from fifth to fourth in the final standings and Swiss rider Esther Süss moved up from sixth to the final podium spot with the absence of world champion Irina Kalentieva (Topeak Ergon).

#	<i>Rider Name (Country) Team</i>	<i>Result</i>
1	Catharine Pendrel (Can) Luna Pro Team	1:39:48
2	Marie-Helene Premont (Can) Team Maxxis-Rocky Mountain	0:00:04
3	Georgia Gould (USA) Luna Pro Team	0:02:07
4	Blaza Klemencic (Slo) Felt Oetzal X-Bionic Team	0:03:17
5	Elisabeth Osl (Aut) Central Pro Team	0:03:41
6	Willow Koerber (USA) Subaru-Trek	0:04:21
7	Esther Süss (Swi)	0:04:26
8	Katrin Leumann (Swi)	
9	Mary McConneloug (USA) Kenda/Seven/NoTubes	0:05:09
10	Tanja Zakelj* (Slo) MBK Orbea	0:05:23
11	Heather Irmiger (USA) Subaru-Trek	0:05:27
12	Nathalie Schneitter (Swi) Colnago Arreghini Sudtirol	0:06:14
13	Cécile Ravanel (Fra) Lapierre International	0:06:29
14	Katherine Compton (USA)	0:06:41
15	Marielle Saner-Guinchard (Swi) Bikepark.Ch Scott	0:06:57
16	Amanda Sin (Can)	0:07:46
17	Janka Stevkova (Svk)	0:08:08
18	Eva Lechner (Ita) Colnago Arreghini Sudtirol	
19	Sabrina Enaux (Fra) Felt Oetzal X-Bionic Team	0:08:30
20	Annie Last* (GBr)	0:08:34
21	Anja Gradl (Ger) Central Pro Team	0:08:35
22	Alexandra Engen* (Swe)	0:09:03
23	Rie Katayama (Jpn)	0:09:21
24	Sarah Koba (Swi) Giant Swiss Team	0:09:41
25	Hanna Klein (Ger)	0:09:49
26	Katerina Nash (Cze) Luna Pro Team	0:10:01
27	Annika Langvad (Den)	0:10:11
28	Rosara Joseph (NZl)	0:10:14
29	Chengyuan Ren (Chn)	0:11:09
30	Anna Villar Argente (Spa)	0:11:17
31	Qinglan Shi (Chn)	0:11:44
32	Barbara Benko* (Hun)	0:12:32

33	Nina Homovec (Slo) MBK Orbea	0:13:00
34	Daniela Veronesi (SMr)	0:13:52
35	Yolande Speedy (RSA)	0:14:15
36	Zhuanzhuan Ye* (Chn)	0:14:53
37	Heather Logie (Aus)	0:14:56
38	Tereza Hurikova (Cze) Trek-Lorca Taller Del Tiempo	0:15:16
39	Jennifer Smith (NZl)	0:15:21
40	Judy Freeman (USA)	0:15:41
41	Aleksandra Mooradian (Pol)	0:15:47
42	Catherine Vipond (Can)	0:16:15
43	Fiona Macdermid (NZl)	0:16:39
44	Kate Potter (Aus)	0:17:07
45	Mical Dyck (Can)	0:18:59
46	Kelli Emmett (USA) Giant Factory Team	0:19:07
47	Teal Stetson-Lee (USA)	0:19:08
-1lap	Krista Park (USA)	
-1lap	Erin Huck (USA)	
-1lap	Ying Liu (Chn)	
-1lap	Katherine O'shea (Aus) Torq Performance Nutrition	
-1lap	Cindy Montambault (Can)	
-2laps	Nicola Leary (NZl)	
-2laps	Katherine O'Neill* (NZl)	
-2laps	Mariske Strauss* (RSA)	
-2laps	Anina Aaron (USA)	
-2laps	Kimberly Flynn (USA)	
-2laps	Bryna Nestor (USA)	
-2laps	Roberta Kelly Stopa (Bra)	
-2laps	Lydia Tanner* (USA)	
-2laps	Anna Oberparleiter* (Ita) Hard Rock FRW A.S.D.	
-2laps	Daniela Rojas* (Chi)	
-3laps	Michelle Bellamy (NZl)	
-3laps	Rowena Fry (Aus)	
DNF	Rocio Gamonal Ferrera (Spa)	

<i>DNF</i>	Lily Matthews* (GBr)		
<i>DNS</i>	Emily Batty* (Can) Trek World Racing		
<i>Teams</i>			
#	Rider Name (Country) Team	Result	
1	Luna Pro Team	77	pts
2	Subaru-Gary Fisher	46	
3	Felt Oetztal X-Bionic Team	42	
4	Central Pro Team	38	
5	Team Maxxis-Rocky Mountain	35	
6	Colnago Arreghini Sudtirol	32	
7	MBK Orbea	21	
8	Lapierre International	18	
9	Bikepark.ch Scott	16	
10	Giant Swiss Team	7	