

Pendrel claims final World Cup win

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Canadian falls short in overall World Cup to Bresset



Catharine Pendrel (Luna Pro) wins (Image credit: Tour of Japan)

Catharine Pendrel (Luna) took her third World Cup victory of the season at the World Cup Final in Val di Sole, Italy, but it wasn't enough to beat Julie Bresset (BH-Suntour-Peisey Vallandry) for the overall title. Pendrel trailed by a mere 40 points in the final standings. Bresset finished fourth, behind world champion Maja Wloszczowska (CCC Polkowice) and Gunn-Rita Dahle Flesjaa (Multivan Merida).

Pendrel came into the final race 140 points behind Bresset, and decided to attack from the start. "I figured I had nothing to lose, so I just went hard for the whole race," she said.

By the start of the second lap, it was just Pendrel and Bresset, and the Canadian dropped her French rival on the steep climbs. Bresset was struggling with the heat and the climbs, and first Dahle Flesjaa bridged up and dropped her, and then Wloszczowska did the same, joining Dahle Flesjaa.

Behind the four frontrunners, a chase group formed, led by Eva Lechner (Colnago Farbe Sudtirol), but they were losing ground on every climb. Lechner managed to break clear of the others with a lap to go, to take the final podium spot. She was followed closely by the rapidly improving American Lea Davison (Specialized) who, for the second week in a row, finished in the top 10.

Pendrel was over a minute up on her chasers with a lap and a half to go, but by the start of the last lap, she was down to less than 30 seconds, after a crash.

"I crashed on a silly little section and twisted my handlebar stem," she said. I stopped twice to fix it and finally went into the pit; it was a little more excitement then I wanted, to be honest!"

Once her technical issue was sorted out, Pendrel again began to gain on Wloszczowska, who had dropped Dahle Flesjaa in the final half lap, and cruised in to victory. Wloszczowska, with her second place, established herself as a strong contender to retain her rainbow jersey, while Dahle Flesjaa, taking her second World Cup podium in two weeks, has also moved into the ranks of possible champions. Bresset will race in the under 23 category, where she will be the prohibitive favourite.

#	<i>Rider Name (Country) Team</i>	<i>Result</i>
1	Catharine Pendrel (Can) Luna Pro Team	1:25:07
2	Maja Wloszczowska (Pol) CCC Polkowice	0:00:29
3	Gunn-Rita Dahle Flesjaa (Nor) Multivan Merida Biking Team	0:00:42
4	Julie Bresset (Fra) Bh - Suntour - Peisey Vallandry	0:01:15
5	Eva Lechner (Ita) Colnago Farbe Sudtirol	0:01:51
6	Lea Davison (USA) Specialized Racing	0:02:14
7	Katerina Nash (Cze) Luna Pro Team	0:02:29
8	Heather Irmiger (USA) Subaru - Trek	0:02:37
9	Irina Kalentieva (Rus) Topeak Ergon Racing Team	0:02:59
10	Annie Last (GBr)	0:03:13
11	Marie-Helene Premont (Can) Team Maxxis - Rocky Mountain	0:03:14
12	Emily Batty (Can) Subaru - Trek	0:03:31
13	Katherine Compton (USA) Rabobank - Giant Off-Road Team	0:03:42
14	Tanja Zakelj (Slo) Orbea Geax	0:03:55
15	Nathalie Schneitter (Swi) Colnago Farbe Sudtirol	0:04:21
16	Georgia Gould (USA) Luna Pro Team	0:04:28
17	Esther Süss (Swi)	0:04:54
18	Blaza Klemencic (Slo) Felt Oetztal X - Bionic Team	0:04:58
19	Marielle Saner-Guinchard (Swi) Bikepark.ch Scott	0:05:02
20	Rosara Joseph (NZl) Rabobank - Giant Off-Road Team	0:05:59
21	Sarah Koba (Swi) Giant Swiss SR - Suntour	0:06:28
22	Sabrina Enaux (Fra) Felt Oetztal X - Bionic Team	0:07:05
23	Alexandra Engen (Swe)	0:07:29
24	Mary McConneloug (USA) Kenda Seven No Tubes	0:07:49
25	Janka Stevkova (Svk)	0:08:05
26	Karen Hanlen (NZl)	0:08:17
27	Tereza Hurikova (Cze) Central Haibike Pro Team	0:08:37
28	Adelheid Morath (Ger) Felt Oetztal X - Bionic Team	0:09:06
29	Nina Homovec (Slo) Orbea Geax	0:09:27
30	Laura Metzler (Fra) Bh - Suntour - Peisey Vallandry	0:09:50
31	Hanna Klein (Ger)	0:10:22
32	Katrin Leumann (Swi) Ghost Factory Racing Team	0:10:39

33	Anne Terpstra (Ned) MPL Specialized MTB Team	0:10:49
34	Aleksandra Dawidowicz (Pol) CCC Polkowice	0:10:54
35	Cécile Ravanel (Fra) GT Skoda Chamonix	0:11:09
36	Laura Turpijn (Ned) Team Merida Combee	0:11:30
37	Katarzyna Solus-Miskowicz (Pol)	0:11:43
38	Anna Villar Argente (Spa)	0:11:58
39	Catherine Vipond (Can)	0:12:04
40	Annika Langvad (Den)	0:12:41
41	Laura Lorenza Morfin Macouzet (Mex)	0:13:08
42	Ann Berglund (Swe)	0:13:32
43	Amanda Sin (Can)	0:13:57
44	Rocio Gamonal Ferrera (Spa)	0:14:09
45	Pavla Havlikova (Cze)	0:14:22
46	Katherine O'shea (Aus)	0:14:44
47	Githa Michiels (Bel) Trek - KMC Trade Team VZW	0:14:51
48	Angela Carolina Parra Sierra (Col) ASPTT Definitive Gitane	0:15:25
49	Fabienne Niederberger (Swi)	0:15:27
50	Sandra Santanyes Murillo (Spa)	0:16:35
51	Judith Pollinger (Ita) Infotre - Bi & Esse - Leecougan	0:16:43
-1 lap	Krista Park (USA)	
-1 lap	Tatjana Dold (Ger)	
-1 lap	Melanie Späth (Ger)	
-1 lap	Lee Craigie (GBr)	
-1 lap	Nicoletta De Jager (Ned)	
-1 lap	Lucie Vesela (Cze) GT Czech Team	
-1 lap	Magdalena Sadlecka (Pol) CCC Polkowice	
-1 lap	Elisabeth Brandau (Ger) Central Haibike Pro Team	
-2 laps	Daniela Veronesi (Ita)	
-2 laps	Mercedes Pacios Pujalo (Spa)	
-2 laps	Jodie Willett (Aus)	
-2 laps	Caitlin Elliott (Irl)	
-2 laps	Lenka Bulisova (Cze)	
-2 laps	Kiona Harbers (Ned)	

-3 laps	Pavlina Sulcova (Cze) Merida Biking Team
DNF	Elisabeth Osl (Aut) Ghost Factory Racing Team
DNF	Michela Benzoni (Ita)
DNF	Anja Gradl (Ger) Ghost Factory Racing Team
DNS	Lene Byberg (Nor) Specialized Racing
DNS	Corina Gantenbein (Swi) Fischer - BMC