



Press Release

## **Tiliment Marathon Bike: Alexey Medvedev (Russia) and Gunn Rita Dahle (Norway) are the new European Champions putting themselves into history books**

*The Russian Alexey Medvedev upset the Italian train of Samuele Porro and Fabian Rabensteiner and a certain Norwegian legend Gunn Rita Dahle added another title to her already huge palmares, second place the polish Maja Wloszczowka, in third position the Switzerland Arianne Luthi.*

*Spilimbergo (PN, Italy) – April 22nd, 2018*

Almost sunny and summer day for the 10th Tiliment Marathon Bike, the UCI Marathon Series international race that awarded the title of European Elite Champion for men and women. The course, total 104 km, is a crazy mix with the first 40 kilometre running on fast gravel road which meant the front of the men's race stayed together with 30 to 40 men still in contention. The race began on the Praforte climb which is a steep rocky singletrack climb lasting about 13 minutes, on an average gradient of 12% but with pitches much steeper Alban Lakata set an average power of a whopping 391 watts but still lost 40 seconds to some of the light weight Italians. Approaching the Monta Pala which was the major climb on the route a compact group had formed including World Champion Alban Lakata and the 2017 European Champion Tiago Ferreira. On this climb the solo attack of Russian Alexey Medvedev began. Hans Becking who went on to finish top 10 set an average power of 319 watts for the 40 minute climb rising 700 metres. Alexey Medvedev used his advantage built on the climb to safely negotiate the tricky mountain descent and ride a solo timetrial across the flat final 15 kilometres to the finish line. Behind by 1 minute 35 seconds the Italian Samuel Porro took silver and Fabian Rabensteiner bronze. In 4th was former road pro Riccardo Chiarini (3 minutes gap and 11 seconds from the winner). Urs Huber completed the top 5 (gap 5 minutes 14) and in 6th was Alban Lakata. Two more Italian's finished in the top 10 with Daniele Mensi in 8th and Juro Ragnoli in 10th.

In the women's Gunn Rita Dahle attacked and could only be followed by cross country specialist Maja Wloszczowska. Dahle used her experience to break Maja's hold and build a sufficient advantage to take victory. Maja finished a short 24 seconds behind for the silver medal and Swiss rider Ariane Luthi

took bronze. Jessica Pellizzaro in 7th and Mara Cristina Nisi in 10th completed a good day for the Italians.

### **PAY ATTENTION – NOTE FOR THE MEDIA**

An “ondrive” folder (constantly updated) is active, where you can download pics in HR (credit Alessandro Billiani is mandatory):

<https://onedrive.live.com/?authkey=%21ADcXp2OH%5F%5FJ3Eb0&id=D11F50D40E8C9355%2178395&cid=D11F50D40E8C9355>

Final rankings: <https://www.endu.net/it/events/tiliment-marathon-bike-3-granfondo-periklis-iliias/results>

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