



Jochen Kaess tops solo ride with stage win on third day | Sauser cements BIKE Four Peaks lead | Women, Master and Grand Master leader with stage wins

Kaprun, Austria, June 7, 2013 – Three time German Champion Jochen Kaess has clinched the third stage of the 2013 BIKE Four Peaks. The 32-years-old Centurion-Vaude racer crowned his long solo ride on the 82.12 km and 2,440 metres in elevation from Kirchberg to Kaprun in 3:33:15.1 hours, but missed to improve to the top-3 in the overall ranking by just 2.4 seconds as team colleague Markus Kaufmann (GER) took fourth today.

Swiss bearer of the Yellow Jersey Christoph Sauser of Specialized finished as runner-up (3:36:57.6) with Alban Lakata (AUT) of Topeak Ergon coming in third (3:37:20.0). The Austrian racer also took over the lead in the best climber classifier for the “Green Jersey of the Bayerischen Staatsforsten powered by fi'zi:k” again having accumulated 61 points by now.

Prior to the start, no one out of the star-studded field would have guessed that Kaess would be able to attack the top-3 today. Everyone underestimated the fifth ranked racer of the 2011 World Championships who was seethed with anger after he had not only taken a detour yesterday but also lost some more precious time due to a flat tyre.

As a result, the Ofterdingen resident attacked in the first climb to Stangenjoch and managed to break away before some snow fields forced everyone to walk the last metres in elevation up to the Zweitausender. Even the more than 20 km long bike path through the Pinzgau valley didn't bring Kaess down; in contrary, he managed to improve his lead from feed zone one to two by two minutes to 5:20 minutes.

When he arrived on the last peak at the best climber classifier on Maiskogel, still blessed with a comfortable advantage on his pursuers, everything was set for his first stage win.

“Yesterday, I was very frustrated. So I tried to reduce the deficit again. That worked out fine. I was a little bit afraid of the flat section but managed to keep my own pace. I'm very pleased with the outcome,” said Kaess who received some prominent compliments for his today's performance.

“Jochen was riding super strong today”, said overall leader Christoph Sauser. “I mean, we worked well together in the chasing group. But my main focus was on the ranking. I preferred to take second and extend the lead on Alban (Lakata) than going all or nothing on the stage win.”

Prior to tomorrow's final stage of the BIKE Four Peaks leading from Kaprun to Neukirchen am Grossvenediger, the 2011 World Champion from Switzerland has a lead of 1:50 minutes on his biggest rival for the title Lakata. “It's about controlling the race from the front,” explained Sauser his tactic for the last leg.

Loevset takes third stage win





On the women's side, Borghild Loevset is almost through after claiming her third consecutive stage win in 4:22:47.5 hours. The Norwegian Viking has already a lead of some 39 minutes over second ranked and today's runner-up Anja Gradl (GER, 4:38:16.6) of Team Bulls.

However, the bearer of the Pink Jersey, who seemed to be very exhausted today, won't take it easy: "It was very tough. I lost my group in the first downhill and was all alone in the flat which isn't my terrain at all. I hope that I can rejuvenate. If not, my lead has to be big enough."

Bettina Uhlig (GER) of Wheeler iXS finished in third position (3:55:08.4) thus bettering her chances for a top-3 result in the women's category.

Bresser extends lead in master category

Carsten Bresser (GER) was able to improve his lead in the master classifier over Andreas Strobel (GER) today. The Craft-Rocky Mountain racer crossed the finish line after 3:47:29.8 hours and thus 2:20 minutes earlier than his rival of Centurion-Vaude (3:49:47.2).

Reini Woisetschlaeger (AUT) reinforced his aspiration on rank three in the overall ranking for the 40+ racers by coming in as third (3:55:08.4).

Heinz Zoerweg unbeatable

In the category for the 50+ athletes it's still Heinz Zoerweg rocking the show. The Austrian riding for Arboe Wienenergie Roehsler took the first rank in the grand master classifier for the third time in a row.

Henrik Cohen (DEN, 4:18:32.0) and Werner Hoeppeger (AUT, 4:28:32.1) rounded out the podium as second and third.

For further information about the race as well as for a daily live ticker visit bike-fourpeaks.de.

Results

All results, which will constantly be updated until the last participant has crossed the finish line, can be checked [here](#).

Photos

Find photos of the third BIKE Four Peaks' stage, which are free of charge, [here](#). Please use the right credit.

A photo of [today's top-3](#) as well as of [successful soloist Jochen Kaess](#) can also be downloaded already. More impressions of the stage will come later on.

About the BIKE Four Peaks





The BIKE Four Peaks is a true highlight of the 2013 mountain bike calendar. Designed for a maximum of 1,000 participants, the four-day stage race leads through the most spectacular mountain bike areas of the Alps.

Pros as well as amateurs will pedal a total of some 300 kilometres which are peppered with almost 9,000 meters in elevation gain from Ruhpolding via Lofer, Kirchberg in Tirol and Kaprun to Neukirchen am Grossvenediger.

Besides entering the race as single starter, every participant can also register for a team of four or even more mountain bikers.

Links

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