

D·A·C NEWS

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2018 Detroit Cycling Championship





PHOTOGRAPHS BY: CYBELLE CODISH | KATHLEEN THOMPSON |
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THE SECOND ANNUAL DETROIT CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP (DCC), presented by the DAC and the DAC Foundation in July, was an unequivocal success.

The USA Cycling sanctioned event drew nerly 400 professional and amateur racers from across 27 states and countries like Germany, Australia and Canada for a day of great racing. The challenging Detroit street criterium and PRT (Pro Road Tour) course wrapped around the DTE campus, Beacon Park and took riders along one of Detroit's famed streets, Grand River Avenue.

The competition included a DAC members event, youth races, a race for military veterans and an array of timed amateur and pro events that culminated in two pro races featuring the top women and men pro riders. There were activities throughout Beacon Park as well.

"What a great day for Detroit and the DAC," said DAC President Steve Mellos. "Our sponsors, our members and the staff all did a really great job hosting what is sure to become one of Detroit' premier sporting events each summer."

Supported by many local and member sponsors, including the DTE Foundation and Ford Motor Company, the DCC also drew heavily on help from 100 DAC volunteers who were visible throughout the mile-plus course, ensuring a great race experience for riders and fans alike.

"It was great fun, a lot more fun than in Germany," said this year's top men's pro winner, Lennart Klein, from the German team Kern-Haus. "There were a lot more people here, better crowds, and some more money as well. It was really fun to race here."

The nearly 90-minute race saw Klein and his competitors often racing at 30-35 miles per hour even through the turns. In the end, he bested nearly 50 other racers, including several of the top pro cyclists in the U.S. who came to Detroit to be part of the competition.

The women's top race of the day included more than 30 racers, and was swept by three cyclists from ISCorp team with Wisconsin's Samantha Schneider finishing first.

"The course was a lot of fun and pretty unique" said Schneider. "There's so much history in this city. I have a pretty international team and they've been really enjoying it. We had a great host crowd and we're so thrilled to be here."

For the second year in a row the DAC Foundation presented new bikes to needy Detroit boys and girls. Working with Detroit PAL and FitKids 360, some 153 bicycles and helmets were given out.

Plans are already underway to host the third DCC in 2019, with organizers trying to secure the same site and course after having had to move after the 2017 races.

"We know this event can only grow because we do things right at the DAC," said DAC Executive Manager Ted Gillary.

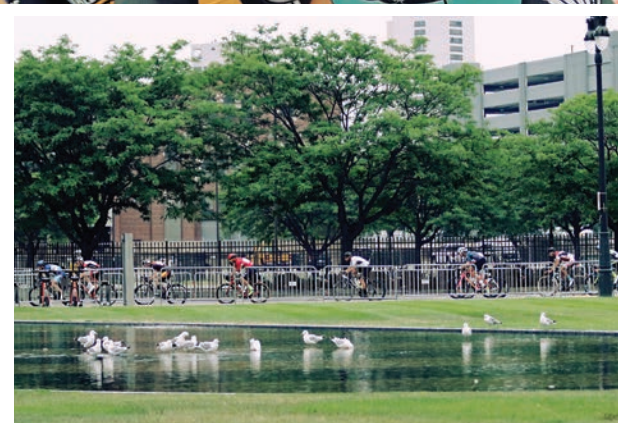
Ken Voyles



The top women's race of the Detroit Cycling Championship was a Pro Cat. 1/2 competition shown in photographs on this page. This sanctioned PRT race was won by Wisconsin native Samantha Schneider. The race drew nearly 30 women pros from around the country who raced the streets of downtown for one hour.







The top men's race on the day, the Men's Pro Cat. I, is seen in these photographs. The final event of the day, the race lasted one hour and 20 minutes and drew nearly 50 top racers from across the country and around the globe, with a team from Germany competing in this year's second annual Detroit Cycling Championship.



The top women's race, a Pro/Cat I/2 competition, is shown in more photographs on this page. Women's winner Samantha Schneider, from Wisconsin, is seen here after her triumph, along with two other members of the ISCorp racing team, Yussely Soto and Josie Talbot, who finished second and third in the USA Cycling PRT race.







More photographs from the top men's race, the Pro Cat I event including the competition winner Lennart Klein from the Kern-Haus racing team of Germany. Klein and his teammates arrived in Detroit the night before the race and quickly took to the city and this year's cycling championship. Klein can be seen in these photos in triumph at the end of the race and with the second and third place finishers (along with Chemical Bank's Dave Provost) on the DCC podium.





Race day was a great scene in and around Beacon Park, and along Grand River Avenue, with nearly 400 racers, their teams, families and friends enjoying excellent competition, a friendly atmosphere and lots to do around this year's Detroit Cycling Championship race course.



The day featured a DAC members race early in the morning, as seen in these images. More than 20 members took part in the event that was won by Mike LeVan for the second year in a row. Finishing second and third were Roy Wilson and Brian Franke. Congrats!





There were many smiling faces on race day as race organizers worked with the Detroit PAL organization to present 153 new bicycles to local boys and girls. Members of the DAC's 3Bs supported the giveaway and were represented when the first bicycles were presented. The day also included two kids races – one for the very young and another for older youths in the FitKids 360 program. All of the racers got to keep their bicycles once they finished the course, which was led by a wonderful group of pro racers, who tagged along to help.



There were many smiling faces on race day as race organizers hosted two races, one for young children, who were greeted by Paws and Hooper at the end, and another race for older children who got to ride around the entire course escorted by a group of pro racers competing during the Detroit Cycling Championship.





There were great moments throughout the day including Ali DeLoof presenting the winning jersey after one of day's big races, well-known cyclist and the event announcer Frankie Andreu letting spectators ring the final lap bell and sponsors enjoying the DAC's VIP tent. DAC race leaders Rob Barr and Ted Gillary even had a chance to pause for a photo.



An event like the DCC is only possible through the support of DAC leaders like Kristin Ritter, Geoff Gallinger and DAC President Steve Mellos, as well as the hundreds of volunteers seen in these photographs, who helped monitor the course and man the various booths and activity areas around Beacon Park, including the VIP tent.



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DETROIT CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP



THANK YOU!

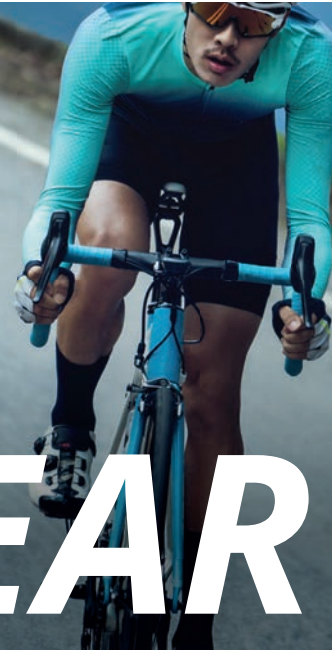
Our second annual Detroit Cycling Championship on July 14 was a huge success, thanks to our many sponsors, a great group of volunteers, the dedicated members of our Signature Athletic Event Committee and the DAC's hardworking staff. We also wish to extend our thanks to all of the racers – nearly 400 riders from 27 states and 7 countries made for an exciting day of competition.



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