



AN EVENT THAT IS MAKING HISTORY

Red Bull Dolomitenmann | 9 September 2017 – Lienz

On 9 September 2017, legendary former skier Werner Grissmann is to fire the starting shot for the 30th Red Bull Dolomitenmann, the world's toughest team event – and therefore help it set a new milestone. Some 130 teams from 20 nations will set off to run, fly, pedal and paddle as much as they possibly can. Only those pushing themselves to the limit will be able to keep up in the prestigious race in the Lienz Dolomites and have a chance to win. The Red Bull Dolomitenmann has a few special surprise highlights in store for the anniversary event. Spectators have a chance to test themselves against the competitors for the first time with the Beat the Gogg, while the Ö3 Parties headlined by Mando Diao are to get the whole of Lienz rocking.

Close to 520 athletes from across the entire world are to meet up again this year for one of the most extraordinary team events anywhere to compete to be the 'hardest under the sun'. The Red Bull Dolomitenmann demands every last ounce of energy from its participants, driving the athletes to remarkable performances in the four disciplines of mountain running, paragliding, mountain biking and kayaking. Last year the Red Bull team won the event for the first time in 10 years with a time of 4:07:25. Toni Palzer, Paul Guschlbauer, Alban Lakata and Harald Hudetz took on the forces of nature in the Dolomites as well as their rivals to claim victory in a dramatic finish ahead of Pure Encapsulations and Kleine Zeitung Panaceo Martini Sportswear. This year's event is set to see another strong starting field. Organiser Werner Grissmann and his team are expecting another exciting top-class relay contest in the 30th edition of the Red Bull Dolomitenmann.

The key sections of the Red Bull Dolomitenmann course this year are again to include the Goggsteig, which the mountain runners are to grind their way up on their way to the Kühbodeltörl, and the Moosalm, where the paragliders make an interim stop before setting off again to make their final landing at the Dolomiten Stadium and hand over to the mountain bikers. The mountain bikers face a brutal climb up to the Gamperlhütte hut, before they race down the H2000 former World Cup downhill skiing course with an average gradient of 26% towards the kayakers, who have to navigate the final stage before crossing the finish line in the main square of Lienz.

Spectators have the chance to follow the racing action up close as always on the main square in Lienz, where the race starts and finishes, as well as in Moosalm, the Dolomiten Stadium and Leisach.

For the first time in the history of the Red Bull Dolomitenmann, there is going to be a separate public event that allows all-comers to test their speed. The goal is to beat the best time of a mountain runner in 2016 from the barrier on the Goggsteig climb to the Gogghütte hut. Every man and woman is welcome to push themselves to the limit on the Beat the Gogg as they fight the temptation to give up. There are a limited number of 250 starting places though that will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Werner Grissmann is looking back fondly on the very first edition of the Red Bull Dolomitenmann ahead of its 30th anniversary, saying: "A lot of starters completely underestimated the contest. 54 teams started and 25 finished. The equipment was completely different back then. The paragliders were just rags and there weren't any mountain bikes. Many of the bikes just broke. All the athletes have top equipment these days and try to get the upper hand with technology. One thing is always the same, in that the Dolomites are the toughest opponent of all."

Grissmann continues: "I am very proud that we have been around already for 30 years, and also that we were the first event to be supported by Red Bull - and that they are still with us. It shows that the concept still works and battling against nature keeps on being a challenge that people want to face. That's why we created an event for Joe Public for the first time this year with Beat the Gogg, and we hope that this becomes established over the next few years."

To top it all off, the spectators at the anniversary edition of the Red Bull Dolomitenmann have a very special side programme to look forward to. Along with artists such as Flowrag and Jimmy and the Goofballs, Swedish rockers Mando Diao and Mr. Solid Gold plus Ö3 DJ Eberhard Forcher are to get the Ö3 Party moving on Saturday on the main square in Lienz – entrance is free.

www.redbulldolomitenmann.com

www.beat-the-gogg.com

#dolomitenmann

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