

## A FOND YET BRUTAL FAREWELL



Red Bull Dolomitenmann | 9 September 2017 – Lienz

**When the starting gun sounds on the Red Bull Dolomitenmann on 9 September 2017, it won't just be for the 30th time in the event's history, but also the last time for one of the event's most familiar faces. Andreas Goldberger, who has just become a father for a second time, is to run up the course one last time in 2017 – giving everything for the Wings for Life team in the process. For the first time this year, amateurs and any other ambitious runners can do the same. At Beat the Gogg on 8 September, all-comers can see how they compare to the Dolomitenmann competitors. There will then be a proper anniversary celebration with the Ö3 Parties featuring headliner Mando Diao and Austrian newcomers Flowrag.**

Close to 520 athletes from 20 nations are descending on East Tyrol this year to put themselves to the test in the world's toughest team contest. It is an event only for the 'hardest under the sun'. These include ski jump legend Andreas Goldberger, who is to take part for the 10th and final time this year. Goldberger has long teamed up with other well-known and successful sportsmen in the Wings for Life Team, pushing his body to the limit in the first stage – the mountain run. His team-mates over the years have included Marcel Hirscher (kayaking), Benjamin Karl (mountain biking) and Wendelin Ortner (paragliding) – who has taken part in every single Red Bull Dolomitenmann so far.

Andreas Goldberger says before his final appearance: "I have the greatest respect for the Red Bull Dolomitenmann! The course pushes you to the limit in every regard. It's steep, rocky, uneven and damn narrow in many parts. You have to be fully concentrated the whole time despite the stresses you're under."

"Despite all the pain, in the end I have always loved taking part here. I'm proud to be a part of the history of this unique event. I am looking forward to coming again in the future to Lienz as a spectator. Then I might even enjoy it a little bit more," added Goldberger with a smile.

Among the big favourites this year are last year's winners Team Red Bull, featuring Toni Palzer, Paul Guschlbauer, Alban Lakata and Harald Hudetz. Ready to challenge them all the way are Pure Encapsulations, Kleine Zeitung Panaceo Martini Sportswear and Kolland Topsports Professionals, among others. Taking the victory in the race's anniversary edition will be no easy feat.

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. Registration can be made on [www.beat-the-gogg.com](http://www.beat-the-gogg.com)

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 Austrian newcomers Flowrag and Tyrol's Jimmy and the Goofballs - who have rocked the FM4 Frequency and Donauinsel festivals - Swedish chart hits 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](http://www.redbulldolomitenmann.com)

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