



Press Release

Thrilling Opening for the WORLD INLINE CUP 2015 in Rennes, France

Bart Swings from Belgium defended his victory and Juliette Pouydebat from France won the women's race of the WIC marathon in Rennes, France.

Rennes, 31st May 2015, The Cercle Paul Bert, in collaboration with the city of Rennes organised the 33th edition of "Rennes sur Roulettes" which was again a big success as it saw over 2000 skaters participating in several races and activities on skates. Again, thousands of spectators came to watch the event despite the fact that the weather was often bad.

Bigger village for the spectators and optimised course for the skaters

On Saturday, the programme at the inline village offered a wide range of fun activities for all. A large area for BMX-bikes with national and international participants presented a great show. Racing scooters and a spectacular animation with a giant Air Bag added to the excitement and made the day a perfect family event in the heart of Rennes, Brittany's main city.

Elite skaters from eight countries and a multitude of fitness skaters competed

Today, after a race for licensed and leisure skaters and a kids race, the WORLD INLINE CUP marathon started with elite skaters from eight countries competing for the first points in the race for the WORLD INLINE CUP 2015. Stars like 2014's Rennes winner, Bart Swings and his brother Maarten from Belgium, Peter Michael from New Zealand, Ewan Fernandez and other top skaters came to Rennes. The optimized course took the skaters on 15 laps of 2.75 km each through the city, accompanied by the cheers of thousands of Bretons.

Open men's race up to the 12th lap

The men's race started with a breakaway of Ferre Spruyt (Powerslide World Team) who was caught again three laps later. The next breakaway started in the 5th lap with Ewen Fernandez (EOSkates). In the following laps the lead changed between Nolan Beddiaf, Ewen Fernandez and Bart Swings until Peter Michael from the Powerslide World Team broke out. During the 9th lap it started to rain quite heavy. This was the moment of Bart Swings who started his finish in the 12th lap and increased his lead consistently during the final laps until eventually repeating his victory in Rennes with a 45-second lead ahead of Ewen Fernandez. The race for third place was decided on the finish line which Martin Ferrie from Pole France Nantes crossed one foot ahead of Nolan Beddiaf from EOSkates.

Women's race dominated by favourites

The women's race was clearly dominated by the WORLD INLINE CUP Athletes Juliette Pouydebat from France and Aleksandra Goss from Poland. Only in the last bend could Juliette overtake her rival and proceed to win with a lead of 150 metres. The third place was taken by French athlete Clémence Halbout.

Results Men

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|----------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Bart Swings | (Powerslide World Team) | 01:07:39.814 |
| Ewen Fernandez | (EOSkates) | 01:08:22.690 |
| Martin Ferrie | (Pole France Nantes) | 01:08:29.662 |

Results Women

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|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Juliette Pouydebat | (WIC Single Athlet) | 01:21:18.019 |
| Aleksandra Goss | (WIC Single Athlet) | 01:21:21.679 |
| Clémence Halbout | (2 APN AVON) | 01:24:36.670 |

Calendar 2015

The next stop of the 2015 WORLD INLINE CUP, the world's premier speed skating marathon, will be Dijon, France, on 14th June. The race for the cup will see its final in the sportive Czech city of Ostrava on 20th June.

For further Information, please see www.world-inline-cup.com or contact:

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