



UCI
TRACK
CHAMPIONS
LEAGUE

PRESS KIT

SEASON 3 | 2023



WBD | Sports

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MISSION

Track cycling at its most thrilling.

Welcome to the UCI Track Champions League - the global racing competition redefining track cycling, where the best riders in the world compete for the highest stakes in the sport.

Since its launch in 2021 the UCI Track Champions League has consolidated its place alongside the UCI Track World Championships, UCI Track Nations Cup and Olympic Games at the very pinnacle of the global racing calendar.

The series - organised in partnership between the events division of Warner Bros. Discovery Sports and the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) - makes track cycling more accessible and exciting than ever before, elevating the sport to new levels and reaching new audiences in the process.

Drawing on insights from professional athletes and cycling fans alike, the League features events which are easy to understand, and its

quickfire racing format, elaborate stage show, and cutting-edge digital technologies provide a fully immersive fan experience.

With all five rounds taking place in quick succession, it is easy to follow the various narratives as the season unfolds, and this year's competition holds even greater relevance for riders and supporters as it is a stepping stone between the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships and Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

As well as captivating thousands of fans inside the velodromes, the exploits of the world's best riders will once again be beamed across the globe, with discovery+, Eurosport, GCN+ and a host of international broadcast partners bringing the sport to countless screens, with millions more fans following the action on the official UCI Track Champions League app and social media channels.



CONCEPT

The UCI Track Champions League is designed to bring the spectacle and high stakes of elite sport into the world of track cycling.

- **Five rounds** of exciting, dynamic racing taking place across four key nations, inside the world's best velodromes
- A truly international series featuring the world's best talent from all four corners of the globe
- Four competitions in total: Men's and Women's Sprint Leagues and Men's and Women's Endurance Leagues
- Four quickfire, demanding and action-packed events for riders to gain points in each round: Sprinters race in both the Sprint and Keirin while Endurance riders compete in the Scratch and Elimination
- Equal numbers of male and female athletes: **72 riders** in total, **36 sprinters** (18 men and 18 women) and **36 endurance riders** (18 men and 18 women)
- Equal prize money for all: Awarded for every race and for the overall standings at the end of the series
- Every moment of drama captured in a condensed live show, broadcast to a global audience
- Immersive online fan engagement experiences via digital technologies such as the official UCI Track Champions League app, powered by AWS.



CONCEPT



The ability of Warner Bros. Discovery Sports in managing and promoting all aspects of a sports event is truly unmatched. The success of the UCI Track Champions League has been built on a bedrock of innovation and true events expertise, and we will continue to innovate and push track cycling as a trusted global partner of the UCI.

We have delivered the stories from the competition to broad audiences and are excited about the opportunities ahead as we continue delivering the best product that will engage fans while further growing track cycling during Olympic cycles.



Chris Ball

VP - Cycling Events, Warner Bros. Discovery Sports Europe



The UCI Track Champions League provides a spectacular show that puts the Olympic discipline of track cycling and its athletes in the spotlight they deserve.

The fast-paced, short-format racing has proved popular with fans and riders alike, and once again in 2023, with five rounds over four consecutive weekends, there will be little time to draw breath as the best track specialists in the world chase one of the four overall titles.



David Lappartient

President of the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI)



RACE FORMAT

As the name suggests, the UCI Track Champions League runs as a league format with every round featuring the same race programme. Riders compete in either the Sprint or Endurance categories and score points across all five rounds.

Each category has two different types of races in which competitors can accumulate points: Sprinters race in both Sprint and Keirin while Endurance riders race both Elimination and Scratch. 18 riders can compete in each category, meaning 72 riders will compete in total (36 men and 36 women).

SPRINT CATEGORY

SPRINT

The Sprint race sees the first rider to cross the finish line after three laps win. The first round comprises six heats of three riders going head-to-head, with the six winners progressing on to the semi-finals. Two heats of three riders will then determine the final two competitors who compete for the win.

Learn more about the Sprint [HERE](#)

KEIRIN

The Keirin race is a massed start sprint over five laps. The first two laps sees riders follow a derny bike which increasingly gathers speed. After setting the pace, the derny pulls off the track leaving the riders to sprint to the finish over the remaining three laps. The first rider to finish wins. Six riders take part in three heats with the top two riders qualifying for the final. In the final, six riders compete for victory.

Learn more about the Keirin [HERE](#)

ENDURANCE CATEGORY

ELIMINATION

In the Elimination race the last rider to cross the finish line at the end of every second lap is eliminated from the race. The first lap is a neutral lap and all 18 riders take part from the start. The last rider left in the race wins.

Learn more about the Elimination [HERE](#)

SCRATCH

The Scratch race is a mass start race over 20 laps (5km) in the UCI Track Champions League. The first rider to finish wins.

Learn more about the Scratch [HERE](#)

POINTS AND RIDER RANKINGS

Rankings within the UCI Track Champions League will be determined by points allocated to riders from their performances in each race.

Points will accrue in a rankings table and the overall winner in each of the categories will be the rider with the most points at the end of the series.

Position	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th
Points awarded across each race category	20	17	15	13	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

PRIZES

UNIQUE UCI TRACK CHAMPIONS LEAGUE LEADER'S JERSEY

The overall leaders of the Men's and Women's Sprint and Endurance competitions in the UCI Track Champions League are awarded a striking blue jersey at the end of each round. Those riders have the honour of wearing that jersey in the next round they race, making them easily identifiable. At the end of the season, the winners of each competition are awarded the jersey as a prize, just like the road cycling Grand Tours.

UCI TRACK CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TROPHY

The names of the four champions at the end of each season will be forever etched on the UCI Track Champions League trophy. The trophy was designed by Bertoni, who have produced some of the most prestigious and well-known trophies in the world, including the FIFA World Cup, UEFA Europa League, and UEFA Champions League trophies.

Its innovative and modern oval design was born from the shape of the track itself, distilled to its core elements to become an icon of the competition. Standing at over one metre high, the oval shape - with its futuristic, integrated, blue LED stripe - can be taken out of its base and lifted high by each winner. Each of the League's four champions will also receive a replica trophy.



PRIZE MONEY

Prize money will be awarded for every race and for the overall standings at the end of the series. Race promoter Warner Bros. Discovery Sports and the UCI are delighted to state that prize money will be allocated equally between genders, in line with the UCI's equal prize money policy across all its events.

Prize money will be awarded for places 1-10 in every race, with race winners receiving €1,000. The overall winner of each category will receive €25,000, with prize money awarded for each place in the overall standings. The total prize pot exceeds €500,000.

UCI POINTS

As well as being awarded points which count towards the UCI Track Champions League rankings, riders will also be awarded separate UCI points (per round and according to the overall series standings) determined by the UCI's Track Rules. This number of points awarded is the same as at the UCI Cycling World Championships.



Watch: The history behind the UCI Track Champions League trophy [HERE](#)

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Only the best riders in the world take part in the UCI Track Champions League and the following athletes will qualify based on their performance at the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships:

The UCI Track Champions League features 72 riders in total, split equally between male and female athletes.

QUALIFICATION	SPRINT	ENDURANCE
Men	18	18
Women	18	19
Sub-Total	36	36
Total Riders	72	

SPRINT

- Sprint - top six riders
- Keirin - top six riders
- The highest-ranked UCI Sprint riders on 1st August
- The highest-ranked UCI Keirin riders on 1st August
- Four wildcards invited at the discretion of the UCI*

ENDURANCE

- Elimination - top three riders
- Omnium - top three riders
- Scratch - top three riders
- Points race - top three riders
- The highest-ranked UCI Elimination riders on 1st August
- The highest-ranked UCI Scratch riders on 1st August
- Four wildcards invited at the discretion of the UCI*

If a rider meets more than one of the above criteria, then places are awarded to the next-best qualifiers in each event.

***Wildcard spots will be allocated from the following criteria:**

- Previous performance in the UCI Track Champions League, and during the 2023 season during the UCI Track Nations Cup and Continental Championships.
- UCI ranking on 1st August (in either Sprint, Keirin, Elimination or Scratch).
- At the discretion of the UCI Track Champions League race direction.

2023 CALENDAR

The first two editions of the UCI Track Champions League took place in November and December, but the 2023 season has been brought forward to October and November to account for the UCI Cycling World Championships being held earlier than usual (3-13 August).

The UCI Track Champions League's position in the calendar has been specifically chosen to complement the UCI's other flagship track cycling events (the UCI Cycling World Championships and Tissot UCI Track Nations Cup), creating a year-round schedule of world-class track competition. Its enviable position also means it is not overlapping with the road cycling season, offering the chance for many elite road cyclists to also compete in Endurance events.

The weekly rounds too, provide an opportunity to maximise fan engagement as the back-to-back competition enables fans to tune in week by week to watch the rivalries and narratives unfold across the four weeks.



ROUND 01 October 21

● Palma, Mallorca, Spain



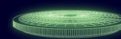
Velòdrom Illes Balears

This 6,000 capacity multisport venue opened in 2007 and has hosted every opening round of the UCI Track Champions League to date. It also welcomed the UCI Track World Championships in 2007.



ROUND 02 October 28

● Berlin, Germany



Berlin Velodrom

With a capacity of up to 6,000 fans for track cycling, the Berlin Velodrom was completed in 1997 and originally conceived as part of the city's bid to host the Olympics. It was in this very velodrome, during the 2020 UCI Track World Championships, where the events division of Warner Bros. Discovery Sports and the UCI signed a partnership to organise the UCI Track Champions League. The venue made its UCI Track Champions League debut in 2022.



ROUND 03 November 4

● Saint-Quentin-En-Yvelines,
France



Sponsored by CIC

Velodrome National de Saint-Quentin-En-Yvelines

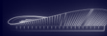
The French national velodrome can hold up to 5,000 spectators and opened in 2014. It hosted the UCI Track World Championships in 2015 and 2022, and the track cycling events at the Olympic and Paralympic Games will also be held here in 2024.

The venue was used as a UCI Track Champions League location for the first time last year, and this time around the round will be sponsored by French bank and financial services group Crédit Industriel et Commercial (CIC). The group was founded in 1859 and is a major player in the French banking sector with an international network made up of 36 countries.



ROUNDS 04+ GRAND FINALE November 10-11

● London, United Kingdom



Lee Valley VeloPark

The award-winning Lee Valley VeloPark was constructed for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and is renowned for its iconic curved roof design. As well as the Olympics, the venue hosted the 2016 UCI Track World Championships and sell-out crowds witnessed the UCI Track Champions League reach its conclusion here in both 2021 and 2022.

04+ GRAND FINALE

02

03

01

WHERE TO WATCH

The 2023 UCI Track Champions League will be broadcast across Warner Bros. Discovery's sports, entertainment, and free-to-air platforms, as well as via numerous official broadcast partners.

Every second of the series will be screened live, uninterrupted and ad-free across the globe on discovery+*, GCN+, and the Eurosport App, with the main events of every round also being shown live on Eurosport 1 International, and across 12 Asian countries via Eurosport World, in multiple language options.

In addition to that, the series will also be broadcast on the following channels:

- Africa – Supersports
- Australia – SBS
- China – Zhibo
- France - L'Équipe (Round 3 only)
- Germany – Eurosport 1 Germany
- Greece - ERT
- Italy - Rai Sport
- Japan – Speed Channel
- Latin America – Claro Sports
- Middle East & North Africa - Starzplay
- Netherlands - RTL7

- New Zealand – Sky
- Spain - RTVE
- Spain (Balearic Islands only) - FibwiTV (Round 1 only)
- Sub-Saharan Africa – Supersports
- Switzerland - SRG (one round only)
- Ukraine – UAPBC

And highlights will also be aired on the following channels in order to reach the widest-possible audience:

- Belgium - RTBF
- Denmark - 6'Eren
- Finland - Kutonen

- Norway - Max
- Sweden - Kanal 9
- UK - Quest

Warner Bros. Discovery's coverage will be supplemented by a 30-minute preview shows as excitement builds ahead of the evening's action, with 30 minutes of analysis and rider interviews rounding off each broadcast after the racing has concluded.

Each Monday, a highlights show will recap the best of the action along with interviews, behind the scenes access and additional data.

*Streaming is available on discovery+ in Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the UK and Ireland.



AMBASSADORS

OFFICIAL AMBASSADORS

The UCI Track Champions League Official Ambassadors are **Kristina Vogel** and **Sir Chris Hoy MBE**.

Both decorated track cyclists and household names, their initial role was to advise on the creation of the League to make it as attractive as possible for potential competing athletes.

Following the League's creation, their expertise continues to guide the development of innovations in production and the event experience.

Kristina Vogel and Sir Chris Hoy also participate in the promotion and broadcast of the League throughout the year, and will attend each round of the series.



Kristina Vogel, from Germany, is a 17-time World and two-time Olympic Champion, and a role model for millions across the world.

"I've found that so many people try out or watch track cycling for the first time and get totally addicted to it, but initially they find it really hard to understand how it all works. The UCI Track Champions League format is easily understandable, the races are fast and short, and the screens in the velodrome show every moment of the action as it happens. It's truly unmissable minute by minute, second by second, racing! Every moment is so crazy and so dramatic and it makes for such good racing that is both easy to understand and really engaging for both new track cycling fans and those who have been watching for years."



Sir Chris Hoy MBE, is one of Great Britain's most successful athletes, with seven Olympic medals - six of them gold - and 11 World titles.

"The UCI Track Champions League had a great debut season in 2021, but last year everything was ramped up and the series took a massive step forward. The standard of competition went up another level, and the closeness between the riders also made it even more exciting for the fans. We saw great champions producing incredible performances and they had to give everything to take the blue jerseys."

The improved data also added another layer of interest and you could really analyse riders' performances, pinpointing exactly why they performed so well. The athletes were also looking at the data themselves, comparing their performances to their rivals, and the series is definitely helping to progress the sport.

I expect that progression to continue this season, building on the incredible foundations that are already in place, and interest is going to ramp up even further in the run up to an Olympic year."

2022 LEAGUE CHAMPIONS



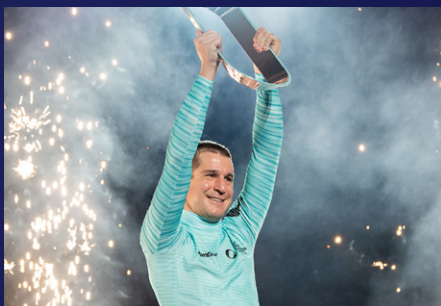
MATTHEW RICHARDSON
MEN'S SPRINT CHAMPION

The Australian powerhouse enjoyed a dream debut season at the UCI Track Champions League in 2022, winning five of the 10 races he entered and never finishing outside the top three. His battle with 2021 champion Harrie Lavreysen was one of the most compelling of the entire series, with Richardson ultimately pipping the legendary Dutchman to overall victory by just two points.



MATHILDE GROS
WOMEN'S SPRINT CHAMPION

Mathilde Gros is a force to be reckoned with in the Women's Sprint competition and secured the blue jersey last season by a 14-point winning margin. That result was largely down to her winning four of the five Sprint races in stunning style. Gros also has two European gold medals in her locker, and also claimed her first world title on home turf in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines at the 2022 Tissot UCI Track World Championships.



CLAUDIO IMHOF
MEN'S ENDURANCE CHAMPION

Claudio Imhof proved that consistency is key when it comes to winning the UCI Track Champions League in 2022. Despite not winning a race throughout the series, Imhof never placed outside the top 10 and also finished on the podium in four of the 10 events, ultimately taking the title by the closest of margins.



JENNIFER VALENTE
WOMEN'S ENDURANCE CHAMPION

Like Matthew Richardson, Jennifer Valente's first UCI Track Champions League campaign also went perfectly. The American was another hugely consistent performer, winning one race and never finishing lower than fourth in any of the 10 races she rode. Her tussle with Katie Archibald at the top of the standings proved to be one of the stories of the season, with Valente coming out on top with just three points to spare.

STAND-OUT STATS FROM 2022

Utilising unparalleled live rider data courtesy of official series partner AWS, the 2022 UCI Track Champions League continued to enhance fans' understanding of the sport. Audiences were able to dive into the riders' data via the official UCI Track Champions League app, exploring power, speed, heart rate and cadence stats among a wealth of other features. Some of the stand-out figures included:



Data provided by AWS

2,271 WATTS ⚡⚡⚡

Jeffrey Hoogland was able to produce this incredible peak power in the first heat of the Men's Sprint in London - the highest power of any rider.



1,525 WATTS ⚡⚡⚡

Olympic champion **Kelsey Mitchell** topped the female power standings by achieving this impressive figure in the Women's Sprint semi-final in Berlin, beating her previous-best peak power by 25 watts.



73.2 KM/H 🏍️

Matthew Richardson clocked the highest speed of the season when he averaged this speed over 200m to beat Harrie Lavreysen in the Men's Keirin final in the concluding round.



65.0 KM/H 🏍️

Kelsey Mitchell also proved the fastest female rider over 200m, holding off Shanne Braspenninx to win Heat 2 of the Women's Keirin in Saint-Quentin-En-Yvelines.



209 BPM ❤️

Sarah Van Dam and **Mohd Azizulhasni Awang** recorded the highest heart rate throughout the series, both reaching this staggering figure.



GLOBAL REACH IN 2022

4

Countries

4

World-class velodromes

18,000+

Live spectators

TV



20

International broadcasters

81

Countries

6

Continents

15

Channels live

11.4m

Total TV audience

DIGITAL



106k

Page views on official UCI TCL website

11k

App downloads

25.5m

Online video views

51.9m

Impressions

ONLINE MEDIA



3,356

Articles

4.97b

Estimated reach

ATHLETE TESTIMONIALS

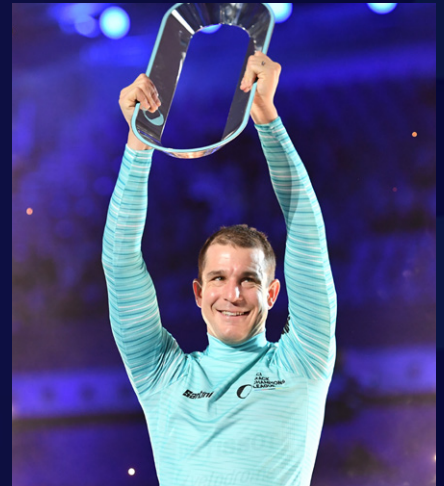
"I like the quickfire race format with the rounds coming week-after-week, and I have to say, I liked the improved data last season as well. Seeing it on the screens inside the velodromes was really cool to see, and the app proved very useful as well."

Harrie Lavreysen,
2021 UCI Track Champions League Men's Sprint Champion



"I really enjoy the UCI Track Champions League and the series is bringing on a whole new era for track cycling. The competition is tough due to the short and intense racing format, and back-to-back competition. Every race counts and the fans are really engaging with that, and the future definitely looks bright for the sport with competitions like this in place."

Claudio Imhof,
2022 UCI Track Champions League Men's Endurance Champion



"The UCI Track Champions League is perfect for new audiences. I'm a fan of the sport so I want everyone else to be as well, and to see people of all ages cheering us on in the different velodromes across Europe is amazing."

Katie Archibald,
2021 UCI Track Champions League Women's Endurance Champion



2022 SEASON ATHLETE TESTIMONIALS

"The UCI Track Champions League is unlike anything I've done before. The atmosphere inside the velodromes has been absolutely electric and the series has exceeded all my expectations - not just with the racing, but with all the little things such as the communication and how professional everything is - Warner Bros. Discovery Sports and the UCI are really good at what they do. On the track, the competition was harder than I expected and track cycling has definitely moved up to a whole new level, thanks to competitions like this."

Mark Stewart,

Winner of two Scratch races in 2022 and held the leader's jersey



"What an amazing advert for track cycling the UCI Track Champions League is. Up until a few years ago people only knew this sport from the Olympic Games and the UCI Track World Championships, and now they know it from the UCI Track Champions League as well."

Sebastián Mora,

Second in the 2022 Men's Endurance standings



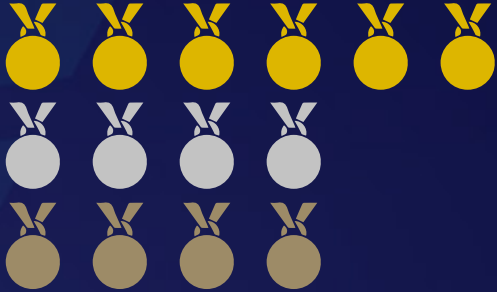
"The UCI Track Champions League is a really nice competition to round off the year. It's a very different event to the UCI Track World Championships and UCI Track Nations Cup, with a much shorter, but more intense, race format. I've definitely learnt a lot from competing in it."

Martha Bayona,

Winner of two Keirin races in 2022 and held the leader's jersey



2023 SEASON A TRULY WORLD-CLASS FIELD



14

Olympic Medals

-  x6 Gold Medals
-  x4 Silver Medals
-  x4 Bronze Medals



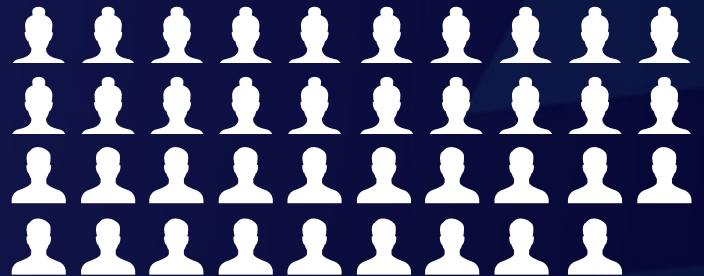
36

UCI Track
World Champion
Titles



28

Nationalities will be represented at the 2023 UCI Track Champions League



35

Riders (15 men and 20 women) are competing in the UCI Track Champions League for the first time.

2023 RIDER LINE UP

Sprint League.

WOMEN

Reigning Olympic Champion Kelsey Mitchell (Canada) is among the 18 riders named on the Women's Sprint list, joining fellow Olympic medallists Lauriane Genest (Canada) and Katy Marchant (Great Britain) and current European Champion Alessa-Catriona Pröpster (Germany). The quartet is joining recently crowned UCI World Champions Emma Finucane (Great Britain) and Ellesse Andrews (New Zealand).



ELLESSE ANDREWS



MARTHA BAYONA



ALLA BILETSKA



SOPHIE CAPEWELL



NICKY DEGRENDELE



EMMA FINUCANE



DANIELA GAXIOLA



LAURIANE GENEST



RUBY HUISMAN



MIGLÉ LENDEL



WANG LIJUAN



KATY MARCHANT



KELSEY MITCHELL



ALESSA-CATRIONA PRÖPSTER



ELLIE STONE



LOWRI THOMAS



MIRIAM VECE



ORLA WALSH

RIDERS TO WATCH



KELSEY MITCHELL

Canada

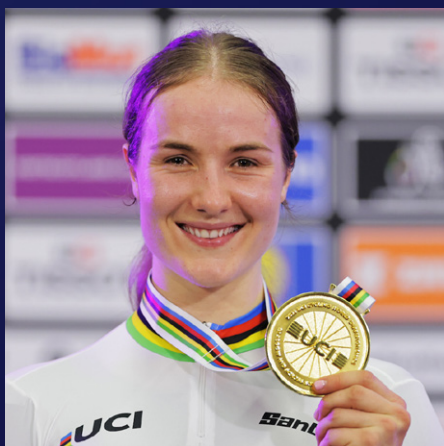
Kelsey played soccer all the way through university, but it wasn't until she'd graduated that she discovered her talent for cycling. Within a year of stepping on a bike she had claimed her first Canadian title, and since 2017, she has won an Olympic gold medal (in the Sprint), four Commonwealth Games medals, and no-less than six golds at the Pan American Games and Pan American Championships. This will be Kelsey's third time competing in the UCI Track Champions League, having taken third place overall in 2021 and finished runner-up in the Women's Sprint last time around.



EMMA FINUCANE

Great Britain

Emma cemented her place among the world's best sprinters by claiming her first-ever rainbow jersey in the Sprint at the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships. That triumph, coupled with a silver medal in the Team Sprint, and two additional silver medals at the 2023 UEC European Championships (in the Keirin and Team Sprint), ensures she'll be coming into the UCI Track Champions League as one of the big favourites, aiming to improve upon her 15th-placed finish in 2022.



ELLESSE ANDREWS

New Zealand

Despite being just 23 years old, Ellesse already has a palmarès many riders would envy. In August she became a UCI World Champion for the very first time in the Keirin, and also took a bronze medal in the Sprint. Those titles were added to a packed trophy cabinet which also includes an Olympic silver medal, four Commonwealth Games medals (three gold and one silver), and no-less than eight Oceania Track Championships medals (six gold and two silver).

2023 RIDER LINE UP

Sprint League.

MEN

13-time UCI World Champion Harrie Lavreysen (Netherlands) and Matthew Richardson (Australia) are among the star riders for 2023. Lavreysen and Richardson lit up the UCI Track Champions League last season, winning no less than five events each in a monumental two-way battle which ultimately saw Richardson claim the overall title by a two-point winning margin. Fellow UCI World Champion Kevin Quintero (Colombia) also returns on the roster which features 2023 European Champion Tijmen van Loon (Netherlands) and former European gold medallists Mateus Rudyk (Poland) and Melvin Landerneau (France).



SAM DAKIN



TOM DERACHE



ESOW ESOW



NIEN HSING HSIEH



DAAN KOOL



RONALDO LAITONJAM



MELVIN LANDERNEAU



HARRIE LAVREYSEN



VASILIJUS LENDEL



KEVIN QUINTERO



MATTHEW RICHARDSON



LARS ROMIJN



MATEUSZ RUDYK



CALLUM SAUNDERS



JEAN SPIES



JOE TRUMAN



TIJMEN VAN LOON



MIKHAIL YAKOVLEV

RIDERS TO WATCH



HARRIE LAVREYSEN

Netherlands

A living track cycling legend with no-less than 13 rainbow jerseys to his name, two of which were earned in the Sprint and Team Sprint events at the UCI Cycling World Championships in August. Harrie is also a two-time reigning Olympic Champion (in the Sprint and Team Sprint) and the most successful rider in UCI Track Champions League history to date. In 2021 he won five races on his way to the first-ever Men's Sprint title, and backed that up last season with five further race successes.



MATTHEW RICHARDSON

Australia

Matthew enjoyed a dream UCI Track Champions League debut last season, winning five of the 10 races and pipping Harrie Lavreysen to the Men's Sprint title by two points after a monumental battle between that pair. The Australian is also two-time reigning Commonwealth Games Champion, having won Sprint and Team Sprint gold in 2022, and claimed two silver medals at the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships (in the Team Sprint and Keirin), one year after achieving his first rainbow jersey in the Team Sprint.



KEVIN QUINTERO

Colombia

Kevin proved one of the stand-out performers at the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships, earning his first-ever rainbow jersey by beating big name rivals such as Harrie Lavreysen, Matthew Richardson and Jeffrey Hoogland in a hotly contested Keirin finale. That victory means the Colombian's confidence will be high heading into his third successive UCI Track Champions League campaign, where he'll be aiming to improve on the fourth place finish he achieved in the Men's Sprint competition last season.

2023 RIDER LINE UP

Endurance League.

WOMEN

Reigning UCI World Champion Neah Evans (Great Britain) is taking part in the series for the very first time and she will be joined by fellow rainbow jersey holder Katie Archibald (Great Britain). Archibald's place in the UCI Track Champions League history has already been assured after she sealed the first-ever Women's Endurance title in 2021, and with her five race victories that resulted in a second place overall during the 2022 series. That that duo are joined by other big names such as two-time European Champion Sophie Lewis (Great Britain) and European Points Race gold medallist Anita Stenberg (Norway).



KATIE ARCHIBALD



DANNI KHAN



OLIVIJA BALEIŠYTĖ



SOPHIE LEWIS



MAAIKE BRANDWAGT



KATE RICHARDSON



EMMA CUMMING



FRANCESCA SELVA



MAGGIE COLES-LYSTER



PETRA ŠEVČÍKOVÁ



NEAH EVANS



ANITA STENBERG



ANTONIETA GAXIOLA



SARAH VAN DAM



LARA GILLESPIE



LILY WILLIAMS



HÉLÈNE HESTERS



AMALIE WINTHER OLSEN

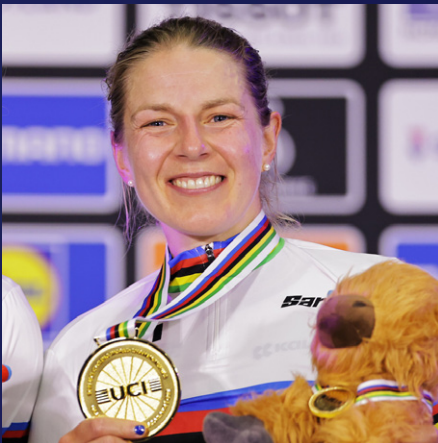
RIDERS TO WATCH



KATIE ARCHIBALD MBE

Great Britain

Katie Archibald MBE needs no introduction - with an incredible 28 senior gold medals to her name including two Olympic, five UCI World Championships, 20 UEC European Championships and one Commonwealth Games title - she is the most decorated Endurance rider on this year's roster. Her place in the UCI Track Champions League history books has also been assured after she sealed the first-ever Women's Endurance title in 2021, and also bagged five race victories on her way to second place overall during last season's series.



NEAH EVANS

Great Britain

Neah is one of seven current UCI World Champions competing in the UCI Track Champions League this season, and the 33 year old joined that illustrious list by winning the Madison event in Glasgow, Scotland in August. That victory followed her maiden rainbow jersey success in the Points race at the 2022 UCI Track World Championships, and she can also boast six UEC European Championships titles on her glittering palmares. Neah is also one of 35 riders taking part in the UCI Track Champions League for the very first time.



ANITA STENBERG

Norway

Anita narrowly missed out on the podium at last year's UCI Track Champions League, finishing fourth overall despite winning the Elimination race in Mallorca and claiming two top-three results in London. The Norwegian comes into this year's series having picked up her second UEC European Championships title in Grenchen, Switzerland back in February, following on from her Scratch race success in 2022.

2023 RIDER LINE UP

Endurance League.

MEN

Current Olympic champion and four-time UCI World Champion Matthijs Büchli (Netherlands) is among the 18 riders named on the Men's Endurance list, joining recently crowned UCI World Champion William Tidball (Great Britain) and former rainbow jersey holders Theo Reinhardt (Germany), Quentin Lafarge (France) and Sebastián Mora (Spain). Reigning UCI Track Champions League Men's Endurance Champion Claudio Imhof (Switzerland) is also back to defend his title along with 2021 winner Gavin Hoover (United States).



DYLAN BIBIC



GAVIN HOOVER



MATTHIJS BÜCHLI



CLAUDIO IMHOF



TUUR DENS



QUENTIN LAFARGE



ROY EEFING



SEBASTIÁN MORA



MATHIAS GUILLEMETTE



WILLIAM PERRETT



TOBIAS HANSEN



THEO REINHARDT



EIYA HASHIMOTO



MAX SCHMIDBAUER



PHILIP HEIJNEN



MARK STEWART



JULES HESTERS



WILLIAM TIDBALL

RIDERS TO WATCH



CLAUDIO IMHOF

Switzerland

Last season Claudio proved that consistency was key at the UCI Track Champions League as he claimed the Men's Endurance title by the very tightest of margins. The Swiss rider finished second in the final Elimination race of the season, two places ahead Sebastián Mora, ensuring he pipped the Spaniard to the blue jersey despite finishing level on points. The 33 year old will be going all out to defend his title this time around and aiming to add to the one Scratch race victory he secured during the inaugural 2021 season.



MATTHIJS BÜCHLI

Netherlands

Matthijs is a Tokyo 2020 Olympic gold medal-winner alongside Dutch Team Sprint team-mate and fellow UCI Track Champions League star Harrie Lavreysen. Having claimed a further four rainbow jerseys and two European titles as a Sprinter, Matthijs has since turned his skills to the Endurance disciplines and will be looking to improve upon his sixth-placed finish he achieved during his first UCI Track Champions League campaign last season.



DYLAN BIBIC

Canada

Despite being just 20 years old, Dylan has already marked himself out as one of the finest Endurance riders in the sport. During his first season as a senior in 2022 he won a rainbow jersey in the Scratch Race at the UCI Track World Championships, and followed that up this season with a silver medal in the Elimination. The successes don't end there though, he has also claimed a remarkable 10 medals in the last two Pan American Championships, nine of them gold, and earned himself an Elimination victory in Berlin at the UCI Track Champions League last season.

GUIDE TO TRACK CYCLING

THE RIDERS

What are the differences between Sprint and Endurance riders?

In track cycling there are many different races, but ultimately there are two types of riders. A rider who specialises in the Sprint events will usually be more muscular, allowing them to exert more power in short and intense efforts. An Endurance rider will be built more like the typical road cyclist, lean and light and able to sustain fast speeds over longer distances.

Do riders compete for themselves, their trade teams, or their countries?

In the UCI Track Champions League, riders compete for themselves, but when they race, they will do so in their national colours.

Can riders compete in both Sprint and Endurance races?

Typically, riders specialise in either Sprint or Endurance categories. Sometimes riders will switch from one category to the other over the course of their career, but never mid-way through the UCI Track Champions League.

THE TRACK

What do the lines mean on the track?

Black line – This line represents the shortest and fastest distance around the track. Riders try to stay on this line as much as possible whilst they're racing.

Red line – If a rider is trying to overtake someone who's riding in the sprinter's channel (the space between the black and red lines), then they have to do so at a safe distance. Riders have to be above the red line if they're overtaking someone in this channel. The red line is also called the sprinter's line.

Blue line – When a rider gets knocked out of an Elimination race in the UCI Track Champions League, they must stay above the blue line to slow down before safely exiting the track. The blue line – also known as the stayer's line – is mainly used in Madison races, which aren't currently part of the UCI Track Champions League.

The finish line – This runs across the width of the track and is positioned towards the end of the home straight. It is used as the finish line in all disciplines in the UCI Track Champions League.



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

BANKING

The banking is the steep turn at each end of the velodrome. It rises at an angle of approximately 45 degrees and allows riders to keep their bikes at around a 90 degree angle to the surface while riding at speed (see below for more information on why tracks are banked).



DERNY

A deryn is a motorised bicycle used to set the pace over the first two laps in Keirin races.



DRAFTING

This is when a rider positions themselves closely behind an opponent in order to get an aerodynamic advantage. When a rider is drafting closely behind an opponent, they can save up to 30% of energy compared to the person in front.



SKINSUIT

A skinsuit is the clothing worn by riders, and its tight fit is designed to be as aerodynamic as possible.



"SMASHING THE PEDALS"

This is a term which is used when riders are competing as hard as they can, putting as much power as possible through their pedals.



TRACK STAND

This is when riders come to a complete stop whilst competing in Sprint races. Riders sometimes do this at the start of Sprint races in order to get their opponent to move in front of them, meaning they can then draft behind them in the laps which follow, conserving energy in the process, before attempting to overtake them in their final sprint to the line.



FAQs

How long is a velodrome?

Every velodrome used in the UCI Track Champions League is 250m long.



What was the highest speed recorded during last season?

Last season, the top speed recorded was 73.2km/h as Matthew Richardson beat Harrie Lavreysen in the Men's Keirin final in the concluding round.

Why are tracks made of wood?

Wood provides a consistent level of grip and its natural absorption properties mean it's safer than harder materials if riders fall during competition. Tracks are made from thousands of small wooden strips which can easily be repaired or replaced if damage occurs to them.

What type of wood are tracks made from, and why?

Siberian Pine is the typical wood used for the boards of a track because it is densely grained and is relatively knot-free. That means it has the strength and flexibility required for optimum racing, and is easy to shape into the classic curves.

Why are the tracks banked at either end?

The banked curves create a centripetal force which pushes riders inwards whilst they are racing. This keeps the riders' momentum going and also allows them to keep to the shortest and fastest positions on the track more easily.

What's the difference between a road bike and a track bike?

There are several differences between road bikes and track bikes. Unlike a road bike, track bikes only have one, fixed gear, as they don't need multiple gears. Track bikes do not freewheel either, meaning that if the bike is rolling, the pedals will always be going around too.



This is to ensure track bikes are as fast as possible. Technically a track bike doesn't have brakes either. If riders need to stop, they have to use their legs to resist the forward momentum of the pedals.

Why aren't more races included in the UCI Track Champions League?

Out of all the different track cycling disciplines, the four races which feature in the UCI Track Champions League are the easiest for new fans to understand. Our aim is to make track cycling more accessible and exciting than ever before.





A Technology Driven Fan Experience.

As well as redefining track cycling - making the sport more accessible and exciting than ever before with its easy-to-follow and quickfire race format - the UCI Track Champions League is also pioneering new technologies and innovative digital platforms to deliver a fully immersive experience.

GROUNDBREAKING APP OFFERS GAME-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

Fans can download the free, official UCI Track Champions League App to gain access to a whole host of unique insights that will enhance their viewing experience and elevate their understanding of the sport, whether they're in the velodrome or watching at home.



SHORT-FORMAT, HIGH-PERFORMANCE RACING

Powered by Official Cloud Infrastructure Provider Amazon Web Services (AWS), the app showcases the riders' profiles and performance data in real-time whilst also giving access to a wealth of additional features which bring audiences closer to the action than ever before.

These unparalleled insights help newcomers learn more about what's happening on track whilst also allowing more knowledgeable fans to reach an even higher understanding of the biometrics and tactics of the riders and sport they love.

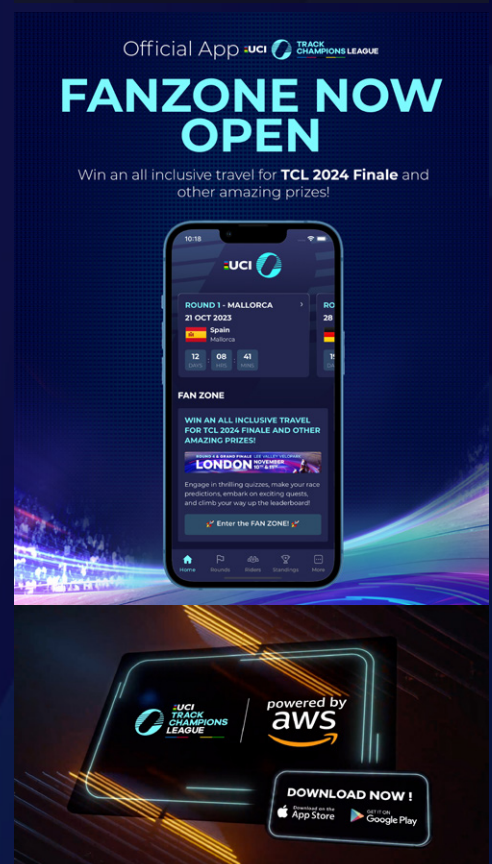
POWER, SPEED, HEART RATE AND CADENCE AT THE PUSH OF A BUTTON

With the app's Race Live Mode, live power, speed, heart rate and cadence data from the riders' performances is accessible at the push of a button - the 2,000 watt attacks, the on-the-rivet breakaways at 200bpm, and the 75km/h photo finishes that make track cycling a truly stunning spectacle are all laid bare.

The app's game-changing features do not stop there. Fans can take an in-depth look at their favourite riders' average and maximum power, speed, heart rate and cadence data via the Riders Focus Mode. Side-by-side comparisons between two different athletes are also available.

Pushing the Feel Heartbeat button, users can feel the live heartbeat of any given athlete at any moment in the palm of their hand using their smartphone's vibrate function. Be it a nervous 130 beats per minute on the start line or a rapid 200bpm with one lap to go, this unique feature gives viewers unprecedented insight into world-class athletes' performance.

If that wasn't enough, another hugely popular feature is the Cheer Rider functionality which allows fans to show their support for their favourite athletes from anywhere on earth.



EXPANDED FAN ZONE

The new-and-improved Fan Zone section allows supporters to make predictions and compete head-to-head in special quests and challenges. The more success they have, the more points they'll accrue, and the higher they'll sit on the app's global leaderboard. At the end of the season prizes will be awarded to a host of stand-out performers.

The **Cheer a Rider** feature gives the opportunity for fans to get behind their favourite athletes, who will also win prizes at the end of the season for the amount of support they achieve.

NEVER MISS A MOMENT

Thanks to Official Cloud Infrastructure Provider AWS, the UCI Track Champions League app also acts as a central information hub for the series. Users can view riders' profiles with key physiological information, league results, standings and palmares's all present. In addition, race results and standings, round info and the latest league news are all also available.

And users can also ensure they never miss a moment of the action courtesy of push notification reminders delivered when their favourite rider is on track, or when a particular race is about to start.

The UCI Track Champions League app is now available to download for free on the [App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#).



CONNECT IN THE METaverse



Before Round 4 in London last season, Warner Bros. Discovery Sports and Infinite Reality presented how they are harnessing the potential of Web3 technology to offer fans a new and revolutionary way to engage with the series in 2023 - by offering a preview of the upcoming UCI Track Champions League Metaverse.

This unique virtual environment will give track cycling fans the opportunity to spend time and interact with one another in the metaverse, and with their favourite athletes.

Contained within a virtual rider helmet, the UCI Track Champions League metaverse doesn't require any specialist equipment. It's groundbreaking and immersive features will include:

- **The possibility to watch the action using alternative angles and on-board cameras, and with an additional screen displaying real-time rider and race data**
- **A social space for fans to meet and video chat directly with athletes. This unique feature will turn fans into VIPs with full access remotely.**
- **A social space to video chat with other fans around the globe**
- **A virtual shop function allowing users to purchase real and virtual merchandise and equipment**
- **A wealth of on-demand content which gives a deeper understanding of track cycling**

More information on the launch of the official UCI Track Champions League Metaverse will be coming soon.



OFFICIAL SERIES PARTNERS



Since 2006, Amazon Web Services has been the world's most comprehensive and broadly adopted cloud. AWS has been continually expanding its services to support virtually any workload, and it now has more than 240 fully featured services for compute, storage, databases, networking, analytics, machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), mobile, security, hybrid, virtual and augmented reality (VR and AR), media, and application development, deployment, and management from 102 Availability Zones within 32 geographic regions, with announced plans for 12 more Availability Zones and four more AWS Regions in Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Thailand. Millions of customers—including the fastest-growing startups, largest enterprises, and leading government agencies—trust AWS to power their infrastructure, become more agile, and lower costs.

To learn more about AWS, visit www.aws.amazon.com



Infinite Reality (iR) helps clients with audiences develop immersive experiences that convert those audiences into users. An iR powered virtual experience enables brands and creators to fully control the ways in which they commercialize their creations, distribute content, and communicate with their communities. With deep expertise in Hollywood production, iR develops world-class products and experiences that upend traditional, passive one-way viewership of events and static online retail transactions while shaping the future of audience engagement, brand loyalty, and fan commitment. The Services and Advisory teams manage, design, and oversee custom builds, leveraging the Technology team's platform development expertise. Infinite Reality's products are hardware agnostic, do not require any special equipment, and can be viewed and experienced on laptop, desktop, mobile phone, tablet, and Smart TV. iR Studios, one of the largest independent production studios in the country, works collaboratively with iR's expert Innovation team to develop proprietary technology for Metaverse creation and immersive experiences, including live event virtualization and remote collaboration tools, from their 150,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art facility.

For more information: www.theinfinitereality.com



NextHash is an innovative global digital company that merges traditional practices with cutting-edge technology. Through the utilization of blockchain technology, NextHash is at the forefront of developing exceptional digital securities and assets across various industries, including finance and digital domains. As part of its commitment to the NFT marketplace, NextHash has established a strong global presence by creating a unique NFT Platform enabling users to safely purchase and collect exclusive digital collectibles. NextHash takes pride in its partnerships with prominent sporting properties, offering NFT sports collectibles, along with other exclusive NFTs. The company's primary focus lies in expanding and diversifying asset classes within the crypto world.

Read more about us on: www.nexthash.com

OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS



Founded in 1785, Piper-Heidsieck owes its success to its bold leadership and pioneering spirit with innovation always remaining at its core. As a B Corp Certified company, the House showcases its unwavering commitment towards an inclusive, equitable and regenerative future throughout its entire winemaking ecosystem, community, and workplace.

As The Most Awarded Champagne House of the Century*, PiperHeidsieck has fostered its reputation of wine excellence well beyond the borders of France to reach Champagne lovers in every corner of the globe.

* Piper-Heidsieck's Chief Winemakers received the prestigious title of "Sparkling Winemaker of the Year," awarded by the International Wine Challenge jury in 2004, 2007, 2008, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2021.

More information: www.piper-heidsieck.com



Bikeflights is an easy-to-use bicycle shipping service, trusted by riders worldwide. They offer faster shipping, dedicated support and premium protection at less cost so that you can ship the best way, guaranteed. Join over one million served — including individuals, bike shops, events and cycling industry businesses — who have used Bikeflights to ship their bikes, wheels, e-bikes and gear with confidence since 2009.

More information: www.bikeflights.com



An Italian brand of quality technical cycling apparel, Alé was born near Verona from over 30 years' experience in the industry.

Alé products are made in Italy and Europe, embodying Italian craftsmanship, constant innovation in designs, fabrics and technologies, and a focus on safety and visibility, combined with unique, out-of-the-box graphics.

A partner in world famous cycling events including the UAE Tour, the Giro d'Italia Under 23 and the Tour of the Alps, Alé supports cycling in all its forms, from juniors and Under 23 cyclists to pros, both man and women, in all disciplines.

Its garments are the choice of UCI World Tour teams such as the Groupama-FDJ, Team Bahrain Victorious, Bikeexchange Jayco Alula, as well as professional teams such as Greenproject Bardiani CSF Faizané and women's Pro Continental team Ceratizit-WNT.

Alé is also the official supplier of the national liveries of the FFC French Cycling Federation, the Slovenian Cycling Federation and UEC.

More information: www.alecycling.com

OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS



First patented in 1987, the SRM PowerMeter gave the cycling world one of its greatest innovations for performance-based training tools. Training and racing by the metric of power allows for cyclists to have truly objective data based on their performance, rather than rely on heart rate, speed and perceived exertion. With over 35 years of experience in designing and fabricating PowerMeters, SRM builds the most dependable and accurate training tools on the market. SRM PowerMeters are built by the hands from experienced technicians in Jülich/Germany, Lucca/ Italy, and Colorado Springs/USA and continue to be considered as the gold-standard by many high-level athletes and trainers!

Together, SRM and the UCI Track Champions League are aiming to use live PowerMeter data to give you a unique understanding of what is really going on the track!

More information: www.srm.de



The best technology to bring your workouts to the maximum level. ZYCLE has arrived to revolutionize the cycling and training market at home. All our experience throughout all these years in the development of products with the latest technology for indoor training drives us to achieve technical excellence in all our products.

100% made in Spain, our commitment is focused on quality and the constant search for excellence, based on technological innovation to design devices that simulate the most realistic experience possible in the world of indoor cycling. We have designed the most advanced smart bike on the market and bike trainers that will allow you to obtain speed, power, and cadence data in each training session. In addition, of course, to offering great compatibility with the main cycling simulators thanks to our state-of-the-art connectivity system.

More information: www.zycle.eu

MEDIA INFORMATION

You can find all information about the UCI Track Champions League, including press releases, results and rights-free high-resolution imagery on the UCI Track Champions League media site.

The site will be continuously updated throughout the 2023 season.

To register for the UCI Track Champions League media site, [click here](#).

Once registered, to log in, [click here](#).

For any further enquiries, including accreditation and/or interview requests, please contact:

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