



Mark Cavendish won the very first Abu Dhabi to Al Ain Classic in the weekend. Yousif Mirza and Roberto Ferrari (UAE Team Emirates) were second and third.

The Brit crossed the finish line first in a race which saw 120 professional and amateur riders complete the 190km course that started at ADNOC HQ in Abu Dhabi. In celebration of National Day, Olympian and the UAE's fastest road cyclist Yousif Mirza, of UAE Team Emirates, was specially selected to wear the number 46. Mirza finished a very close second to Cavendish, followed by fellow UAE Team Emirate rider Roberto Ferrari who finished in third position.

Commenting on the weekend's race, H.E. Dr. Mugheer Khamis Al Khaili, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Cycling Club said: "We are absolutely delighted with the success of the Abu Dhabi – Al Ain Classic. This event was the first of its kind to take place in the UAE. 2017 has created a good foundation.

"The quality of both professional and amateur entries was extremely high, and we intend to build on this to become one of the UAE's great races. The Classic and the Family Cycling Festival was a great way for Abu Dhabi Cycling Club to be part of the UAE's 46th National Day celebrations. We hope that everyone who took part had an enjoyable day and hopefully it has encouraged new cyclists to try our fantastic sport."

Rachele Barbieri joins Wiggle High5 Pro Cycling in 2018

Wiggle High5 Pro Cycling is delighted to announce that Rachele Barbieri will be joining the team in 2018. The 20-year-old Italian from Pavullo nel Frignano, near Modena, Emilia-Romagna, is the reigning Scratch Race World Champion. As well as being a star on the track, Rachele is also one of the most exciting young road sprinters in the peloton. Her road results in 2017 included fourth place in the European Road Race Championships and second place in a stage of the Santos Women's Tour, behind new teammate Kirsten Wild.

"Wiggle High5 is always looking for young athletes with potential to develop, so we're delighted to have signed the young track World Champion," said Team founder, owner and manager, Rochelle Gilmore. "Rachele has been dominating scratch races on the track for a while now which normally means that with a season or two on the road, with a balanced race program, she has the potential to win road race at the highest level in the future."



Did you know that...

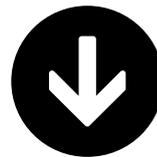
Colnago: Merckx was the most demanding rider I've ever work with

"How many bicycles did I make for Eddy? How many sleepless nights did he give me? But there were many satisfying moments, because It was easy to work with a rider like that. There was always mutual respect in our relationship. I worked hard for him and Eddy learned something about my work. In one season, I made him about TWENTY bicycles. We made him a bicycle for Milano-Sanremo that weighted seven kilos and 800 grams: a bicycle that was studied because It was made for a powerful rider of the caliber of Eddy Merckx. He was one of the most demanding ride of all. Eddy studied his bicycles in minute detail".





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