



PRESS RELEASE

Nils Politt rides solo in Erlangen into the red jersey of the Deutschland Tour

The longest section of this year's Deutschland Tour led from Ilmenau to Erlangen. Nils Politt (Bora - hansgrohe) enjoyed the cheers of the Erlangen spectators on the finishing straight with a final solo. But for the 27-year-old it was more than just a stage win in front of home fans - for the first time in his career he captured the leader's jersey in a stage race. Before tomorrow's final stage, Politt takes over the red jersey from his teammate Pascal Ackermann.

Nils Politt at the finish: *"After the bonus sprint, a gap opened up in the peloton and I just went. Dylan Teuns followed, but he hesitated. The only chance was to try it alone and I managed to shake him off. Now we have a good starting position for tomorrow, and we will try to take the jersey home. Let's see how we do it - the sport directors can think about that tonight. It's going to be a tough stage!"*

"It's cool that Nils won," said **Pascal Ackermann**: *"It was a nice race, I'm second in the GC - with a double lead we have all the cards tomorrow. The more people from our team win, the better."*

Already six kilometers after the start in Ilmenau, a quartet had broken away on the climb to the first mountain classification on the Rennsteig, the roof of this year's Deutschland Tour: Henri Uhlig (German National Team), Bert de Backer (B&B Hotels p/b KTM) and Abram Stockman (Team SKS Sauerland NRW) as well as Julian Lino (Bike Aid). In the peloton, Bora - hansgrohe and Bahrain Victorious controlled the front group very attentively. At the second climb of the day, 18 kilometers before the finish, they lead shrank to less than a minute.

Due to attacks in the peloton the escapees were caught just before the bonus sprint. Last year's German champion Marcel Meisen (Alpecin - Fenix) secured the 3 seconds ahead of yesterday's winner Georg Zimmermann (Intermarché - Wanty - Gobert Matériaux) and Marco Canola (Gazprom-RusVelo). Nils Politt, who came away empty-handed, pulls through, and creates a gap. Only Dylan Teuns (Bahrain Victorious) can follow. Three kilometers before the finish he went clear and crosses the finish line on the Luitpoldstraße in Erlangen as a soloist with a lead of 11 seconds, Teuns is second ahead of André Greipel.

The tension could hardly be greater before tomorrow's final stage. There are only 156 kilometers between Erlangen and Nuremberg - but they are tough. There are six mountain classifications in Franconia before the overall victory of the Deutschland Tour 2021 will be decided in Nuremberg.

About the Deutschland Tour

The Deutschland Tour is Germany's largest cycling festival. The four-day professional race and the hands-on offers in all host cities attract more than 500,000 visitors. In Germany alone, more than 5 million viewers watch the live broadcast on ARD and ZDF - worldwide, the images go to 190 countries. On the Deutschland Tour, fans experience the German top stars and the international Tour de France elite up close. The event is a true festival around the bicycle and puts a special focus on the audience. In addition to thousands of tips on route planning before the race, 5,000 participants use the Jedermann Tour, the Ride Tour and the "kinder Joy of Moving mini tour" to participate. The Deutschland Tour is organized by the Gesellschaft zur Förderung des Radsports mbH (GFR). The GFR is a joint venture between the Tour de France organizer Amaury Sport Organization (A.S.O.) and the Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG). In addition to the Deutschland Tour, the company is also organizing the cycling classic Eschborn-Frankfurt on May 1. The Deutschland Tour 2021 will run over four stages on August 26-29 from Stralsund in the north to Nuremberg in the south of Germany.