



## THE CHALLENGE SPRINT

### At a glance

The **Challenge Sprint**, a major premiere event in the world of road racing, will take place in Québec City on Thursday, September 9, 2010. The race was instituted in response to the need for road cycling to evolve through creative innovation and respect for the sport, via the addition of modern, explosive disciplines.

The Grand Prix Cycliste ProTour Québec - Montréal is using the opportunity provided by the Grand Prix Cycliste de Québec road race to showcase this brand new event in demonstration format, in the hopes that it will be added to the International Cycling Union's (UCI) official disciplines.

Sixteen top-level Canadian sprinters will vie for top honours in exciting head-to-head duels.

The race will be run along the final kilometre of the Grand Prix Cycliste de Québec course. A total of eight elimination rounds will be held in order to crown the Canadian champion.

The start will be given at approximately 5:00 pm on Rue St-Louis, to enable the largest possible number of spectators to experience this premiere event and cheer on our best Canadian sprinters.

The Challenge Sprint is a thrilling, not-to-be-missed spectacle created especially with the tastes of today's sports enthusiasts in mind.

The organizers of this unique event worked closely with the Canadian Cycling Association and the Fédération québécoise des sports cyclistes.

The event is made possible through the close collaboration of the Government of Canada, the Government of Québec and the Grand Prix's other public partners, the cities of Québec and Montréal.

The organizers extend special thanks to the City of Québec for its invaluable support in providing the infrastructure necessary for a competition of this calibre.

### Event description

The Challenge Sprint consists in a series of sprints involving four cyclists each, with a single elimination (knockout) process to determine the best road sprinter.

The cyclists will be given a false start from the finish line on Grande-Allée, proceed east (false flat descent) along Rue St-Louis for approximately 900 metres, and make a turn at the small square in front of Château Frontenac, to then start the sprint over a distance of 1 km, back along the same street they took for the false start.

## Event format

16-SPRINTER ELIMINATION	
First round	4 waves of 4 sprinters each (quarter-finals) The 2 fastest finishers in each wave advance to the second round (semi-finals)
Second round	2 semi-final waves of 4 sprinters each The 2 fastest finishers in each wave advance to the Grande Final; the rest to the Consolation Final
Third round	Consolation Final Grand Final

### Seeding of groups

Sixteen Canadian racers will be entered in the Challenge Sprint. The make-up of each quarter-final wave will be determined based on the strength or ranking (UCI points total) of each sprinter (a seeding format similar to that of other tournament sports. This ensures that the strongest riders will not knock each other out in the initial round.

### Schedule - Thursday, September 9

4:15 pm	Circuit opens for a short warm-up	5:40 pm	Consolation Final
4:50 pm	Presentation of the 16 riders	5:45 pm	Grand Final
5:00 pm	Competition begins(quarter-finals)	5:55 pm	Awards ceremony
5:25 pm	Semi-finals	6:00 pm	Media interviews

### Prize money

A total of \$5,000 in prize money will be awarded to the racers, according to the following table:

Round	1st place	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Quarter-finals	\$250	\$125			\$1,500
Semi-finals	\$500	\$250			\$1,500
Consolation Final	\$250				\$250
Grand Final	\$1,000	\$500	\$250		\$1,750

### Final standings

Final standings will be established for the top eight sprinters in the Challenge (Grand Final: 1-4; Consolation Final: 5-8).

### Media coverage

Only media representatives accredited for the Grand Prix Cycliste de Québec will be allowed into the Finish Line area and media centre. Accredited photographers may take photos along the racecourse and in the Finish Line area. Accredited journalists may follow the race from the Finish Line area or the media centre, and conduct interviews in the Finish Line area after the competition is over.

#### Additional technical information:

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