



## FAQ - Answers to all your most asked questions

### Before the race

Getting to Cologne (Velodom 70 and 130) by bike or public transport on Saturday and Sunday

We recommend travelling by bike or alternatively using public transport (KVB)!

By bike

Waze / [Maps](#)

With the KVB

The following bus and tram lines stop near the Harry-Blum-Platz:

Tram: Lines 15 and 16 to Ubierring

Tram: Lines 3, 4 and 17 to Severinstraße

Bus: Lines 133 and 142 to Ubierring

Bus: Lines 106 and 132 to Severinstraße

**Getting to Cologne (Velodom 70 and 130) by car on Saturday and Sunday \*discouraged\***

We recommend travelling by bike or alternatively using public transport (KVB)!

Should you still choose or need to arrive by car, here are a few helpful tips:

You can park for free on the parking lot of our partner Bauhaus in Cologne-Kalk ([Waze](#) / [Maps](#)). It is about 15 minutes by bike from there to the starting area.

Address for your navigation: Istanbulstraße 20, 51103 Cologne

Another option is using the underground parking garage of the Rheinauhafen ([Waze](#) / [Maps](#)). You can only reach the garage coming from the south via Rheinuferstraße. Due to the road closures, long wait times must be expected. Address for your navigation (keep in mind the closure of the Rheinuferstraße coming from the north side): Aggripinawerft 30, 50678 Cologne.

[All road closures for Saturday and Sunday](#) can be found in the app Waze. It will navigate you around all closures and you can reach your destination more relaxed.

You can download the app here:

- [iTunes/Apple Store \(iOS\)](#)
- [Google Play Store \(Android\)](#)

Based on the passing times of the cyclists ([Map/List view](#)) a road closure about an hour before then should be expected.

The police open the roads back up to the public after the last rider has passed that point.

## Getting to Bergisch Gladbach by bike and public transport on Sunday (Velodom 30 only)

Please use public transport or your bike to get to the [start of the Velodom 30](#) on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Take the S11 to Bergisch Gladbach or the KVB Line 1 to Neuenweg – from there you can easily cycle to the starting area at Hüttenstraße/Bensberger Straße.

## Getting to Bergisch Gladbach by car on Sunday (Velodom 30 only)

Should you choose or need to travel by car, you can use the parking lot of Krüger Group ([Waze](#) / [Maps](#)) free of charge between 11:00 and 18:00.

## Bike.EXPO

From Saturday to Sunday, May 25 to 26, 2024, [the free Bike.EXPO](#) will take place at Harry-Blum-Platz, 50578 Cologne.

Numerous exhibitors offer a wide range of products and services relating to bicycles and cycling accessories as well as nutrition, fitness and wellness, sportswear, lifestyle and the outdoors. The expo presents partners and stakeholders from the world of cycling.

Here you will receive your bib numbers, your Rund um Köln jerseys and cycling shorts if ordered, as well as all important information about the event day.

Please bring your confirmation of participation with you - preferably digitally on your smartphone (alternatively printed out, but this is not sustainable), which you have received via email.

If you do not have time yourself on one of the days of the expo, you can also give the above-mentioned confirmation of participation to a friend who can collect your documents for you on presentation of a signed power of attorney and the confirmation of participation.

If you have booked the shipping of your race packet, your race packet and your Rund um Köln jersey (if booked) will be sent directly to your home with all documents. The shipping will take place on May 4, 2024.

## Program and opening times

Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> 2024 (subject to change)

- 12:00 to 18:00 Bib number collection on Harry-Blum-Platz
- 12:00 to 18:00 Bike.EXPO on Harry-Blum-Platz
- 12:30 to 14:30 Kids and Youth Races Under 11, 13, 15 and 17 (NRW Rennrad Cup) on Bayenstraße
- 14:30 to 15:00 The Kreissparkasse Student Tour

- 15:00 to 19:00 License races men and women (Masters 2 and 3, Amateurs, Elite Amateurs) (all races part of the NRW Rennrad Cup)

Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>

- 07:00 to 11:00 Bib number collection on Harry-Blum-Platz
- 09:00 to 17:00 Bike.EXPO on Harry-Blum-Platz
- 09:00 to 10:30 Elite registration on Harry-Blum-Platz
- From 13:00 Award ceremonies Velodom 70 and 130 on Harry-Blum-Platz
- 14:00 music act: [Funky Marys](#)
- 14:30 Pänz Tour – children's balance bike race on the last 100m of the elite track
- 15:45/16:00 Elite award ceremony on Harry-Blum-Platz

[Map of start/finish area](#)

[All road closures for Saturday and Sunday](#) can be found in the app Waze. It will navigate you around all closures and you can reach your destination more relaxed.

You can download the app here:

- [iTunes/Apple Store \(iOS\)](#)
- [Google Play Store \(Android\)](#)

Based on the passing times of the cyclists ([Map/List view](#)) a road closure about an hour before then should be expected.

The police open the roads back up to the public after the last rider has passed that point.

### **Bib collection (bibs and starter bags)**

Your bib and starter bag will be available for pickup at the [Bike.EXPO](#) on Harry-Blum-Platz on

- Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 18:00
- Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 07:00 to 11:00 \*We recommend picking up bib and starter bag on Saturday, expect long wait times on Sunday\*

Please bring your confirmation of participation to pick up your bib – ideally digitally on your smartphone (alternatively printed out, but not sustainable), which you have received via e-mail.

If you do not have time yourself on one of the days of the expo, you can also give the above-mentioned confirmation of participation to a friend who can collect your documents for you on presentation of a signed power of attorney and the confirmation of participation.

[Map of start/finish area](#)

[All road closures for Saturday and Sunday](#) can be found in the app Waze. It will navigate you around all closures and you can reach your destination more relaxed.

You can download the app here:

- [iTunes/Apple Store \(iOS\)](#)
- [Google Play Store \(Android\)](#)

Based on the passing times of the cyclists ([Map/List view](#)) a road closure about an hour before then should be expected.

The police open the roads back up to the public after the last rider has passed that point.

## **Bib numbers**

Every participant gets a set of three bibs:

Please fasten your back-bib to the back of your jersey at the height of the jersey pockets using the provided safety pins. On this bib number you can see the colour of your starting block, e.g. red background = red starting block.

You also get a helmet number, please make sure it is easily visible when sticking it to your helmet.

**IMPORTANT:** The last number is your saddle post number. This contains the transponder that provides your race time.

Starting from the wrong starting block (this is checked via timing) and/or rendering the sponsoring bar on the bib number unrecognizable, e.g. by folding it will lead to disqualification.

## **Shipping of race packets**

Save money and time by booking our exclusive race packet shipment service – no need to visit the expo or stand in line.

We will send you your full race packets in time ahead of the event – one shipment includes everything:

- Your bib numbers including the saddle post transponder used for timing
- Your starter bag with all its contents
- Your Rund um Köln jersey, if ordered

Shipping needs to be booked by April 20<sup>th</sup> 2024. On May 4<sup>th</sup> the parcels will be sent to you using DHL.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure the parcel is delivered to an address where it will actually be received (e.g. your office etc.).

## **Data changes**

Changes of data and booking of additional services

You can change your personal data (except basic data such as your name, gender, date of birth, etc.) and book additional services using the change link that you were sent in your confirmation of registration.

Changes are possible as follows:

- Up to April 20<sup>th</sup>: Booking of shipment of race packs

- Up to May 9<sup>th</sup>: All data relevant to the event such as average speed (this does NOT apply to those who booked shipment of race packs)

## Late registrations

Late registrations are possible at the help desk of our Bike.EXPO on May 25th and 26th, 2024 until 1 hour before the start on Harry-Blum-Platz in Cologne, provided the field of participants is not yet fully booked. **Note: We were fully booked early in 2023! The Velodom 70 is also already fully booked and for the Velodom 130 we assume that we will be fully booked at the beginning of May!**

Late registrations are only possible with direct EC and/or credit card payment (Mastercard or Visa) or via instant bank transfer.

SEPA direct debit is not possible.

You can register in advance online via your smartphone and pay online. We will then give you the relevant starting documents on site.

## Change of registration

### Change of registration to another person

It is not possible to transfer your registration to another person or to pass on your start number to another person, both will result in immediate disqualification.

If you are unable to take part in our event, please check whether you have booked entry fee insurance when you registered for Velodom 70 or Velodom 130. The entry fee insurance allows a refund of the entry fees under certain circumstances.

### Upgrade from Velodom 70 to Velodom 130

We are always happy if you would prefer to ride the longer route.

You can upgrade to the Velodom 130 by May 9<sup>th</sup> 2024 at the latest (does not apply to those who booked shipment of race packs).

When upgrading, the difference between the Velodom 70 entry fee paid and the current Velodom 130 entry fee will be added.

You can change your registration yourself via the change link that you will find in your confirmation email. The costs incurred will be calculated automatically.

### Downgrade from Velodom 130 to Velodom 70

It is not possible to downgrade from Velodom 130 to Velodom 70.

## Stepping down from the race

*... if you've booked entry fee insurance*



We are sorry to hear that you will not be able to participate in this year's event.

Since you have booked entry fee insurance when signing up, a refund of your entry fee is possible via the relevant insurance company.

Please deregister by sending us an email at [info@rundumkoeln.de](mailto:info@rundumkoeln.de). Then send all of the following documents to the insurance via their portal [startplatz.europ-assistance.de](http://startplatz.europ-assistance.de)

- Copy of the e-mail confirmation of registration for the race
- Deregistration form (you will be sent this via e-mail)
- Copy of the insurance certificate
- Proof of the claim (e.g. medical certificate etc.)
- Bank details (IBAN and BIC)

Paid additional services, e.g. Rund um Köln jersey, will be returned after the event by sending a stamped envelope (C4 envelope, stamp € 1.60) to the following address

Rund um Köln  
Kölner AusdauerSport GmbH  
Girlitzweg 30 - Tor 1  
50829 Cologne

or can be picked up at our Bike.EXPO. We wish you all the best.

*... if you have not booked entry fee insurance*

We are sorry to hear that you will not be able to participate in this year's event.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to transfer your starting place to another person or different year.

Booked additional services, such as the Rund um Köln jersey, can still be collected at our Bike.EXPO or by sending a stamped envelope (C4 envelope, stamp 1,60€) to the following address

Rund um Köln  
Kölner AusdauerSport GmbH  
Girlitzweg 30 - Tor 1  
50829 Cologne

or can be picked up at our Bike.EXPO.

We recommend that you book the entry fee insurance the next time you sign up, as it will allow for a refund of the entry fee under certain circumstances.

## The race

### Getting to the start/finish area by bike or public transport on Sunday

We recommend travelling by bike or alternatively using public transport (KVB)!

By bike

[Waze](#) / [Maps](#)

With the [KVB](#)

The following bus and tram lines stop near the Harry-Blum-Platz:

Tram: Lines 15 and 16 to Ubierring

Tram: Lines 3, 4 and 17 to Severinstraße

Bus: Lines 133 and 142 to Ubierring

Bus: Lines 106 and 132 to Severinstraße

### Getting to the start/finish area by car on Sunday \*discouraged\*

We recommend travelling by bike or alternatively using public transport (KVB)!

Should you still choose or need to arrive by car, here are a few helpful tips:

Address for your navigation: Aggripinawerft 30, 50678 Cologne (please keep in mind the road closures of the northern part of the Rheinuferstraße)

A limited number of public parking spaces is available around Harry-Blum-Platz, e.g. the APCOA parking garage in the Rheinauhafen.

Important: Getting to the garage is only possible from the south entrance: [Waze/Maps](#)

[All road closures for Saturday and Sunday](#) can be found in the app Waze. It will navigate you around all closures and you can reach your destination more relaxed.

You can download the app here:

- [iTunes/App Store \(iOS\)](#)
- [Google Play Store \(Android\)](#)

Based on the passing times of the cyclists ([Map/List view](#)) a road closure about an hour before then should be expected.

The police open the roads back up to the public after the last rider has passed that point.

### Women only starting block

Are you taking part for the first time and/or are you perhaps afraid of starting together with male riders and would like to take some of the stress out of it?

Then we have a new offer for all female starters at the Velodom 70 and Velodom 130: By popular demand, we are setting up a separate starting block for women.

Please note: This women's starting block is purely optional and will be placed in the back third of the starting grid for Velodom 70 and Velodom 130. All performance-oriented women can of course continue to line up in the desired starting blocks.

If you are interested, simply tick the "women's starting block" in the online registration or via the change link!

## Eating and drinking during the race

To be able to perform best on race day you should take your own food and drink.

We do also offer aid on course adapted to the weather conditions.

If you do choose to ride into an aid area, make sure to signal your intent to other riders and stop only on the far-right side of the track to enable other drivers to pass with ease.

Trash must only be discarded in the provided trash containers.

## Disqualification

Not following regulations will lead to immediate disqualification, this especially includes:

- Starting without bib numbers
- Starting in the wrong block too far ahead -> 5 minute time penalty (this is checked via the timing)
- Rendering unreadable, folding away or removing the sponsors' logos from your bib
- Starting without transponder (on your saddle post)
- Starting with more than one transponder (on your saddle post)
- Missing interim times
- Falling out of the time limit
- Leaving/shortening the course
- Being under the legal age of participation
- Riding an illegal bike (cf. [Bike and accessories](#))
- Using of audiovisual media during the race (Using headphones, phone, etc.)
- Other criteria can be found here (cf. [List of sanctions](#))

## Start

Starting area

The [starting area](#) of the Granfondo races Velodom 70 and 130 is located on Bayenstraße at the level of Harry-Blum-Platz. The Velodom 30 starting area will be set up in Bergisch Gladbach on Hüttenstraße near the Krüger Group factories.

The individual starting blocks will be sent onto the course separately from each other with a countdown.

Please follow the signs on site to the respective starting blocks.

Start times (subject to change):

- 9:30 Velodom 130 (several starting blocks)

- 10:45 Elite race
- 11:11 Velodom 70 (several starting blocks)
- 12:30 Velodom 30 (in Bergisch Gladbach)

## Starting blocks

In all races you may only start from the allocated starting blocks.

You must be in your starting block no less than 15 minutes before the start of the race.

The blocks are allocated according to your own specifications.

You can also adjust your average speed after registration by using the change link from the e-mail registration confirmation until May 9<sup>th</sup> (this does not apply to those who booked shipping of their materials).

In order to keep wait times for the later blocks as short as possible, we ask that you cross the start line quickly.

Starting in the wrong block (this is checked via timing) and/or making the sponsor bar on the bib number unrecognizable, fold it or similar will lead to disqualification.

## Routes

[You can find the different routes on our website.](#)

It is not possible to change distance during the race.

The routes lead through the city of Cologne and the surrounding area. During the race, the routes will be closed off by volunteers. The road is mostly two-lane, but there may be bottlenecks on some sections of the route.

Although we check and clean the entire route several times in advance, asphalt damage, dirt etc. may still occur at short notice.

Please ride carefully and point out any potential hazards to other participants.

## KOM in Sand

Tough mountain classification for our Velodom riders

At the Velodom 70 and 130 the "mountain goats" among you can show what you've got again:

Over a length of approx. 580m, the KOM leads uphill on Dombach-Sander-Straße in Bergisch Gladbach-Sand with a gradient of 11.8% in some places. Your time is automatically measured via your timing chip. In the Velodom 130, the faster time of the two passes counts for the overall classification.

Crank it up a notch on this section of the route! The fastest riders can look forward to a surprise afterwards!

## Timing

Timing for all competitions is carried out using a [race result](#) transponder which is to be attached to the seat post.

You do not need any additional owned or rental chip.

According to regulations, the first 50 arriving male/first 15 arriving female participants are ranked by gun time (gross finish time), all following participants are ranked based on their net riding time measured by their seat post transponder.

Make sure to stay within the given time limit.

The driver of the sweeper bus and the course marshals will give you a signal in good time if you fall outside the time limit.

As soon as the sweeper bus overtakes you, you are outside the secured course and are NO longer in the competition. You are then no longer insured and the StVO applies, which you must adhere to. You can then complete the route independently. Alternatively, a bus will take you to the finish area.

For the individual races this means:

- Velodom 70 at least an average of 25 kilometers per hour
- Velodom 130 at least an average of 28 kilometers per hour
- There is no specified average speed for the Velodom 30

## Technical service

There will be a large [Schwalbe](#) stand at the Bike.EXPO. The support of RR-Bikes team, the colleagues on site will help with bike adjustments or minor repairs.

There will be a [Schwalbe](#) support vehicle in every race to help you in the event of a breakdown.

## Eventpoints and Hotspots

Numerous [event points along the route](#) will give you the extra motivation you need on the way to the finish:

In the municipality of Kürten you will find the hotspot that is visited most frequently and by everyone. You will find this event point in Kürten- Spitze from the Kapellengemeinschaft Spitze e.V. Here in the center of the race, the pros and amateur athletes will pass by a total of six times. There will be a lively atmosphere!



In Bergisch Gladbach, the SSV Ommerborn Sand will be active at the end of August-Sander-Straße - followed by the legendary cobblestone passage to Bensberg Castle, where the Bergisch Gladbach Sports Office and presenter Sebastian Hempfling will get the best out of you.

Before heading back to the Rheinauhafen in Cologne, the route traditionally leads past the "Schmitze Bud", which will reopen for our race after a change of ownership and will offer one or two highlights.

A cold Mühlen free beer will be waiting for you at the finish!

The event points in the municipality of Wipperfürth are only visited by the top teams, but several times, so there is a lot of action. The civic associations or communities in Wipperfeld, Wipperfürth, Agathaberg and Thier each have the pleasure of letting the elite field pass twice!

So, you can look forward to lots of support from the sidelines!

### **Sweeper bus**

Should you fall out of the time limit the driver of the sweeper bus will let you know.

You are then no longer in competition. From that point onwards you are outside the competition area and must adhere to the StVO. Make your way back to Harry-Blum-Platz by bike. Only in emergency situations can the sweeper bus pick you up. The bus follows the field for the entire course before dropping you off at Harry-Blum-Platz.

### **Finish at the Rheinauhafen**

After you have crossed the Severinsbrücke bridge with a view of the Dom back on the left bank of the Rhine, there is an approx. 700-meter-long stretch to the [finish](#) directly along the Rheinauhafen.

There will be spectators everywhere to cheer your last few meters - until you can cross the finish line in front of the large grandstand to the roar of the crowd - just like the pros.

After crossing the finish line, you can roll (not ride!) on to the refreshment area.

### **After the race**

**NEW: Bike parking at the finish**

What to do with your bike after the finish? Isn't it a bit of an annoying "accessory" in the refreshment village, at the Bike.EXPO or when following the live stream?

We have a solution: guarded bike parking spaced in the immediate post-finish area!

Less congestion, more flexibility, more fun!

Please note: The number of spaces available is very limited! No booking will be possible on the day of the event.

The bike parking lot is open from 12:00 to 17:00.

Simply book when you [register](#) online – or via the change link if you are already signed up!

## Showers

Showers and changing rooms will be available in the Grundschule Zwirnerstraße on Saturday between 12:00 and 20:00 and on Sunday from 08:00 to 18:00.

## Bike.EXPO

The [Bike.EXPO](#) will still be open for you after your finish until 17:00. Come to Harry-Blum-Platz, check out the expo, chat with others, watch the live stream of the elite race and be front and center at their spectacular finish in the Rheinauhafen.

## Award ceremonies

The fastest three riders overall and the top three teams in the Velodom 70 and 130 will be honoured on the award ceremony stage on the day of the event.

The Studi-Werk Cup (Velodom 70 and 130) awards will also take place on race day. If you are hoping to win this title, please have your valid student ID on hand.

Detailed timetable for Sunday:

- 13:10 Velodom 130 TOP 1-3 m/f
- 13:20 Velodom 70 TOP 1-3 m/f
- 13:35 Velodom 130 TOP 1-3 Teams
- 13:45 Velodom 70 TOP 1-3 Teams
- 14:00-14:30 music act: Funky Marys
- 14:40 Kölner Studi-Werk-Cup Velodom 130 TOP 1-3 m/f
- 14:50 Kölner Studi-Werk-Cup Velodom 70 TOP 1-3 m/f

## Results

The (unofficial) results can be found [here](#).

According to regulations, the first 50 arriving male/first 15 arriving female participants are ranked by gun time (gross finish time), all following participants are ranked based on their net riding time measured by their seat post transponder.

You will be able to view the final and official results list approx. 8 days after the event (end of the objection period).

You will also find a link to your personal certificate under your name.

## Photos

[Sportograf](#) is our official photo partner. The photographers will capture [your sporting performance](#) several times at various points along the route.

The offer includes individual photos, the photo package or upgraded photo products such as the photo with the finisher's time or a photo certificate.

To get a nice selection of photos, please wear your race numbers clearly visible!

[Click here for the photos.](#)

## Elite-race live stream on the video wall

From 11:00, we will be broadcasting the elite race live on the digital LED finish arch and on the video wall on Harry-Blum-Platz.

So, if you have crossed the finish line yourself, you can relax and watch the pros' race on the video wall and witness them cross the finish line live on site!

We also stream the race online on:

- Our website
- [Our Youtube channel](#)
- [Wdr.de](#)
- [Sportschau.de](#)

## Help

## Hotline

In the week before the event (Monday to Saturday) you can reach us from 09:00 to 17:00 and on race day (Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>) from 07:00 to 16:00 under this number: +49 221 33 77 73 11

If you have any questions about travelling by public transport and the timetables for Cologne's busses and trains on Sunday, please call the KVB's "schlaue Nummer": +49 1805 50 4030 (9 cents/minutes from a German landline; mobile max. 42 cents/minute)

### **Medical assistance**

ASB Cologne will be there for you with paramedics and doctors along the entire route and in the start/finish area.

This medical staff is also authorized to remove athletes with signs of injury and/or overexertion from the race for their own safety.

Recommendation: Please refrain from starting if you have any signs of a cold or infection. Your body will thank you for it.