



108th SCHELDEPRIJS

October 14

In 2002 Robbie McEwen won the 90th Scheldeprijs (ahead of Tom Steels). He was the first Australian on the long honors list. Only eighteen years later he gets a successor: Caleb Ewan, the small, ultra-fast kangaroo, spearheading the Lotto team won, just like Robbie at that time, with great dominance, on the Churchilllaan in Schoten. Caleb was untouchable, for Pascal Ackermann, Niccoló Bonifazio and Bryan Coquard. Pascal Ackermann was disqualified immediately after the finish. The German unable to match Ewan's sprint, moved from his line, causing a touch of wheels and leading to the crash of August Jensen (Den), Pierre Barbier (Fra) and Ivan Garcia (Esp). The jury did not hesitate and posted Bonifazio and Coquard on two and three. 169 riders started (due to the corona pandemic, not in Terneuzen but in Schoten!). Nathan Van Hooydonck was the first attacker. Moments later an early break with eight riders was formed: Mark Cavendish (three-time winner!), Gruzdev, Schär, McCabe, Juul Jensen, Wirtgen, Askey and Havik, but as expected, in the final lap they were caught by the peloton. The race story is thus written, but what preceded this edition in the conference room of the organization was of a different order. Due to the corona pandemic, the Scheldeprijs could not take place on the originally scheduled date (April 8th). In the end, the race was postponed to October 14th. The cycling fans were asked to follow the Scheldeprijs from the television at their homes. Due the corona situation and the decision of the Dutch government, the start wasn't be given in Terneuzen, but in Schoten. The first time since 1995. In addition, the race was limited to ten local laps, just like in... 1982! The Churchilllaan and the center of Schoten were desolate. A very strange experience, but there was no other option, it was either that or canceling the race. The 108th edition will be remembered in history as a very exceptional one: without an audience, in October, never seen before!

ROADMAP : 10 local laps

Schoten: Churchilllaan, Markt, Gelmelenstraat, Rodeborgstraat, Kruispadstraat, Theo van Cauwenberghlei, brug 14 Kempisch Kanaal, Villerslei, A Servaislei, A Nahonlei, Koningshoflei, Bosschaert de Bouwellei, Wezelsebaan, Botermelkbaan - *'s Gravenwezel*: De Kaak, Wijnegemsesteenweg - *Wijnegem*: 's Gravenwezelsesteenweg, Albertkanaalbaan - *Schoten*: Hoogmolendijk, Metropoolstraat, Kruiningenstraat, E Steursstaat, Calesberghdreef, Churchilllaan - total 175 km.



RESULT

169 participants

Caleb Ewan (Aus), 175 km in 3h34m38s (48,921 km/h); 2. Niccolò Bonifazio (Ita); 3. Bryan Coquard (Fra); 4. Tim Merlier; 5. Jasper Philipsen; 6. Amaury Capiot; 7. Arvid de Kleijn (Ned); 8. Sam Bennett (Irl); 9. Itamar Einhorn (Isr); 10. Romain Cardis (Fra); 11. Nacer Bouhanni (Fra); 12. Michaël Van Staeyen; 13. Alexander Kristoff (Nor); 14. Edward Theuns; 15. Hugo Hofstetter (Fra);

16. Reinardt Janse van Rensburg (Rsa); 17. Max Kanter (Ger); 18. Davide Martinelli (Ita); 19. Alfdan De Decker; 20. Jake Stewart (Gbr); 21. Pascal Ackermann (Ger); 22. Evaldas Siskevicius (Ltu) at 5"; 23. Bert Van Lerberghe; 24. Guillaume Boivin (Can); 25. Dusan Rajovic (Srb); 26. Piet Allegaert; 27. Luka Mezgec (Slo); 28. Ryan Mullen (Irl); 29. Christophe Laporte (Fra); 30. Florian Sénéchal (Fra) at 9"; 31. Jakub Mareczko (Ita) at 10"; 32. Rui Oliveira (Por) at 13"; 33. Maximilian Walscheid (Ger) at 15"; 34. Sasha Weemaes; 35. Artyom Zakahrov (Kaz); 36. Enzo Wouters; 37. Carlos Rodriguez Cano (Esp); 38. Maxime De Poorter; 39. Lindsay De Vylder; 40. Laurens De Vreese at 21"; 41. Jasper De Buyst at 23"; 42. Alexander Konychev (Ita); 43. Lionel Taminiaux; 44. Jonas Koch (Ger); 45. Jacob Relaes; 46. Aksel Nømmela (Est); 47. Jack Bauer (Nzl); 48. Gijs Van Hoecke; 49. Tom Van Asbroeck; 50. Guillaume Van Keirsbulck; 51. Wesley Kreder (Ned); 52. Elmar Reinders (Ned); 53. Yevgeniy Gidich (Kaz) at 27"; 54. Sacha Modolo (Ita); 55. Barnabás Peák (Hun); 56. Jasper Stuyven; 57. Jérémy Lecroq (Fra); 58. Joris Nieuwenhuys (Ned); 59. Cees Bol (Ned); 60. Nathan Van Hooydonck; 61. Alexander Krieger (Ger); 62. Cedric Beullens at 30"; 63. Florian Vermeersch; 64. Connor Swift (Gbr); 65. Julien Vermote; 66. Jonas Rickaert; 67. Otto Vergaerde; 68. Eduard-Michael Grosu (Rou); 69. Jens Debusschere; 70. Dmitriy Gruzdev (Kaz); 71. Alexander Richardson (Gbr); 72. Stefan Küng (Sui); 73. Jonas Castrique; 74. Edvald Boasson Hagen (Nor); 75. Mickael Delage (Fra); 76. Olivier Le Gac (Fra); 77. Fred Wright (Gbr); 78. Bram Welten (Ned); 79. Daniil Fominykh (Kaz); 80. Biniam Hailu (Eri); 81. Julien Morice (Fra); 82. Frederik Backaert; 83. Danny van Poppel (Ned); 84. Fumiyuki Beppu (Jpn); 85. Milan Menten; 86. Fabian Lienhard (Sui); 87. Leonardo Basso (Ita) at 41"; 88. Jannik Steimle (Ger); 89. Norman Vahtra (Est); 90. Kaden Groves (Aus); 91. Boy van Poppel (Ned); 92. Jean-Pierre Drucker (Lux) at 45"; 93. Michael Schwarzmann (Ger); 94. Alexander Edmondson (Aus) at 48"; 95. Robbe Ghys; 96. Kenny De Ketele; 97. Roger Kluge (Ger) at 51"; 98. Damien Touze (Fra) at 52"; 99. Piotr Haviak (Ned); 100. Alex Kirsch (Lux) at 57"; 101. Adrien Petit (Fra) at 59"; 102. Hugo Houle (Can); 103. Gianni Marchand at 1'02"; 104. Nikolas Maes at 1'03"; 105. Frederik Frison; 106. Niklas Märkl (Ger) at 1'05"; 107. Cyril Lemoine (Fra); 108. Tom Wirtgen (Lux) at 1'06"; 109. Florian Maitre (Fra) at 1'08"; 110. Anthony Turgis (Fra); 111. Dries Van Gestel; 112. Adrien Garel (Fra); 113. Geoffrey Soupe (Fra); 114. Vegard Stake Laengen (Nor); 115. Sondre Holst Enger (Nor); 116. Daniel Oss (Ita); 117. Rasmus Fossum Tiller (Nor) at 1'11"; 118. Senne Leysen at 1'13"; 119. Christian Knees (Ger); 120. Sean De Bie; 121. Francisco Ventoso Alberdi (Esp); 122. Zdeněk Štybar (Cze) at 1'15"; 123. Rüdiger Selig (Ger); 124. Leon Heinschke (Ger); 125. Andreas Schillinger (Ger); 126. Joel Suter (Sui); 127. Sven Erik Byström (Nor); 128. Marco Haller (Aut); 129. Tom Bohli (Sui); 130. Chun Kai Feng (Tpe); 131. Kévin Geniets (Lux); 132. Michael Schär (Sui); 133. Travis McCabe (Usa); 134. Christopher Juul Jensen (Den); 135. Lewis Askey (Gbr); 136. Marcus Burghardt (Ger); 137. Elias Van Breussegem; 138. André Greipel (Ger) at 1'24"; 139. Ludwig De Winter; 140. Dylan van Baarle (Ned); 141. Brian van Goethem (Ned) at 1'26"; 142. Luka Pibernik (Slo) at 1'46"; 143. Mark Cavendish (Gbr) at 1'47"; 144. Samuele Bastistella (Ita) at 1'49"; 145. Luc Wirtgen (Lux) at 1'51"; 146. Michael Gogl (Aut) at 1'52"; 147. Ivo Oliveira (Por); 148. Thomas Boudat (Fra) at 2'22"; 149. Tom Skujins (Lat) at 3'06"; 150. Tobias Mørch Kongstad (Den) at 3'11"; 151. Julien Trarieux (Fra) at 3'19"; 152. Christopher Lawless (Gbr) at 3'27"; 153. Yves Lampaert; 154. Sonny Colbrelli (Ita) at 3'38"; 155. Kiel Reijnen (Usa) at 4'29"; 156. Clément Russo (Fra) at 5'09"; 157. Christophe Noppe at 5'21"; 158. Kris Boeckmans at 5'55"

DNS Shane Archbold (Nzl)

DNF Ivan Garcia Cortina (Esp); Jay Robert Thomson (Rsa); Owain Doull (Gbr); Alberto Dainese (Ita); Casper Pedersen (Den); Mads Pedersen (Den); Pierre Barbier (Fra); Martijn Budding (Ned); August Jensen (Nor); Donovan Vincent Grondin (Fra); Ylber Sefa (Alb)



Caleb Ewan
(°Sydney 11.07.1994)



The little Australian (Korean mother, Australian father) is one of the best sprinters of his generation. He has won five stages in the Tour (3 in '19, 2 in '20), five in the Giro (1 in '17, 2 in '19, 2 in '21) and one in the Vuelta (!15). He won the Hamburg Classic in 2016, the Tour of Korea in 2015. In the smaller tours he won: 9 stages in the Tour Down Under (2 in '16, 4 in '17, 1 in '18, 2 in '20) and the points classification in '17, 1 stage in the Tirreno-Adriatico ('22), 1 stage in the Tour of the Basque Country ('25), 2 stages in the Tour of Poland (1 in '17, 1 in '18), and 1 stage in the Eneco Tour ('21). As a youth rider he became 2nd in the World U23 Championships in 2014 (Ponferrada) and he was stage winner in the Tour of the Future. Caleb Ewan was designated to be on the honors list of the Scheldeprijs, and that has happened in this edition. His career as a pro started on October 1, 2014 and ended unexpectedly on May 6, 2025.

René Vermeiren



109th SCHELDEPRIJS

April 7

JASPER PHILIPSEN, FIRST BELGIUM WINNER, 15 YEARS AFTER TOM BOONEN

Again a Scheldeprijs in the spring, after the October edition of 2020. Still, it took quite some effort before the 109th edition could take-off in Terneuzen. The official go-ahead for the race was not given until a few hours before due to the harsh weather conditions with strong winds and isolated snow showers combined with the still lingering ghost of Corona. It was also the Corona virus that already eliminated some of the teams even before the race was started. The teams of Trek Segafredo with ex-world champion Mads Pedersen and Groupama-FDJ with French champion Arnaud Demare, were not allowed to start. Still 149 riders, among them several top sprinters, left Terneuzen at 12:45 pm.

As expected, immediately after the start, the peloton split into several echelons. Pushed by a tail wind the riders competed 50km in the first hour. A first echelon with 14 riders was formed by Bennett, Philipsen, Van Moer, Ackermann, Schwarzmann, Burghardt, Politt, Morkov, Danny van Poppel, Vahtra, Nizzolo, Walscheid, Rickaert and Russ.

A second group, 40 seconds behind (" (Kristoff, Merlier, Bol, Cavendish, S  n  chal, De Bondt, Dewulf, Selig, Van Lerberghe, Koch, Mozzato, Siskevicius, Van Gestel, Van Schip, Bugter, Havik), and the peloton at 1'45". After a long battle the first two groups merged and the right train had left the station, the peloton wouldn't see them again. When approaching Schoten Tim Merlier missed a curve and took Alexander Kristoff along in his fall, both had to suspend the race. No other major events occurred and a group of 29 riders went to the finish in Schoten. The main favorite, Sam Bennett, was surprisingly beaten by Jasper Philipsen, the first Belgium winner since Tom Boonen (2006!), Mark Cavendish completed the podium (for the sixth time after his first win in 2007) at 3rd place.

ROADMAP :

NL Terneuzen - Borsele - Kapelle - Reimerswaal - Woensdrecht >>> **B** Antwerpen - Stabroek - Kapellen Brasschaat - Brecht - Schilde - Brecht - 'sGravenwezel (Schild  ) - Wijnegem - Schoten >>> 3 local laps of 16,7 km Schoten - 'sGravenwezel (Schild  ) - Wijnegem - Schoten. Total 194,2 km.



The 8-year-old world champion Jasper in 2006 with his idol Tom Boonen.

Fifteen years later Jasper is the Belgian successor of Tom on the glorious Scheldeprijs honors list!



FOTO: GOYVAERTS/GMAX AGENCY

RESULTS

149 participants

1. Jasper Philipsen 194.2 km in 4h03m30s (47,803 km/h); 2. Sam Bennett (Irl); 3. Mark Cavendish (Gbr); 4. Danny van Poppel (Ned); 5. Clément Russo (Fra); 6. Pascal Ackermann (Ger); 7. Luca Mozzato (Ita); 8. Giacomo Nizzolo (Ita); 9. Marc Sarreau (Fra); 10. Dries Van Gestel; 11. Evaldas Siskevicius (Ltu); 12. Maximilian Walscheid (Ger); 13. Jonas Rickaert; 14. Nils Politt (Ger);

15. Jan Willem van Schip (Ned);

16. Norman Vahtra (Est); 17. Luuc Bugter (Ned); 18. Piotr Havik (Ned); 19. Brent Van Moer; 20. Cees Bol (Ned); 21. Søren Wærenskjold (Nor); 22. Michael Mørkøv (Den); 23. Marcus Burghardt (Ger) at 7"; 24. Dries De Bondt; 25. Bert Van Lerberghe at 16"; 26. Stan Dewulf at 17"; 27. Rüdiger Selig (Ger) at 20"; 28. Michael Schwarzmann (Ger); 29. Jonas Koch (Ger); 30. Dusan Rajovic (Srb) at 1'21"; 31. Elia Viviani (Ita); 32. Niccolò Bonifazio (Ita); 33. Alexander Kristoff (Nor); 34. Yoeri Havik (Ned); 35. Pieter Vanspeybrouck; 36. Cyril Lemoine (Fra); 37. John Degenkolb (Ger); 38. Julien Duval (Fra); 39. Boy van Poppel (Ned); 40. Hugo Hofstetter (Fra); 41. Arvid de Kleijn (Ned); 42. Matis Louvel (Fra); 43. Stanislaw Aniolkowski (Pol); 44. Bryan Coquard (Fra); 45. Anthony Julien (Fra); 46. Lionel Taminiaux; 47. Timothy Dupont; 48. Eduard-Michael Grosu (Rou); 49. Martin Bugge Urianstad (Nor); 50. Victor Campenaerts; 51. Tosh Van der Sande; 52. Pierre Barbier (Fra); 53. Tom Van Asbroeck; 54. Yevgeniy Fedorov (Kaz); 55. Christophe Noppe; 56. Martijn Budding (Ned); 57. Aaron Verwilt; 58. Alberto Dianese (Ita); 59. Ryan Gibbons (Rsa); 60. Bert De Backer; 61. Milan Menten; 62. Gijs Van Hoecke; 63. Damien Touze (Fra); 64. Sven Erik Bystrøm (Nor); 65. Vegard Stake Laengen (Nor); 66. Senne Leysen; 67. Wesley Kreder (Ned); 68. Tim Merlier; 69. Shane Archbold (Nzl) at 1'30"; 70. Iljo Keisse; 71. August Jensen (Nor); 72. Lars Saugstad (Nor); 73. Edvald Boasson Hagen (Nor) at 1'32"; 74. Florian Sénéchal (Fra) at 1'33"; 75. Simone Consonni (Ita) at 1'50"; 76. Dimitri Claeys at 1'55"; 77. Piet Allegaert at 2'23"

DNS Arnaud Démare (Fra); Jacopo Guarnieri (Ita); Antoine Duchesne (Fra); Lewis Askey (Gbr); Ramon Sinkeldam (Ned); Tobias Ludvigsson (Swe); Ignatas Konovalovas (Ltu); Matteo Dal-Cin (Can); de Vos Adam (Can); Nacer Bouhanni (Fra)

DNF Roger Kluge (Ger); Frederik Frison; Gerben Thijssen; Florian Vermeersch; Lawrence Naesen; Gleb Brussenskiy Gleb (Kaz); Yevgeniy Gidich (Kaz); Dmitriy Gruzdev (Kaz); Benjamin Perry (Can); Artyom Zakharov (Kaz); Martin Laas (Est); Andreas Schillinger (Ger); Tom Bohli (Sui); Szymon Sajnok (Pol); Kenneth Vanbilsen; Jelle Wallays; Riccardo Minali (Ita); Taco van der Hoorn (Ned); Rudy Barbier (Fra); Jenthe Biermans; Guillaume Boivin (Can); Davide Cimolai (Ita); Nikias Arndt (Ger); Casper van Uden (Ned); Niklas Märkl (Ger); Martin Alexander Salmon (Ger); Lasse Norman Hansen (Den); Andreas Stokbro Nielsen (Den); Matteo Pelucchi (Ita); Maximiliano Ariel Richeze (Arg); Ivo Oliveira (Por); Rui Oliveira (Por); Alexander Richardson (Gbr); Jérémy Lecroq (Fra); Julien Morice (Fra); Jonas Van Genechten; Jonas Castrique; Sean De Bie; Laurenz Rex; Boris Vallée; Clément Carisey (Fra); José Gonçalves (Por); Robin Carpenter (Usa); Pier Andre Coté (Can); Magnus Sheffield (Usa); Nickolas Zukowsky (Can); Kenny De Ketele; Arne Marit; Thimo Willems; Robbe Ghys; Ward Vanhoof; Sasha Weemaes; Donovan Vincent Grondin (Fra); Daniel McLay (Gbr); Bram Welten (Ned); Damien Gaudin (Fra); Florian Maitre (Fra); Lorenzo Manzin (Fra); Adrien Petit (Fra); Kristoffer Halvorsen (Nor); Julius Johansen (Den); Niklas Larsen (Den); Frederik Madsen (Den); Stefano Museeuw; Marten Kooistra (Ned); Michaël Van Staeyen; Jonathan Brown (Usa); Jeroen Eyskens; Sean Nolan (Irl); Oskar Nisu (Est); Ben Walsh (Irl); Vitor Zucco Schizzi (Bra)

Jasper Philipsen
(°Mol 02.03.1998)



The 2021 season didn't start that successful for Jasper Philipsen. Of course, after the win in Schoten the odds have turned and Jasper now can continue his hunt for victories with a load of self-esteem.

Since this year he is a rider of the Alpecin-Fenix team in which he has to prove himself, next to Mathieu van der Poel and colleague-sprinter Tim Merlier Philipsen, only 23 years old, is one of Belgium most talented riders and has proven that he can compete at the international stage. He confirmed his talent with a win in the Vuelta and a stage in the Tour Down Under in 2020 and with several close results as 21-year old in the Tour de France. As amateur he won Paris-Tours in 2017. Hamburger Philipsen (Jasper lives in the Limburg town of Ham) is a very promising winner of the Schelderpijs!

René Vermeiren



110th SCHELDEPRIJS

April 6

ALEXANDER KRISTOFF, TRUE VIKING TRIUMPHS OVER THE WEATHER

After the Covid-19 pandemic, there were high expectations for the first Scheldeprijs. This did not deter the weather maker, which resulted in plenty of wind and rain, the perfect ingredients to get off to a flying start in Terneuzen and turn it into a real race against the wind.

The 136 starters had the same idea, which meant the peloton was soon in pieces, spread out over the blustery Zeeland roads. A first group, initially consisting of 19, then 15 and finally 14 riders, immediately took a half-minute lead and would never be overtaken, however hard the second group, including three riders from Quickstep-Alpha Vinyl and from Lotto-Soudal, struggled to make a comeback. Unfortunately for them, the leaders were far ahead and stayed there.

The frontrunners (Selig, Kristoff, Bennett, Meeus, Mullen, Van Poppel, Bol, Van Uden, Welsford, Theuns, McLay, Waerenskjold, Philipsen and Merlier) reached Schoten with around a 40-second lead. It gradually decreased and it became clear that the winner was out front. Most predictions focused on the Alpecin-Fenix duo Philipsen-Merlier but it was soon obvious that, like the other frontrunners, they were running out of steam. All except one: Alexander Kristoff, who had claimed victory seven years earlier. The strong Norwegian of the Walloon Intermarché-Wanty-Groupe Gobert, launched a ferocious attack on the cobbled Broekstraat. With his surging pedal strokes, impressive strength, *and full of determination*, Alexander, powered towards Churchillaan where he won the Scheldeprijs for the second time!

ROADMAP :

NL Terneuzen - Borsele - Kapelle - Reimerswaal - Woensdrecht >>> **B** Kapellen - Brasschaat - Schoten Brecht - Schilde - Brecht - 'sGravenwezel (Schildre) - Wijnegem - Schoten >>> 3 local laps of 17,2 km traject Schoten - 'sGravenwezel (Schildre) - Wijnegem - Schoten. Total 198,7 km.



RESULT

136 participants

1. Alexander Kristoff (Nor) 198.7 km in 4h06m02s (48,457 km/h); 2. Danny van Poppel (Ned) at 24"; 3. Sam Welsford (Aus); 4. Casper van Uden (Ned) at 26"; 5. Edward Theuns; 6. Kenneth Vanbilsen at 28"; 7. Daniel McLay (Gbr); 8. Jasper Philipsen; 9. Tim Merlier; 10. Ryan Mullan (Irl); 11. Rüdiger Selig (Ger); 12. Jordi Meeus; 13. Sam Bennett (Irl); 14. Arnaud De Lie at 3'32"; 15. Fabio Jakobsen (Ned); 16. Nils Politt (Ger); 17. Tobias Andresen (Den); 18. Luca Mozzato (Ita); 19. Szymon Sajnok (Pol); 20. Emils Liepins (Lat); 21. Kenneth Van Rooy; 22. Luka Mezgec (Slo); 23. Florian Vermeersch at 3'35"; 24. Stijn Steels; 25. Michael Mørkøv at 3'37"; 26. Brent Van Moer; 27. Guillaume Van Keirsbulck at 3'39"; 28. Julien Morice (Fra) at 3'57"; 29. Zdeněk Štybar (Cze) at 4'14"; 30. Daan Hoole (Ned) at 6'23"

DNS Aaron Verwilt

DNF Maurice Ballerstedt (Ger); Senne Leysen; Edward Planckaert; Lionel Taminiaux; Iljo Keisse; Jannik Steimle (Ger); Ethan Vernon (Gbr); Cedric Beullens; Roger Kluge (Ger); Michael Schwarzmann (Ger); Aimé De Gendt; Tom Devriendt; Barnabás Peák (Hun); Baptiste Planckaert; Gerben Thijssen; Boy van Poppel (Ned); Martin Laas (Est); Marco Haller (Aut); Piet Allegaert; Tom Böhli (Sui); Alexandre Delettre (Fra); Dylan Groenewegen (Ned); Alexandre Balmer (Sui); Alexander Edmondson (Aus); Samuel Bewley (Nzl); Kelland O'Brien (Aus); Campbell Stewart (Nzl); Cees Bol (Ned); Nico Denz (Ger); Niklas Märkl (Ger); Alberto Dainese (Ita); Jon Aberasturi Izaga (Esp); Otto Vergaerde; Matteo Moschetti (Ita); Pascal Ackermann (Ger); Felix Groß (Ger); Juan Sebastian Molano Benavides (Col); Vegard Stake Laengen (Nor); Oliviero Troia (Ita); Miguel Heidemann (Ger); Raphael Parisella (Can); Adrien Lagree (Fra); Cyril Lemoine (Fra); Sacha Modolo (Ita); Iker Bonillo Martin (Esp); Luca Colnaghi (Ita); Filippo Fiorelli (Ita); Davide Gabburo (Ita); Enrico Zanoncello (Ita); Samuele Zoccarato (Ita); Timothy Dupont; Stanislaw Aniolkowski (Pol); Dorian De Maeght; Karl Patrick Lauk (Est); Tom Wirtgen (Lux); Peyskens Dimitri; Ludovic Robeet; Sasha Weemaes; Ruben Apers; Jens Reynders; Aaron Van Poucke; Arne Marit; Nacer Bouhanni (Fra); Christophe Noppe; Benjamin Declercq; Donavan Vincent Grondin (Fra); Kevin Ledanois (Fra); Markus Pajur (Est); Hamish Beadle (Nzl); Robbe Ceurens; Stephen Clancy (Irl); Declan Irvine (Aus); Matyáš Kopecký (Cze); Andrea Peron (Ita); Umberto Poli (Ita); Niccolò Bonifazio (Ita); Maciej Bodnar (Pol); Sandy Dujardin (Fra); Geoffrey Soupe (Fra); Jonas Abrahamsen (Nor); Kristoffer Halvorsen (Nor); Stian Edvardsen-Fredheim (Nor); Lars Saugstad (Nor); Søren Wærnskjold (Nor); Syver Wærsted (Nor); Matthijs Büchli (Ned); Jente Boons; Jordy Bouts; Stijn Daemen (Ned); Bram Dissel (Ned); Vincent Hoppezak (Ned); Jchem Kerkhaert (Ned); Michaël Van Staeyen; Daire Feeley (Irl); Eamon Franck (Usa); Dylan Guinet (Fra); Mitchell Mc Laughlin (Irl); Conn McDunphy (Irl); Maarten Verheyen; Gilles Borra; Gil D'Heygere; Thomas Joseph; Matthew Van Schoor; Enrico Dhaeye; Jorre Debaele; Yentl Vandevelde



Alexander Kristoff
(°Oslo 05.07.1987)



The now 34-year-old Norwegian, currently in his thirteenth professional season, has racked up a stunning record. 2015 was a great year for him, during which he won a series of races in Qatar, Oman, Paris-Nice and triumphed at the three-day De Panne, the Tour of Flanders and the Scheldeprijs. In 2014, he won Milan-San Remo and two stages of the Tour de France. In 2017, he became European champion, in 2018 won a stage of the Tour de France, in 2019 Gent-Wevelgem, in 2020 the first stage of the Tour de France and the yellow jersey. This year he is

racing for Interimarché-Wanty-Groupe Gobert and has already won the Clásica Almería and now the Scheldeprijs for the second time. Kristoff was a pro from 2010 until 2025. From 2023 until 2025, he rode for the Norwegian Pro Continental team Uno-X Mobility.

René Vermeiren



111th SCHELDEPRIJS

April 5

JASPER PHILIPSEN, THE FASTEST IN THE WORLD?

Under bright spring sunshine, 142 riders set off from Terneuzen. Casper Pedersen (Soudal Quick-Step) and Shane Archbold (Bora Hansgrohe) do not start because of illness. Taking part is: Mathieu van der Poel. Following the example of (in the past) Cancellara and Sagan, he is coming to warm up for Paris-Roubaix and that should motivate top favourite Jasper Philipsen even more.

The weather is beautiful, there is little wind, everyone is in good spirits and the peloton lets a group of seven riders go for the traditional early escape: Cyriel Desal, Ruben Apers, Filippo Ridolfo, Bram Dissel, Vincent Hoppezak, Giulio Masotto and Josh Kench. They build up a lead of no more than four minutes. Thus the peloton is keeping them within range. The last 4 of the early escapees, Cyriel Desal, Ruben Apers, Filippo Ridolfo and Bram Dissel are caught on the last local lap, 4 km from the finish. The expected mass sprint is inevitable. Mathieu van der Poel is pushing the pace but takes no part in the sprint. One who does is top favourite Jasper Philipsen. He smoothly gets the measure of Sam Welsford (second last year) and Mark Cavendish, who continues to add to his record in the Scheldeprijs (3x1st, 2x2nd, 2x3rd, or 7x podium in 8 attempts). The 'vlam van Ham' takes the Scheldeprijs for the second time. In the press we read: "Philipsen is the fastest sprinter in the world"!

ROADMAP

NL Terneuzen - Borsele - Kapelle - Reimerswaal - Woensdrecht - Bergen-Op-Zoom - Woensdrecht >>>

B Essen - Kalmthout - Wuustwezel - Hoogstraten - Brecht - Schilde - Sint-Job-in-'t-Goor (Brecht) - 'sGravenwezel (Schilder) - Wijnegem - Schoten >>> 3 local laps of 16,9 km Schoten - 'sGravenwezel (Schilder) - Wijnegem - Schoten. Total 205,3 km.



RESULT

142 participants

1. Jasper Philipsen 205.3 km in 4h25m38s (46,372 km/h); 2. Sam Welsford (Aus); 3. Mark Cavendish (Gbr); 4. Dylan Groenewegen (Ned); 5. Gerben Thijssen; 6. Edward Theuns; 7. Caleb Ewan (Aus); 8. Maximilian Richard Walscheid (Ger); 9. Itamar Einhorn (Isr); 10. Giacomo Nizzolo (Ita); 11. Stanislaw Aniolkowski (Pol); 12. Matyáš Kopecký (Cze); 13. Matteo Moschetti (Ita); 14. Taj Jones (Aus); 15. Jordi Meeus;

16. Luca Mozzato (Ita); 17. Kristoffer Halvorsen (Nor); 18. Daniel McLay (Gbr); 19. Adam De Vos (Can); 20. Madis Mihkels (Est); 21. Rory Townsend (Irl); 22. Casper van Uden (Ned); 23. Attilio Viviani (Ita); 24. Samuele Zambelli (Ita); 25. August Jensen (Nor); 26. Gil D'Heygere; 27. Lindsay De Vylder; 28. Riley Pickrell (Can); 29. Alexander Konychev (Ita); 30. Ewan Costiou (Fra); 31. Aaron Gate (Nzl); 32. Jasper De Buyst; 33. Alexander Salby (Den); 34. Jonas Rickaert; 35. Fabio Jakobsen (Ned); 36. Otto Vergaerde; 37. Jens Reynders; 38. Declan Irvine (Aus); 39. Lorenzo Quartucci (Ita); 40. Karl Patrick Lauk (Est); 41. Vito Braet at 6"; 42. Emils Liepins (Lat); 43. Ryan Mullen (Irl); 44. Piet Allegaert; 45. Bert Van Lerberghe; 46. Florian Sénéchal (Fra); 47. Arne Marit; 48. Yoei Havik (Ned); 49. Andrii Ponomar (Ukr); 50. Eddy Fine (Fra); 51. Ward Vanhoof; 52. Ramon Sinkeldam (Ned); 53. Mathias Vacek (Cze); 54. Rick Zabel (Ger); 55. Søren Wærenskjold (Nor); 56. Hugo Hofstetter (Fra); 57. Rotem Tene (Isr); 58. Jasper Dejaegher; 59. Hamish Beadle (Nzl); 60. Roel van Sintmaartensdijk (Ned) at 12"; 61. Igor Chzhan (Kaz) at 14"; 62. Alex Colman; 63. Ollie Jones (Nzl); 64. Sander De Pestel; 65. Nicolás Parisini (Ita); 66. Alexander Edmondson (Aus); 67. Simone Olivero (Ita); 68. Gijs Van Hoecke; 69. Guillaume Van Keirsbulck; 70. Cerial Desal; 71. Thibaut Bernard; 72. Wessel Krul (Ned); 73. Sam Brand (Gbr); 74. Mitchel Fitzsimons (Nzl); 75. Louis Blouwe; 76. Umberto Poli (Ita); 77. Boy van Poppel (Ned); 78. Matthijs Büchli (Ned); 79. Kamil Malecki (Pol); 80. Antonio Barac (Cro); 81. Thijs Zonneveld (Ned); 82. Gleb Syritsa (xxx); 83. Antonio Puppio (Ita); 84. Luke Mudgway (Nzl); 85. Gilles De Wilde; 86. Gmitriy Gruzdev (Kaz); 87. Patrick Gamber (Aut); 88. Alexander Kristoff (Nor) at 20"; 89. Tord Gudmestad (Nor); 90. Stan Van Tricht at 24"; 91. Luka Mezgec (Slo); 92. Campbell Stewart (Nzl) at 26"; 93. Jacopo Guarnieri (Ita) at 27"; 94. Ruben Apers at 32"; 95. Jannik Steimle (Ger); 96. Tim Declercq; 97. Emiel Vermeulen; 98. Christophe Noppe; 99. Tobias Ludvigsson (Swe); 100. Elmar Reinders (Ned); 101. Alessandro Fedeli (Ita); 102. Rüdiger Selig (Ger) at 35"; 103. Cees Bol (Ned) at 38"; 104. Jelle Wallays at 40"; 105. Gage Hecht (Usa); 106. Rodrigues André Carvalho (Por); 107. Senne Leysen; 108. Dorian De Maeght; 109. Jonas Koch (Ger) at 45"; 110. Filippo Conca (Ita) at 46"; 111. Joonas Henttala (Fin) at 49"; 112. Marco Haller (Aut); 113. Filippo Ridolfo (Ita); 114. Martin Laas (Est); 115. Bram Dissel (Ned) at 51"; 116. Niklas Märkl (Ger); 117. Alberto Dainese (Ita); 118. Jarrad Drizners (Aus) at 54"; 119. Blake Quick (Aus); 120. Michael Schwarzmann (Ger); 121. Marc Brustenga Masague (Esp) at 57"; 122. David Dekker (Ned) at 1'24"; 123. Daan Hoole (Ned); 124. Mathieu van der Poel (Ned); 125. Robbe Ghys at 3'16"; 126. Zdeněk Štybar (Cze); 127. Lionel Taminiaux; 128. Yevgeniy Fedorov (Kaz) at 3'28"; 129. Lukas Pöstlberger (Aut); 130. Blume William Levy (Den) at 4'28"; 131. Tobias Andresen (Den); 132. Tim Naberman (Ned); 133. Louis Bendixen (Den); 134. Liam Slock at 5'32"; 135. Vincent Hoppezak (Ned); 136. Giulio Masotto (Ita)

DNS Casper Pedersen (Den); Shane Archbold (Nzl)

DNF Marcus Sander Hansen (Den); Julius Johansen (Den); Danny van Poppel (Ned); Ethan Batt (Nzl); Joshua Kench (Nzl); Alan Banaszek (Pol)

Jasper Philipsen (°Mol 02.03.1998)



Jasper wins the Scheldeprijs for the second time. Since winning here two years ago, Jasper has become one of the fastest riders (the fastest?) of the current generation. A recap:

2020: 3 wins (stages Tour du Limousin, Binckbank Tour and Vuelta), 5th Brussels Classic and 5th Scheldeprijs

2021: 9 wins (Scheldeprijs, 2 stages Vuelta, Koolskamp, Frankfurt, Denain, 2 stages Tour of Turkey, Paris-Chaumont)

2022: 9 wins (2 stages UAE-Tour, stage in Tour of Belgium, Tour of Turkey, Tour of Denmark, 2 stages Tour de France, Omloop van het Houtland, Paris-Bourges)

2023: 4 wins (until 05.04) (Scheldeprijs, 2 stages Tirreno-Adriatico, Classic Brugge-De Panne)

Everything suggests that Philipsen will not stop at two wins in the Scheldeprijs!

René Vermeiren



112th SCHELDEPRIJS

April 3

TIM MERLIER, FINALLY ON THE HONOURS BOARD

From Rik Van Looy (the oldest still living winner), Freddy Maertens, Mario Cipollini, Mark Cavendish, Robbie McEwen, Tom Boonen, Marcel Kittel, Fabio Jakobsen to Jasper Philipsen: they all adorn the honours board of the Scheldeprijs. Surely Tim Merlier cannot be missing from that list?

With a mighty sprint from the front, Tim was by far the fastest rider in the 112th edition of the Scheldeprijs which started in Terneuzen (149 participants, 22 teams) and with the three traditional local laps sped to the finishing line at a speed of almost 48 km per hour. There, Jasper Philipsen and Dylan Groenewegen had to settle for second and third places.

Earlier in the race, Liam Slock had been the strongest and most combative attacker. 10 km from the finish, he too had to admit that it was not going to be his day and it became clear that it would be a mass sprint to the line. In this, Tim Merlier was by far the quickest and he recorded his seventh win of the season.

ROADMAP :

NL Terneuzen - Borsele (Ellewoutsdijk-Borsele-'sHeerenhoek-Heinkenszand-'sHeer Abtskerke-'sGravenpolder) -- Kapelle (Kloetinge-Kapelle-Schore) - Reimerswaal (Hansweert-Kruiningen-Oostdijk-Krabbendijke-Rilland) - Woensdrecht - Hoogerheide (Woensdrecht) - Bergen-Op-Zoom - Hoogerheide (Woensdrecht) - Huijbergen (Woensdrecht) >>>

B Essen - Kalmthout - Wuustwezel - Loenhout (Wuustwezel) - Hoogstraten - Sint-Lenaarts (Brecht) - Brecht - Schilde - Sint-Job-in-'t-Goor (Brecht) - 'sGravenwezel (Schildre) - Wijnegem - Schoten >>> 3 local laps of 16,9 km route Schoten - 'sGravenwezel (Schildre) - Wijnegem - Schoten. Total 205,3 km.



RESULT

149 participants

1. Tim Merlier 205.3 km in 4h17m04s (47,918 km/h); 2. Jasper Philipsen; 3. Dylan Groenewegen (Ned); 4. Cees Bol (Ned); 5. Hugo Hofstetter (Fra); 6. Søren Wærenskjold (Nor); 7. Sam Welsford (Aus); 8. Matteo Moschetti (Ita); 9. Madis Mihkels (Est); 10. Matteo Trentin (Ita); 11. Piet Allegaert; 12. Timothy Dupont; 13. Arvid de Kleijn (Ned); 14. Jarne Van de Paar; 15. Dries Van Gestel; 16. Davide Bomboi (Ita); 17. Mozzato Luca (Ita); 18. Casper van Uden (Ned); 19. Daniel McLay (Gbr); 20. Riley Pickrell (Can); 21. Edward Theuns; 22. Huub Artz (Ned); 23. Abram Stockman; 24. Molano Benavides Juan (Col); 25. Danny van Poppel (Ned); 26. Luka Mezgec (Slo); 27. Dehairs Simon; 28. Stanislaw Aniolkowski (Pol); 29. Itamar Einhorn (Isr); 30. Blume William Levy (Den); 31. Sasha Weemaes; 32. Tim Torn Teutenberg (Ned); 33. Alexis Renard (Fra); 34. Jens Reynders; 35. Jenthe Biernans; 36. Bert Van Lerberghe at 15"; 37. Donovan Vincent Grondin (Fra); 38. Nadav Raisberg (Isr); 39. Blake Quick (Aus); 40. Oded Kogut (Isr); 41. Maikel Zijlaard (Ned) at 22"; 42. Luke Lamperti (Usa); 43. Alexander Krieger (Ger) at 27"; 44. Gianni Moscon (Ita) at 34"; 45. Rüdiger Selig (Ger); 46. Niklas Märkl (Ger); 47. Michiel Lambrecht; 48. Aaron Van Der Beken (Ned); 49. Arne Santy; 50. Elmar Reinders (Ned); 51. Rasmus Bøgh Wallin (Den); 52. Luca De Meester; 53. Rory Townsend (Irl); 54. Jeroen van Krimpen (Ned); 55. Tord Gudmestad (Nor); 56. Owen Geleijn (Ned); 57. Gijs Van Hoecke; 58. Kiaan Watts (Nzl); 59. Lucas Janssen (Ned); 60. Roel van Sintmaartensdijk (Ned); 61. Lars Loohuis (Ned); 62. Louis Blouwe; 63. Sébastien Grignard; 64. Thomas Joseph; 65. Mathijs Paasschens (Ned); 66. Ward Vanhoof; 67. Elias Maris; 68. Joseph Roskopf (Usa); 69. Maximilian Richard Walscheid (Ger); 70. Joshua Giddings (Gbr); 71. Bram Welten (Ned); 72. Jacopo Guarnieri (Ita); 73. Benjamin Peatfield (Gbr); 74. Mirko Bozzola (Ita); 75. Cyrus Monk (Aus); 76. Negasi Haylu Abreha (Eth); 77. Frank Aron Ragilo (Est); 78. Christophe Noppe; 79. Lucas Boniface (Fra); 80. Anthony Turgis (Fra); 81. Hartthijs de Vries (Ned); 82. Bram Dissel (Ned); 83. Ramon Sinkeldam (Ned) at 53"; 84. Edward Planckaert; 85. Sandy Dujardin (Fra); 86. Michiel Coppens at 1'05"; 87. Dmitriy Gruzdev (Kaz); 88. Mauro Verwilt; 89. Filip Maciejuk (Pol); 90. Mathias Vacek (Cze); 91. Otto Vergaerde; 92. Gibbe Staes; 93. Tim Declercq; 94. Pavel Bittner (Cze); 95. Baptiste Planckaert; 96. Tijmen Eising (Ned); 97. Casper Pedersen (Den); 98. Thomas Gachignard (Fra) at 1'16"; 99. Senne Leysen; 100. Siebe Deweirdt; 101. Yevgeniy Gidich (Kaz); 102. Michael Mørkøv (Den); 103. Jordi Warlop; 104. Aimé De Gendt; 105. Jelle Vermoote; 106. Miká Heming (Ger) at 1'26"; 107. Kaden Groves (Aus); 108. Lionel Taminiaux at 1'45"; 109. Petr Kelemen (Cze); 110. Miles Scotson (Aus); 111. Daan Hoole (Ned) at 2'02"; 112. Oliveira Ivo (Por) at 2'07"; 113. Nico Denz (Ger) at 2'13"; 114. Ryan Mullen (Irl) at 2'17"; 115. Alvaro Hodeg (Col); 116. Niklas Pedersen (Den); 117. Sebastian Nielsen (Den); 118. Rick Zabel (Ger) at 2'21"; 119. Marco Haller (Aut); 120. Jakob Søderqvist (Swe) at 2'25"; 121. Gleb Syritsa (xxx) at 2'42"; 122. Yevgeniy Fedorov (Kaz); 123. Axel Huens (Fra); 124. Tim Naberman (Ned); 125. Vincent Van Hemelen at 2'46"; 126. Kelland O'Brien (Aus) at 3'01"; 127. Ludovic Robeet; 128. Daniel Årnes (Nor) at 3'17"; 129. Louis Bendixen (Den); 130. Stian Edvardsen-Fredheim (Nor); 131. Stijn Appel (Ned) at 3'54"; 132. Robbe Ghijs at 3'58"; 133. Juan David Sierra (Ita) at 4'03"; 134. Liam Slock at 4'34"; 135. Warre Vangheluwe at 4'56"; 136. Jules Hesters at 5'24"; 137. Emil Herzog (Ger) at 5'47"

DNS Florian Sénéchal (Fra)

DNF Gerben Thijssen; Arne Marit; Amund Grøndahl Jansen (Nor); Alexander Guatibonza Becerra (Col); Michael Vink (Ned); Toon Clynhens; Szymon Sajnok (Pol); Baptiste Vadic (Fra); Wessel Krul (Ned); Bo Godart; Jonas Goeman; Peder Dahl Strand (Nor)



Tim Merlier
(°Wortegem-Petegem 30.10.1992)



Tim was initially a cyclo-cross rider but switched to the road. He developed gradually into one of the fastest sprinters in the world. This Scheldeprijs is his seventh victory of the season and his 41st professional success since 2016. He has won a stage in the Tour and in the Giro, three times the Nokere Koerse, five stages in the UAE Tour, the GP Fourmies, Zottegem, Brussels Cycling Classic, Bredene-Koksijde Classic, the Elfstedenronde twice, stages in Tirreno-Adriatico, the Benelux Tour and he became Belgian champion in 2019. In short, Tim should not be missing from the honours board of the Scheldeprijs!

René Vermeiren



113th SCHELDEPRIJS

April 9

UNSTOPPABLE TIM MERLIER STORMS TO THE DOUBLE

With a lightning sprint, Tim Merlier claimed back-to-back victories on Churchilllaan in Schoten. He was in a league of his own. Once again, Jasper Philipsen had to settle for second place. History repeated itself: the Scheldeprijs once again delivered strongman Tim his seventh win of the season.

The script for the 113th Scheldeprijs was straightforward: sunshine at the start in Terneuzen, a doomed break reeled in on the streets of Schoten, and a sprint showdown between the fastest men in the peloton. An attempt to split the peloton in the crosswinds in Zeeland ultimately failed. Eight riders did manage to get clear, but their move was undone by the crosswinds that split the peloton into pieces. As calm returned to the race, four attackers seized their opportunity. Cieriel Desal, Tuur Dens, Baptist Veistroffer and Tijmen Eising were never allowed to build a significant lead. However, the breakaway did manage to reach the local circuit, which had to be tackled three times. Cieriel Desal held on until the final lap, but was reeled in just moments after a major crash rattled the peloton. With 14 kilometres to go, the race was firmly on track for a sprint finish. The big names avoided the crash and delivered a textbook sprint on Churchilllaan. Top favourite Tim Merlier was simply too good for Jasper Philipsen and Matteo Moschetti.

ROADMAP :

NL Terneuzen - Borsele (Ellewoutsdijk-Borsele-'sHeerenhoek-Heinkenszand-'sHeer Abtskerke-'sGravenpolder) -- Kapelle (Kloetinge-Kapelle-Schore) - Reimerswaal (Hansweert-Kruiningen-Oostdijk-Krabbendijke-Rilland) - Woensdrecht - Hoogerheide (Woensdrecht) - Bergen-Op-Zoom - Hoogerheide (Woensdrecht) - Huijbergen (Woensdrecht) >>>

B Essen - Kalmthout - Wuustwezel - Loenhout (Wuustwezel) - Hoogstraten - Sint-Lenaarts (Brecht) - Brecht - Schilde - Sint-Job-in-'t-Goor (Brecht) - 'sGravenwezel (Schildre) - Wijnegem - Schoten >>> 3 local laps of 16,9 km route Schoten - 'sGravenwezel (Schildre) - Wijnegem - Schoten. Total 202,8 km.



RESULT

147 participants

1. Tim Merlier 202.8 km in 4h15m15s (47,671 km/h); 2. Jasper Philipsen; 3. Matteo Moschetti (Ita); 4. Milan Fretin; 5. Danny van Poppel (Ned); 6. Stanislaw Aniolkowski (Pol); 7. Max Kanter (Ger); 8. Alexander Kristoff (Nor); 9. Pavel Bittner (Cze); 10. Sasha Weemaes; 11. Francisco Galvan Fernandez (Esp); 12. Dylan Groenewegen (Ned); 13. Ethan Vernon (Gbr); 14. Julius van den Berg (Ned); 15. Jason Tesson (Fra);

16. Marc Brustenga Masague (Esp); 17. Edward Theuns; 18. Cedric Beullens; 19. Odet Kogut (Isr); 20. Callum Thornley (Gbr); 21. Alex Colman; 22. Michiel Lambrecht; 23. Antonio Jesus Soto Guirao (Esp); 24. Elmar Reinders (Ned); 25. Bram Dissel (Ned); 26. Simone Consonni (Ita) at 5"; 27. Cerial Desal at 8"; 28. Tim Declercq; 29. Jake Stewart (Gbr); 30. Jonas Rickaert at 10"; 31. Bert Van Lerberghe; 32. Davide Toneatti (Ita) at 12"; 33. Tim Tom Teutenberg (Ger) at 17"; 34. Maximilian Richard Walscheid (Ger) at 21"; 35. Gleb Syritsa (xxx) at 25"; 36. Joshua Giddings (Gbr) at 31"; 37. Jordi Warlop at 35"; 38. Michael Schwarzmann (Ger); 39. Rory Townsend (Irl) at 39"; 40. Jakob Söderqvist (Swe) at 44"; 41. Florian Dauphin (Fra) at 47"; 42. Filip Maciejuk (Pol); 43. Sebastian Putz (Aut); 44. Alexis Renard (Fra); 45. Alberto Dainese (Ita); 46. Damien Touze (Fra) at 51"; 47. Elia Viviani (Ita); 48. Rasmus Bøgh Wallin (Den); 49. Joren Bloem (Ned); 50. Timothy Dupont; 51. Daan van Sintmaartensdijk (Ned); 52. Yentl Vandevelde; 53. Arne Santy; 54. Kiaan Watts (Nzl); 55. Davide Bomboi; 56. Jens Reynders; 57. Giacomo Nizzolo (Ita); 58. Cees Bol (Ned); 59. Jannik Steimle (Ger); 60. Jordy Decottignies; 61. Felix James Meo (Nzl); 62. Dylan Bibic (Can); 63. Samuel Leroux (Fra); 64. Timo Roosen (Ned); 65. Thom van der Werff (Ned); 66. Gianni Marchand; 67. Ward Vanhoof; 68. Andrea Raccagni Noviero (Ita) at 56"; 69. Gerben Thijssen; 70. Ariel Carlos Samudio Carrera (Pan); 71. Robert Donaldson (Gbr); 72. Luka Mezgec (Slo); 73. Gijs Van Hoecke; 74. Roel van Sintmaartensdijk (Ned); 75. Withen Albert Philipsen (Den) at 1'34"; 76. Daan Hoole (Ned); 77. Marius Mayrhofer (Ger) at 1'39"; 78. Arne Marit; 79. Ewout De Keyser at 1'41"; 80. Frederik Frison at 1'43"; 81. Lucas Boniface (Fra); 82. Anthony Turgis (Fra); 83. Campbell Stewart (Nzl); 84. Loïc Vliegen at 1'53"; 85. Alexandre Van Petegem; 86. Geoffrey Soupe (Fra) at 1'58"; 87. Marijn Maas (Ned) at 2'18"; 88. Johan Dorussen (Ned); 89. Petr Kelemen (Cze); 90. Joann Rolando (Ita); 91. Martin Pluto (Lat); 92. Bo Godart; 93. Victor Vercouillie; 94. Yves Lampaert; 95. Michele Gazzoli (Ita); 96. Jelle Vermoote; 97. Vito Braet; 98. Baptiste Veistroffer (Fra) at 2'25"; 99. Tars Poelvoorde; 100. Alexander Krieger (Ger) at 2'32"; 101. Robbe Ghys at 2'38"; 102. Vincent Van Hemelen; 103. Timo Kielich; 104. Siebe Bauwens at 2'44"; 105. Brem Deman; 106. Hidde van Veenendaal (Ned) at 3'33"; 107. Owen Geleijn (Ned); 108. Oier Lazkano Lopez (Esp); 109. Sente Sentjens; 110. Juan David Sierra (Ita); 111. Axel Huens (Fra); 112. Patrick Eddy (Aus); 113. Miká Heming (Ger); 114. Johan Price Peijtersen (Den); 115. Jasper De Buyst; 116. Sebastian Kolze Changizi (Den) at 4'39"; 117. Ayco Bastiaens; 118. Dries De Pooter at 4'49"; 119. Martijn Budding (Ned) at 5'20"; 120. Lorenz Van De Wynkele; 121. Itamar Einhorn (Isr); 122. Tuur Dens; 123. Andreas Stokbro Nielsen (Den); 124. Amund Grøndahl Jansen (Nor) at 6'48"; 125. Joseph Pidcock (Gbr); 126. Tijmen Eising (Ned); 127. Sam Welsford (Aus) at 7'33"; 128. Ryan Mullen (Irl); 129. Jelle Krijnsen (Ned); 130. Lars Loohuis (Ned); 131. Ibai Azanza Burusco (Esp); 132. Lennart Belmans; 133. Nil Gimeno Ferrer (Esp); 134. Mats Wenzel (Lux); 135. Abram Stockman at 9'20"; 136. Erlend Blikra (Nor); 137. Elmar Abma (Ned) at 9'53"; 138. Miguel Angel Fernandez (Esp)

DNS Alessio Delle Vedove (Ita); Anders Skaarseth (Den)

DNF Warre Vangheluwe; Piet Allegaert; Nolann Mahoudo (Fra); Sjoerd Bax (Ned); Tommaso Nencini (Ita); Attilio Viviani (Ita); Alexys Brunel (Fra); Jonas Iversby Hvideberg (Nor); Erik Nordsaeter Resell (Nor)



Tim Merlier
(°Wortegem-Petegem 30.10.1992)



History repeats itself: just like last year, Tim Merlier claims his seventh victory of the still young season with the Scheldeprijs. This season, more than ever, the East Flandrian has been cementing his status as the fastest sprinter in the world. No surprise, then, that he is already a two-time Scheldeprijs winner. It was a moment of pure happiness on sun-drenched Churchilllaan, as Tim's wife Cameron Vandenbroucke (daughter of the late Frank, who won the Scheldeprijs in 1996) – and their son Jules celebrated his latest victory.

René Vermeiren



114th SCHELDEPRIJS

April 8

TIM MERLIER, THE COMEBACK

136 riders, divided across 20 teams, started the race in a sun-drenched Terneuzen for a festive anniversary edition (one hundred years of the Scheldeprijs in Schoten). It was announced that, as a result of planned maintenance works in the Western Scheldt tunnel, the start next year will be in Middelburg. Carpenter, Djuric, Dissel, Nat, Harteel and Killy formed a group of six for the breakaway of the day. They did not gain much of a lead over the peloton, in which the 'Rockets', working with Dylan Groenewegen, kept the pace high. It was only on the local circuit in Schoten that the lead gradually diminished and in the end only Carpenter, Dissel and Killy remained at the front, albeit only briefly. A bunch sprint was inevitable. Favourite Dylan Groenewegen wouldn't be able to take part, however: he was held up in one of the crashes that plagued the nervous peloton. In the sprint, Tim Merlier was supreme. The momentum of his attack left his rivals powerless. Thirty years on from Frank Vandenbroucke, his father-in-law, Tim celebrated his third triumph on Churchilllaan!

ROADMAP :

NL Terneuzen - Borsele (Ellewoutsdijk-Borsele-'sHeerenhoek-Heinkenszand-'sHeer Abtskerke-'sGravenpolder) -- Kapelle (Kloetinge-Kapelle-Schore) - Reimerswaal (Hansweert-Kruiningen-Oostdijk-Krabbendijke-Rilland) - Woensdrecht - (Woensdrecht-Hoogerheide) - Bergen-Op-Zoom - Woensdrecht (Hoogerheide-Huijbergen) >>> **B** Essen - Kalmthout - Wuustwezel (Wuustwezel-Loenhout) - Hoogstraten - Brecht (Sint-Lenaarts-Brecht) - Schilde - Brecht (Sint-Job-in-'t-Goor) - Schilde ('sGravenwezel) - Wijnegem - Schoten >>> 3 local laps of 16,9 km traject Schoten - Schilde ('sGravenwezel) - Wijnegem - Schoten. Total 205,2 km.



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RESULT

136 participants

1. Tim Merlier 205.2 km in 4h25m01s (46,457 km/h); 2. Pavel Bittner (Cze); 3. Emilien Jeanniere (Fra); 4. Dusan Rajovic (Srb); 5. Zak Erzen (Slo); 6. Hugo Hofstetter (Fra); 7. David Dekker (Ned); 8. Jasper Philipsen; 9. Steffen De Schuyteneer; 10. Tom Crabbe; 11. Emils Liepins (Lat); 12. Daniel Cavia Sanz (Esp); 13. Stanislaw Aniolkowski (Pol); 14. Jordi Meeus; 15. Pascal Ackerman (Ger); 16. Elmar Reinders (Ned); 17. Robin Froidevaux (Sui); 18. Hugo Scala Jr. (Usa); 19. Cesar Macias Estrada (Mex); 20. Maximilian Walscheid (Ger); 21. Jed Smithson (Gbr); 22. Edoardo Zamperini (Ita); 23. Joshua Giddings (Gbr); 24. Martijn Rasenberg (Ned); 25. Leander Van Haute; 26. Jonah Killip (Usa); 27. Yukiya Arashiro (Jpn); 28. Rodrigo Alvarez Rodriguez (Esp); 29. Niklas Märkl (Ger); 30. Christiaan van Rees (Ned); 31. Matteo Moschetti (Ita); 32. Jules Hesters at 4"; 33. Matevz Govekar (Slo) at 8"; 34. Thom van der Werff (Ned); 35. Rayan Boulahoite (Fra); 36. Petr Kelemen (Cze); 37. Sente Sentjens; 38. Aivaras Mikutis (Ltu); 39. Jonas Rickaert; 40. Rotem Tene (Isr) at 11"; 41. Brent Van Moer at 14"; 42. Ferre Geeraerts at 29"; 43. Edward Theuns; 44. Simone Consonni (Ita); 45. Mick van Dijke (Ned) at 34"; 46. Alessio Magagnotti (Ita); 47. Danny van Poppel (Ned); 48. Jonas Geens; 49. Simon Dehaere; 50. Fabio Van Den Bossche at 37"; 51. Fabian Lienhard (Sui) at 39"; 52. Florian Dauphin (Fra) at 41"; 53. Itamar Einhorn (Isr) at 44"; 54. Niklas Larsen (Den) at 48"; 55. Julius van den Berg (Ned) at 53"; 56. Pascal Eenkhoorn (Ned); 57. Sébastien Grignard; 58. Laurence Pithie (Nze); 59. Frederik Frison at 56"; 60. Tommaso Nencini (Ita); 61. Timothy Dupont at 1'; 62. Michele Gazzoli (Ita) at 1'03"; 63. Georgios Bouglas (Gre); 64. Thor Michielsen; 65. Kiaan Watts (Nzl); 66. Casper Pedersen (Den); 67. Jambaljamts Sainbayar (Mgl); 68. Robin Carpenter (Usa); 69. Hector Alvarez Martinez (Esp); 70. Tilen Finkst (Slo); 71. Arne Santy; 72. Iben Rommelaere; 73. Yves Lampaert; 74. Bert Van Lerberghe; 75. Max Kroonen (Ned) at 1'16"; 76. Tim Marsman (Ned); 77. Artuur Torney at 1'45"; 78. Kamil Malecki (Pol); 79. Ben Oliver (Nzl); 80. Shunsuke Imamura (Jpn); 81. Camille Charret (Fra); 82. Vojtech Kminek (Cze); 83. Noah Vandenbranden; 84. Brem Deman; 85. Jens Verbrugghe at 1'48"; 86. Clement Izquierdo (Fra) at 1'52"; 87. Dries De Pooter; 88. Otto Vergaerde; 89. Roel van Sintmaartensdijk (Ned); 90. Bram Dissel (Ned); 91. Callum Thornley (Gbr) at 2'49"; 92. Sebastian Putz (Aut); 93. Alfred Brockwell Wright (Gbr) at 3'21"; 94. Nickolas Zukowsky (Can) at 3'23"; 95. Simon Goossens at 3'32"; 96. Djordje Djuric (Srb); 97. Attilio Viviani (Ita); 98. Dillon Corkery (Irl); 99. Robbe Dhondt; 100. Milan Menten; 101. Lionel Taminiaux; 102. Scott McGill (Usa) at 3'40"; 103. Joost Nat (Ned) at 3'55"; 104. Floris Van Tricht at 4'; 105. Oded Kogut (Isr); 106. Jelle Harteel at 4'15"; 107. Jelle Vermoo-te; 108. Nicola Marcerou (Fra); 109. Pierre Thierry (Fra); 110. Samuel Leroux (Fra); 111. Sean Christiaan (Usa); 112. Riley Pickrell (Can); 113. Marius Mayrhofer (Ger); 114. Cerial Desal; 115. Tomoya Koyama (Jpn) at 4'19"; 116. Robert Donaldson (Gbr) at 5'17"; 117. Seppe Van Den Boer at 5'20"; 118. Milan Fretin at 6'08"; 119. Hamish McKenzie (Aus) at 6'17"; 120. Kelland O'Brien (Aus); 121. Abram Stockman; 122. Dylan Groenewegen (Ned); 123. Karsten Larsen Feldmann (Nor); 124. Tijmen Eising (Ned); 125. Michiel Coppens; 126. Tim Tom Teutenberg (Ger) at 7'22"; 127. Sebastian Kolze Changizi (Den); 128. Phil Bauhaus (Ger) at 7'49"; 129. Vlad Van Mechelen; 130. Daan van Sintmaartensdijk (Ned)

DNF Leonardo Consolidani (Ita); Daniel Skerl (Ita); Luka Mezgec (Slo); Brody McDonald (Usa); Wessel Mouris (Ned); Zeno Moonen



Tim Merlier
(°Wortegem-Petegem 30.10.1992)



The 2026 season began dramatically for Tim. A troublesome knee was playing up and he was forced to miss the start of the season. He missed out on some great races and chances to win. He made a first tentative attempt in the GP Monseré, in Roeselare, several weeks ago, where he finished 19th. From then on, he prepared meticulously for the Scheldeprijs. He unleashed all his pent-up frustration in a powerful sprint finish on Churchilllaan where he completed a perfect hat-trick: 2024-2025-2026! Tim therefore equals Peet Oellibrandt (1960-62-63) and Mark Cavendish (2007-08-11) and, next year, can begin his pursuit of five-time winner Marcel Kittel. Remarkably, Frank Vandenbroucke, his wife Cameron's father, also won the Scheldeprijs exactly thirty years ago.

René Vermeiren