



## Be a part of sporting history: Event schedule for Olympic Virtual Series cycling events revealed

Cycling's worldwide governing body, the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) and Zwift are pleased to reveal the full series of cycling events for the Olympic Virtual Series, running June 1-27. The Olympic Virtual Series is a new virtual event launched by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The UCI and Zwift are pleased to invite cyclists from all over the world to participate in a festival of Olympic Virtual Series cycling events. With a focus on mass participation, the Olympic Virtual Series cycling series offers something for every kind of cyclist. Mass participation rides promise to offer a social experience as thousands of cyclists come together in the first Olympic Virtual Series Cycling Series.

In addition to the social group rides, the Olympic Virtual Series Cycling Series will offer the opportunity to benefit from the experience of past Olympians with a series of special podcast rides and Group Workouts.

The podcast rides are with eight Olympians and the workouts are inspired by them and their racing specialities:

- **Georgia Simmerling** The first Canadian to compete in three different sports in three different Olympic Games (cycling, alpine skiing and skicross).
- **Nino Schurter** 3x Olympic Medalist and 8x UCI World Champion, Switzerland's Nino Schurter is arguably one of the greatest male cross-country mountain bikers of all time.
- Sir Chris Hoy The second-most decorated Olympic cyclist of all time, with six Gold Medals and 11 UCI World Championship titles.
- Anna van der Breggen Dutch pro racer, Anna van der Breggen is a dominant force on the tarmac. She's racked up huge number of wins over the course of her career, including a Gold Medal in Rio 2016 and 3x UCI World Champion.
- **Dame Sarah Storey** A 14x Gold Medalist, Dame Sarah Storey, DBE, is the most decorated and successful British Paralympian of all time. Oh, that's not enough? She also holds 23 UCI World Championship titles and 75 world records across both cycling and swimming, making her a veritable multisport legend.
- **Nelson Vails** Nelson "the Cheetah" Vails is a next-level athlete known for going from zero to 40+ mph in the blink of an eye. In the 1984 Olympics, he took home the silver in the track sprint event, becoming the first African American to win an Olympic medal in cycling.
- Anna Meares With six Olympic medals, Australia's Anna Meares, OAM, is the most decorated woman track cyclist of all time. Her credentials also extend to being the most successful women at UCI World Championships with 11 gold medals (a distinction shared with Germany's Kristina Vogel).

Service de presse admin@uci.ch T : +41 79 198 70 47 www.uci.ch

• Mariana Pajón - Mariana Pajón won her first national title at the age of five and her first world title at nine. To this day, she has won 14 UCI World Championships, 9 Latin American championships, and 10 Pan American championships. Oh yeah, she's also a 2x Olympic Gold Medalist in BMX, the first ever Colombian to do so.

The Group Workouts have been designed by these Olympians, designed to help take participants to the next level in their training. Group Workouts offer the opportunity for cyclists to train together in a group setting regardless of their ability.

For those seeking a little bit of friendly competition, Chase Races will offer men and women of all ages and fitness leves the chance to compete against one another. In Chase races, the strongest start last. The aim of the game is to cross that line first, but with select events featuring Olympians on the start sheet, can you do it before getting caught?

On June 23, Olympic Day, cyclists can take to the new roads of Yumezi with 24 mass participation group rides every hour. Each group will be hosted by Olympian and other special guests.

Anyone who finishes an Olympic Virtual Series cycling event will unlock the Olympic Virtual Series-inspired kit in addition to the official bicycle of the Olympics, the Bridgestone Anchor RS9s.

In addition to all the mass participation events, a unique Chase Race will be broadcast on June 18th. The race will see Olympians pitted against celebrities and a few lucky community members seeded. All riders will be gridded and set off over various start intervals. Similar to the open events, the aim is not to get caught. Not to be missed! You will be able to watch the event <u>here</u>.

The IOC and the UCI are offering new Zwifters complimentary access to the Zwift platform throughout the Olympic Virtual Series (1<sup>st</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> June). Codes can be obtained by registering on the UCI Website <u>here</u>.

Registration for all Olympic Virtual Series cycling events are open now <a href="https://www.zwift.com/olympic-virtual-series">https://www.zwift.com/olympic-virtual-series</a>

## ABOUT THE UCI

Founded in 1900 in Paris (France), the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) is the worldwide governing body for cycling. It develops and oversees cycling in all its forms, for all people: as a competitive sport, a healthy recreational activity, a means of transport, and also just for fun. The UCI manages and promotes the eight cycling disciplines: road, track, mountain bike, BMX Racing, BMX Freestyle, cyclo-cross, trials and indoor cycling. Five of these are featured on the Olympic Games programme (road, track, mountain bike, BMX Supercross and BMX Freestyle Park), two in the Paralympic Games (road and track) and four in the Youth Olympic Games (road, mountain bike, BMX Supercross and BMX Freestyle Park). For more information: www.uci.org

## ABOUT ZWIFT

Zwift is the fitness company born from gaming. We're dedicated fitness enthusiasts, experienced video game developers, and disruptive thinkers. Play is in our DNA and we know fun fuels results. Zwift utilizes massively multiplayer online gaming technology to create rich, 3D worlds ripe for exploration. Join thousands of cyclists and runners in immersive playgrounds like London, New York, and Paris as well as our very own Watopia. Our app connects wirelessly to exercise equipment: bike trainers, treadmills, and more, so your real-world effort powers your avatar in the game. From friendly races to social rides and structured training programs, Zwift unites a diverse community in pursuit of a more fun, immersive and social fitness experience.

Union Cycliste Internationale CH - 1860 Aigle Switzerland T : +41 24 468 58 11 **Service de presse** admin@uci.ch T : +41 79 198 70 47 www.uci.ch

## For more information

Louis Chenaille UCI Media Relations Officer +41 79 198 7047 Louis.Chenaille@uci.ch

**Service de presse** admin@uci.ch T : +41 79 198 70 47

www.uci.ch