

Everyone rides: Inclusive races at Eschborn-Frankfurt enters the next round

The Eschborn-Frankfurt cycling classic is much more than just a professional race. Numerous smaller events use the slipstream on May 1 to make the leap onto the big stage that they deserve. This includes the inclusion race. Around 40 schoolchildren get the chance to cycle through Frankfurt's closed-off city center like the pros, cheered on by thousands of spectators, celebrating their achievement in front of the Alte Oper. The partner is once again Verkehrsgesellschaft Frankfurt (VGF).

Once again this year, children from the Frankfurt Panoramashule, an institution with a focus on mental development, and the Paul-Hindemith-Gesamtschule will form groups of two to complete the final lap of the professionals through Frankfurt city center twice. The motto is: "A common goal". The duos were formed through joint meetings before May 1. In addition to strengthening social skills, the focus of the inclusion race is on promoting health through cycling.

*"I am proud to be the patron of the Inclusion Race," said Dr. **Nargess Eskandari-Grünberg**, Mayor of Frankfurt and Head of the Department for Diversity, Anti-Discrimination and Social Cohesion. "On May 1st, the pupils of the Paul-Hindemith-Schule and the Panoramashule will show what team spirit means and how much fun it is to achieve a goal together. It is events like the inclusion race that strengthen social cohesion in our diverse city. Cycling can also be a means for a fairer and more inclusive society!"*

Another form of inclusion can also be found on the Škoda Velotour. This is where the handbikers also start on the 40-kilometre Skyline tour through Frankfurt and the Vordertaunus region. There will be around 30 of them this year. The VGF is also a partner here. *"Everyone rides along. That's VGF's motto and we find that it always fits. For example, when we as a municipal transport company have the opportunity to support the cycling classic on May 1. We wish the participants in the inclusion race and the handbike race every success and even more fun, and of course we are also cheering on all the other athletes who will be out and about in and around our Main metropolis on this day,"* said the VGF management, consisting of **Kerstin Jerchel, Thomas Raasch** and **Michael Ruffer**, in one voice.