

= 2015 Philadelphia Cycling Classic =

The 2015 Philadelphia Cycling Classic , known as The Parx Casino Philly Cycling Classic for sponsorship purposes , was the sixth round of the 2015 UCI Women 's Road World Cup . It was held on 7 June 2015 , in Philadelphia , Pennsylvania , United States . The event had last appeared in the Women 's Road World Cup in 2001 , as the Liberty Classic .

On a six @-@ lap course which climbed Manayunk Wall , an 800 @-@ metre (2 @,@ 600 ft) long climb with an average gradient of 8 percent , at the end of each lap , Jasmin Glaesser (Optum ? KBS) established an early breakaway , leading for two laps before being caught by the peloton . Her breakaway earned her sufficient " Queen of the Mountain " points for her to win that title . Further attacks were made , but none were successful . On the final ascent of Manayunk Wall , Lizzie Armitstead (Boels ? Dolmans) won in a sprint , beating Elisa Longo Borghini (Wiggle ? Honda) and Alena Amialiusik (Velocio ? SRAM) .

= = Entry = =

The organisers of the Philadelphia Cycling Classic indicated that they would invite the top twenty ranked UCI teams at the end of 2014 , and then any further allocations would be assigned to highly @-@ ranked national teams and other UCI teams . A list of seventeen participating teams was published in March , just over 10 weeks prior to the race . Of those teams , Astana @-@ Acca Due O , BePink @-@ La Classica and Cycling Canada did not feature in the race , while further teams were added to feature 96 riders across 19 teams .

= = Course = =

The Philadelphia Cycling Classic follows a six @-@ lap course near the Schuylkill River in northwest Philadelphia . It started and finished at the top of the Manayunk Wall , an 800 @-@ metre (2 @,@ 600 ft) long climb which peaks at a gradient of 17 percent , though it only averages around 8 percent . The course also included climbs up Lemon Hill and Strawberry Mansion Drive . Each of the six laps is 19 @.@ 71 kilometres (12 @.@ 25 mi) , giving a total race length of 118 @.@ 26 kilometres (73 @.@ 48 mi) . " Queen of the Mountain " points were awarded for the first rider to the top of Manayunk Wall and Lemon Hill each lap , while an intermediate sprint was located roughly halfway along the outward section of the lap , where Kelly Drive intersects with Midvale Avenue .

= = Preview = =

After five rounds of the 2015 UCI Women 's Road World Cup , there had been five different winners ; Jolien D 'Hoore at the Ronde van Drenthe , Lizzie Armitstead at the Trofeo Alfredo Binda @-@ Comune di Cittiglio , Elisa Longo Borghini at the Tour of Flanders , Anna van der Breggen at the La Flèche Wallonne Féminine , and Giorgia Bronzini at the Tour of Chongming Island . Anna van der Breggen led the World Cup standings as the racing moved to Philadelphia , with 290 points , but her Rabo @-@ Liv team had opted not to take part in the event . Annemiek van Vleuten and Jolien D 'Hoore , who were second and third in the standings , had not travelled with their teams to the event . Elisa Longo Borghini (Wiggle ? Honda) and Lizzie Armitstead (Boels ? Dolmans) , who entered the race placed fourth and fifth , were highlighted as possible favourites for the race , though Armitstead 's team @-@ mate , Evelyn Stevens had won the race in both 2013 and 2014 .

= = Race = =

There was no significant breakaways during the first lap , but as the riders climbed Lemon Hill on the second of six laps , Jasmin Glaesser (Optum ? KBS) established a gap , and maintained the lead of the race for two laps , earning her the Queen of the Mountain award . She was caught during an attack by Alison Jackson (Twenty16 p / b Sho @-@ Air) , but the pair could not maintain their

advantage , and were caught by the peloton on the climb up Manayunk Wall at the end of the third lap . Team Hitec Products attacked each of the intermediate sprints , with Kirsten Wild providing a lead @-@ out each lap for her team @-@ mate Emilie Moberg . They also attempted to make breakaways of their own , and Moberg managed to lead off the front of the peloton for around half a lap before being caught once more by the peloton . The Velocio @-@ SRAM team attacked through the fourth lap , with each of their riders riding off the front in turn , but they failed to establish a breakaway .

Entering the final lap , the peloton remained close , although a number of riders had fallen behind or dropped out , particularly through the cobbled bends at the base of the Manayunk Wall . A series of attacks were made on the final lap ; Charlotte Becker (Team Hitec Products) gained an advantage , but it was closed again due to work from the Boels @-@ Dolmans team . Once Becker had been caught , Dalia Muccioli (Alé ? Cipollini) made a move , but the Twenty16 p / b Sho @-@ Air team worked to eliminate her lead . A sprint to the bottom of the Manayunk Wall was led by Loren Rowney (Velocio ? SRAM) , but more riders struggled over the cobblestones and dropped back . Alexis Ryan (UnitedHealthcare) took over the lead of the peloton at the bottom of the hill , and established a fast pace up the lower slopes , leading Joëlle Numainville (Bigla Pro Cycling Team) and her team @-@ mate Coryn Rivera . Optum @-@ KBS also had a number of riders near the front , while Elisa Longo Borghini (Wiggle ? Honda) and Lizzie Armitstead (Boels ? Dolmans) were just behind . Longo Borghini attacked first , but Armitstead went with her and passed her just before the line to claim victory . Alena Amialiusik (Velocio ? SRAM) and Shelley Olds (Bigla Pro Cycling Team) finished in third and fourth ; the top four were all classified with the same time .

= = Results = =

= = World Cup standings = =