

## **Right in the thick of things – RhB at the 24th National Park Bike Marathon**

What began as a spontaneous idea after unloading the MTBs on the return trip from S-chanf became a reality at the 24th National Park Bike Marathon: five RhB employees swapped their work clothes for cycling jerseys and took part in the race themselves – in true RhB style, with determination and enthusiasm.

For years, RhB has been a reliable partner of the National Park Bike Marathon, ensuring the smooth transport of around 600 participants and their mountain bikes to the starting points in S-chanf (Putèr route) and Zernez (Zernezer route). Around ten employees from various departments are on duty to load the bikes efficiently and bring the participants safely to their destination.

But this year, everything was a little different. In the run-up to the event, a small group of RhB employees had decided to take part themselves – inspired by a casual remark made last year. And it soon became clear that the team wanted to compete in “RhB style.” Without further ado, a jersey was designed with the slogan “Bissig wie eine Ge 6/6 I” (technical term for the famous Crocodile) – and the idea took off.

When spring came, the idea became a concrete plan. Although some still lacked experience, equipment, or training, the will was there. The jerseys were ordered, the registration was completed – and the big day was approaching.

Then the weather changed: wet, cold, and unstable. The organizers had to switch to an alternative route at short notice. New starting points, new times – and all of this had to be rescheduled within a few hours. Logistics partners such as RhB, PostAuto, Kuoni, and others were called upon. Thanks to the unprecedented commitment and flexibility of all those involved, the transport concept was reorganized – a logistical feat that impressively demonstrated how well the cogs mesh when it matters.

And so, on race day, not only were the participants ready, but also the five RhB employees – now part of the race themselves. From Zernez, the route covered 33 kilometers and 435 meters of elevation gain back to Scuol. There was still joking around on the starting grid, but when the starting signal sounded at 1:30 p.m., it was clear: now it was getting serious. The group quickly broke up, with everyone riding at their own pace – but everyone arrived at the finish line healthy and with a big smile on their face.

The mood was exuberant, the pasta tasted better than ever, and the endorphins refused to subside. Amidst the euphoria, it was almost overlooked that one participant had taken third place in her category – she missed the award ceremony, but she got the trophy anyway.

It was a day full of dedication, emotions, and team spirit – and over a well-deserved beer, there was already talk of participating again in the anniversary edition in 2026. That's when there will be the opportunity to complete the entire 141-kilometer route with 3,848 meters of elevation gain as a relay team. Is this just another crazy idea? We'll see.