

# STATEMENT OF THE ACC CONTERN

Luxemburg, July 8, 2017

Dear cycling fans,

Just like last year, the ACC Contern will not organize in 2017 its traditional invitational criterium for professional cyclists named „GALA Tour de France“. The 19<sup>th</sup> edition of this event was planned for Sunday, July 30, 2017.

The reason is exclusively a financial one: despite some serious efforts in the search of new sponsors, we were not able to find the required budget of around 100.000 EUR for a decent Post-Tour crit. At the light of the experience in the last two years, it also seems very unsure for us that there would be a 19<sup>th</sup> edition in the year 2018. It seems to us that the mixture of sport and show that amazed ten thousands of fans a few years ago, isn't as attractive any more in Luxemburg, despite the continuous good results of our home riders.

But the ACC Contern will not remain without activity during this summer. Due to the fact that the FSCL calendar for road races is continuously decreasing and that there are only around a dozen races on our home roads this year, we decided to organize all the support races that were initially planned for the GALA, on the date of July 30<sup>th</sup>. To remember our deceased president of honor and founder of the GALA Tour de France, this new event will be named Souvenir Marcel Gilles.

This tribute to one of the fathers of our cycling club will be held in our home municipality. We are already now wishing you a warm welcome in the Industrial Zone Weiergewan in Contern to cheer on the riders of the different categories elite without contract, juniors, U23, masters, novices and women. The expensive criterium for professionals will be replaced in the program by races for minimes and cadets, giving also the youngest ones the opportunity to race on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

More details on the Souvenir Marcel Gilles will be published in the next days on our internet site <http://www.acccontern.lu> and on social media.

The other organizations of the ACC Contern are not impacted by this decision and will go on as planned: the cycle-sport race « La 28<sup>ème</sup> Charly Gaul » on September 3, 2017 and the 43<sup>rd</sup> international Cyclo-cross in Contern on October 29, 2017.

Best regards.

The board of the ACC Contern