

Tour De France

How it originated

In 1903, Paris, France, a journalist named Geo. Lefevre dreamt up a sporting event named the Tour De France. It is a cycling contest. Geo Lefevre had wanted to help promote the newspaper, so come up with the Tour De France. He had passed the idea onto his editor Henri Desgrange, who was a former champion cyclist, who happily agreed. It would help the struggling newspaper out, L'Auto tremendously. The first race had only sixty cyclists, though only a mere 21 completed the race.

In the race

The Tour De France is a cycling race that runs through France only occasionally entering other countries. It is a test of human endurance that lasts 3 weeks and is 3520 km long, consisting of 21 stages. It goes on multiple types of terrain. If cyclists fall, or can't finish the race vehicles pick them up, the vehicles also supply their team with water. Some cyclists reach speeds of up to 100 kilometers per hour.

Teams and Pelotons

Each team consists of 9 men, with 22 teams, which is 198 overall. The average sponsorship of a pro team is approximately 20 million euros. A peloton is a formation that the cyclists use to block out wind hitting the people in the middle. The people at the front use high level of energy, while the ones in the middle save 40% energy.

Jerseys

The yellow jersey is the most famous of all the jerseys and each rider wants to wear it. It originated in 1919, only the leader of the race gets to wear it. The yellow jersey is yellow as the original newspaper which started the Tour De France was published on

yellow paper. The green jersey is the race's best sprinter, while the ~~light~~ polkadots is the race's best ^{climber} ~~sprinter~~. The white jersey signifies the race's highest ranked rider aged 25 or under, ~~with~~ the countries jersey ~~is the~~ ~~national~~ ^{has} a different flag on from the countries ~~note~~ they are from; if you were the champion ^{cyclist} of England you would have a English flag. The rainbow jersey is the ~~the~~ current reigning champion.