



# What People Are Saying About the Wilmington Grand Prix

## About the Races...

“Thank you again for a great event on Saturday. It was nice to see such good attendance by the community in support of the Grand Prix. Thank you also for both a good prize list and beautiful winner’s prize. The necklace from Minster’s is beautiful and certainly something that will remind me of my win in Wilmington.

— *Laura Van Gilder, a leading rider on the national circuit and winner of the Women’s Open in the Wilmington Grand Prix for Team Cheerwine*

“To have a local event that attracts names like [Laura] VanGilder and [Kristen] LaSasso, that is awesome.”

— *Beth Mason, C3-Sollay.com, Women’s Open competitor*

“Awesome, Awesome race. In a word, Wow! Great course, organization, everything. Literally not a thing I’d change.”

— *John Lenart, Captain Human Zoom/Pabst Blue Ribbon, Men’s Pro Team*

“The Wilmington Grand Prix is a great race. I was impressed by the organization, the level of both professionalism and dedication of many of the amateur riders and the way the town turned out to cheer the race on. These kinds of races across the country are the testing and training grounds of the great pro cyclists of tomorrow.”

— *Charles Aaron, General Manager, Kelly Benefit Strategies/Medifast men’s pro cycling team*

“As a photographer and racer with many cycling events under my belt, I can appreciate a well-run racing venue. The Wilmington Grand Prix was such an event. Being on the road and in close to the racers I can say that I did not hear anything but good comments from the participants.”

— *Dennis Smith, cyclist and cycling photographer*

“What a wonderful race you put on. I have replayed that 40 hot laps many times over the past 48 hours and I can’t think of a better way to wind down the season.”

— *Joe Baremore, Clean Current/Don Beyer Volvo, competitor in Men’s Pro-1-2 race*

“Thank you for putting on such a top-notch event. It is so exciting to race downtown criteriums, especially with the level of competition that came out for the race on Saturday.”

— *Michelle Hart, ABRT/Latitude, Women’s Open competitor*

## About the Day...

“A great venue and I loved the level of diversity within the city. I could live there.”

— *Joseph Jefferson, president of Antietam (Md.) Bike Club and event announcer*

“Saturday was a blast in Wilmington! [My husband] and I really enjoyed the Grand Prix and had fun volunteering at the Bank of America tent. The buzz was that this needs to be an annual event in Wilmington!”

— *Sarah Willoughby, acting director Greater Wilmington Convention & Visitors Bureau*

“Our employees and their families really enjoyed the event and are looking forward to next year.”

— *Daryl Graham, National Community Relations, JP Morgan Chase, sponsor of the Family Bike Parade*

## About the Parade...

“It was such a great feeling to see hundreds of cyclists gathered on a warm morning in Wilmington. Singles and families all joined together for a fun ride, some exercise and working for a good cause. That’s what Delaware does best.”

— *Parade Grand Marshall Jack Markell, Treasurer for State of Delaware & Democratic candidate for governor*

“I really enjoyed being part of the bike parade. As I moved about Market Street after the parade, I saw smiling faces everywhere!”

— *Bud Freel, Wilmington City Council*

“That was an absolutely awesome sight to see. You had kids with training wheels, dads pulling carts, racers, you name it. It might not have been a world record but there has definitely never been that many bikes riding at one time in Wilmington.”

— *Member of the Y’s Guys, which won a \$2,500 prize for bringing the most riders to the parade*