



# TEAM KATUSHA ALPECIN

## Katusha Alpecin as a regular

Present every year in Plouay since 2009, the russian team will live its eleventh participation in the Bretagne Classic - Ouest-France. With a strong roster of experienced riders, she will be among the outsiders of the day on an event that has often been successful for this team.

Together the seven riders entered by **Team Katusha Alpecin** have already sixteen participations, so the men of the russian-swiss team know where they will have to go. Since 2009, this team has often been in sight in Plouay. With Alexander Kristoff, she won once in 2015 and also reached the podium in 2016 (3rd) and 2017 (2nd).

This year, it will count on three leading men who can shake the favorites of the Bretagne Classic - Ouest-France. Ilnur Zakarin, Jens Debusschere and Marco Haller have already demonstrated that they can compete with the world's best in WorldTour races. This trio will be interesting to follow on a race favorable to versatile riders at ease on the spring classics. We know that Plouay is an indomitable race more difficult to control than the Benelux races, the men of the Team Katusha Alpecin will be there to dynamite the race.

## A powerful collective

**Team Katusha Alpecin** presented its first riders list scheduled in Plouay under the direction of the sporting director **Claudio Cozzi**.

**141. Harry Tanfield (Gbr, 24).** The neo-professional, coming out of a good Tour du Benelux, will be there as a team-mate or to try to take the first breakaway, one of his specialties.

**142. Jens Debusschere (Bel, 30).** 10th from Gent-Wevelgem, the Belgian will have his third participation in Plouay. 21st in 2015, he is one of the riders able to shine on the breton classic.

**143. Nathan Haas (Aus, 30).** Fourth participation for the Australian who will be there as a team-mate or to take part in the morning break.

**144. Marco Haller (RN, 28).** The Austrian will live his fourth experience in Plouay. 9th of Eschborn-Frankfurt, 16th of Paris-Roubaix, 17th of Milan-San Remo, 19th of the E3 Grand Prix, he managed a nice spring and could play the leading roles in Plouay.

**145. Mads Schmidt Würtz (Den, 26).** 23rd in 2018, the Dane already has a beautiful reference in Plouay. In a team without a real leader, he can play his card and try to escape.

**146. Rick Zabel (Ger, 25).** The son of the great Erik will start from his second Bretagne Classic in a crew role.

**147. Ilnur Zakarin (Rus, 29).** The Russian, leader of his team on the Grand Tours, will live his second participation in the Bretagne Classic after discovering the race in 2016. He will enjoy his climbing qualities in the Montagnes Noires.

The announced substitutes are **Dmitrii Strakhov (Rus)**, **Ian Boswell (USA)** and **Reto Hollenstein (Sui)**.

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