



During Saturday's local laps and finish in Fredrikstad, a very special and unfortunate happening occurred when a bridge opened in front of the peloton during the final lap. This issue has attracted great media attention, and we want to clarify the matter.

The bridge is controlled and surveyed from the central of Veitrafikkkontoret in Oslo. The procedures for notification of opening and closing of the bridge are clear.

We emphasize that we, as an organiser, have followed the procedures. Veitrafikksentralen was notified in due time about the World Tour bicycling race: the bridge should not be opened until our commando central, following the race in the cortege, had given notice.

We have been confirmed that the notifications from both Fredrikstad Triathlon, who used the bridge earlier the same day, and Ladies Tour of Norway, were been registered by Veitrafikksentralen. That the bridge still opens exactly at 18 o'clock, only seconds before the head of the peloton arrives on the bridge, is of course deeply regrettable. When the bridge opened, MC police with blue lights was on both sides of the bridge.

The finishing of the cycling race was of course strongly influenced by this unfortunate incident, and the finishing was not as planned.

We emphasize that this incident does not affect our relationship with Fredrikstad municipality. The co-operation with the municipality's management and employees has been very good throughout the entire planning phase, and we are very grateful that we were allowed to use Fredrikstad as finishing town.

Otherwise, the stage was a great success with fantastic TV pictures along the coast, and an exciting race. We want to thank to thank both Fredrikstad and Sarpsborg municipalities, as well as all the other municipalities we visited during Saturday's stage, for the great co-operation.

Ladies Tour of Norway 2017 ends today, Sunday, with final laps and finish in Halden. Ironically, there is a new bridge on the menu as the start of the stage is on the old bridge of Svinesund exactly on the border between Norway and Sweden. UCI president Brian Cookson and NCF president Harald T Hansen, together with the Mayor of Halden, Thor Edqvist, will mark the start. A start which will be spectacular, and in a controller manner.

We look forward to an exciting last stage, and to showcase our region from its best side.

Roy Moberg
CEO

Ladies Tour of Norway
20 August 2017