

Kreuziger Refuses To Answer Questions On Doping

Czech professional road bicycle racer for UCI ProTour team Team Saxo-Tinkoff, Roman Kreuziger, refused to answer questions about alleged links to controversial Italian doctor [Michele Ferrari](#).

The recently crowned Amstel Gold Race winner refused to entertain inquiries in both English and Italian from a handful of journalists before the team presentation ahead of Liège-Bastogne-Liège. The cyclist said he only wants to talk about the race and will speak about this theme after Romandie. Considered one of the biggest talents of the sport after winning the 2004 Junior Road World Championships and the 2008 Tour de Suisse at the age of 22, the 26-year-old Czech rider didn't seem happy about the line of questioning and said he only wanted to talk about racing and directed questions toward the press officer of [Team Saxo-Tinkoff](#). The cyclist then walked away and into a tent area where the media was not allowed to enter.

Team spokesman Anders Daamgaard said the Czech rider told him before the team presentation that he didn't want to field questions about the alleged Ferrari links. The spokesman added that there is no official team statement on Kreuziger, and the Czech suggested he would speak about his past following the Tour de Romandie, April 23-28.

Kreuziger's win at the Dutch classic puts him in the spotlight and revived questions about his alleged linked to Michele Ferrari, who has been banned for life by the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

Links between Ferrari and several former Liquigas riders were revealed by documents, via testimony of former Ferrari client Leonardo Bertagnolli, as part of USADA's reasoned decision in the Lance Armstrong scandal. A former Liquigas rider, Bertagnolli, in a written affidavit in Italian, admitted that he worked with Ferrari with the knowledge and consent of Liquigas management and also claimed that Kreuziger was a Ferrari client, among others, including Franco Pellizotti and Enrico Gasparotto, all Liquigas riders at the time.

In 2009, Roman Kreuziger won the Tour de Romandie and was the victor of the Amstel Gold Race in 2013. Roman's father, Roman Kreuziger Sr., was also a bicycle racer who won the Österreich Rundfahrt in 1991 and the Cyclocross Junior World Championships in 1983. After a successful amateur career which saw him win the Junior Road World Championships in 2004 and a stage of the Giro delle Regioni in 2005, Kreuziger turned professional in 2006 with Liquigas and took his first professional victory in the second stage of the Settimana Ciclistica Lombarda. In late 2007, the cyclist was also able to complete his first Grand Tour after finishing 21st in the Vuelta a España. In 2008, Roman Kreuziger finished second in the youth competition, and 12th overall in his first Tour de France. Roman in 2012 finished third in the Tirreno-Adriatico and entered the 2012 Giro d'Italia leading Team Astana with Paolo Tiralongo. The cyclist left Astana at the end of the 2012 season, and joined Team Saxo-Tinkoff on a three-year contract from the 2013 season onwards.