
OCTOBER 20TH 2021 - EMINE BAERT

Accident at annual rollator race causes upheaval



A wonderful day for a race

Last weekend, our annual rollator race took place in our capital. With no less than 758 competitors, the event planners of the race considered this year's edition to be a great success already. The track that was chosen for this year guided the contestants through 3 of our most beautiful parks.

3 contestants down

But unfortunately, the day didn't go well for everyone involved. About 20 minutes into the race, an accident occurred. The rollator of 82-year old Rosa Kjellberg suddenly lost a wheel. This caused Kjellberg to fall over onto 2 other contestants who were right behind her. The other contestants were identified as 76-year old Mark Fishbach and 68-year old Freya Olsen.



The wonderful medical team that helped the contestants

Luckily, the fall happened quite close to one of the medical posts. Fishbach and Olsen were able to get first aid immediately, as they only had some minor scrapes. But an ambulance had to be called for Kjellberg, as she had sustained more serious injuries in one of her ankles. The Universal Hospital of Loci has confirmed that she did in fact break her ankle, but that she will make a full recovery and is doing well now.

Jaina Kjellberg: "I'm absolutely disgusted by the disregard for the safety of the contestants."

Recent criticism

The accident has since caused some upheaval, as some people already considered the race to be too risky. About 410 people have signed a petition to terminate any future editions of the race.

The families of the contestants whom were involved in the accident are disappointed that something like this was allowed to happen. The daughter of Kjellberg, Jaina Kjellberg, has since come forward to express her opinion on the matter. Jaina Kjellberg: "I'm absolutely disgusted by the disregard for the safety of the contestants. I think the rollators should all be checked in advance to see if there aren't any issues with them, that way the race could proceed in a far safer manner. The lacklustre attitude of the event team has caused my mother and several others to get hurt, which is downright unacceptable!"

Björn Alson, spokesperson of the event team, has not yet commented on the situation.