

swatch<sup>®</sup>  
**ROCKET AIR**  
28. - 29. April 2017 Thun

Thun, February 22<sup>st</sup> 2017

#swatchrocketair April 28th -29th, 2017 in Thun, Switzerland, Gold Event FMB Worldtour

## Swatch Rocket Air 2017 – Slopestyle takes flight back to the 80ies

**During the 28th and 29th of April, the ice rink of Thun, Switzerland will be transformed into everything bike for 8<sup>th</sup> annual Swatch Rocket Air. The elite slopestyle event will take a journey back through time to meet Marty McFly, mullet haircuts and new way tunes all to fit with this year's theme: "Back to the 80s." All this, while the world renown course takes on the FMB World Tour Gold status for the second year in a row.**

Some ask why the Flying Metal Crew changes the event theme each year. It's a good question given it's the only event on the FMB tour to do so. Event Director, Jerome Hunziker, has a simple answer: "We don't want anyone to get bored!" One thing is for sure, the end of April won't be a dull moment in Thun.

The Flying Metal Crew while work once again to bring their theme to life. While they may not be able to recreate a time machine like in the classic 80s movies "Back to the Future," they will turn the ice rink into the next best thing: the ultimate 80s dance party! Come relive this iconic time, with it's colorful fashion, design and music as riders take flight next to a human sized disco ball and drop off a 10-meter-high ghetto blaster.

As a FMB Gold event, it is next to obligatory that the highest ranked slopestyle athletes will attend. Nicholi Rogatkin, 2015 Swatch Rocket Air winner and FMB Diamond Series leader, has already announced he will return to defend his title. Will he earn himself the win with his unique "Twister" trick or does the wild American have a new trick up his sleeve for the judges? Either way, we can expect the ice rink on their feet grooving for the riders!

Don't be fooled though, the Swatch Rocket Air has evolved into much more than just a single slopestyle show. There are many activities taking place throughout the weekend including the Pumptrack World Battle. With the help of the online ranking system, riders can test their skills against each other on the Modular Pumptrack. For the generation of future "shredders", there will be a "Like-a-Bike" race where children aged 2- 5 can make their rounds. Finally, the 5-Times-World-Champion, Vicki Gomez, will entertain us all with a spectacular BMX Flatland Show.

With a sold-out house last year, spectators want to buy their ticket early. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased online at [www.rocketair.ch/tickets](http://www.rocketair.ch/tickets).

Stay tuned for the lasts news by following @swatchrocketair and @flyingmetalcrew on social media. Followers will be given an insider look as the Flying Metal Crew brings to life their "Back to the 80s" theme and Course Builder, Ramon Hunziker, shares details about the course design and we find out who will arrive in Thun to fight for the crown!

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**Swatch**, launched in 1983 by Nicolas G. Hayek, is a leading Swiss watch maker and one of the world's most popular brands. The first Swatch watches surprised everyone with their revolutionary concept, creative design and provocative spirit. The brand philosophy is based on color, movement, lightness and transparency, which can be seen in every Swatch product and project. Today Swatch continues to innovate and surprise with new models, collections and special editions. The brand maintains a strong presence in the world of sports with its commitment to snowboarding, freeskiing, surfing, beach volleyball and mountainbike slopestyle. Right from the start, Swatch connected with art and artists, and Swatch watches remain a prominent canvas for artists from a broad range of disciplines.

**Partner**



Get more News about the event, riders and after parties on the Swatch Rocket Air [Facebookpage](#).

For information about the organizing crew check the Flying Metal Crew [Facebookpage](#).

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