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CATALINA COUNCIL

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***17-year-old Eagle Scout Finishes 8th, ahead of more than 1,700  
Cyclists in 102-mile El Tour de Tucson Bike Race***

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Pictured is BSA Scout Ricky DiMambro (middle) placed 1st in El Tour de Tucson’s Juniors category with Andres Hernandez on the left and runner-up Jesus Amaya shown on the right.

TUCSON, Ariz. (November 30, 2022) – Eagle Scout Enrico “Ricky” DiMambro, 17, was the fastest junior crossing the finish line of the El Tour de Tucson, Nov. 17, beating out more than 1,700 riders with a chip time of 3 hours 54 minutes and 7.5 seconds. DiMambro’s time placed him eighth overall in the United States’ largest bicycle race, now celebrating its 39th anniversary.

“I was super stoked crossing the finish line knowing I finished ahead of many pro athletes, some of which I've seen in the world tour or on YouTube,” said DiMambro.

DiMambro began his cycling journey in the first grade as a Tiger Scout and has been cycling competitively since the sixth grade. “I knew I was passionate about cycling the second I was introduced to the competitive aspect. The competition drove me to train smarter and harder than everyone else.”

His experience in Scouting has played a large part in his cycling accomplishments. “Not only has Scouting kept me active and athletic, but it has also played a role in developing my driven personality,” DiMambro added. He achieved Eagle Scout status in 2021 by engaging in service projects under the nonprofit organization, Catalina Council, Boy Scouts of America. Eagle Scout is the highest award in Scouting achieved by only 3 percent of all Scouts.

“We could not be prouder of Ricky for his accomplishment as the fastest junior racer and of everyone who participated on behalf of Catalina Council,” said Jeff Hotchkiss, Scout Executive/CEO of the organization. This was Catalina Council’s first year officially partnering with El Tour de Tucson, however Troop #739 has occupied at least one of El Tour’s Aid Stations since 1988, keeping bikers hydrated and nourished for the races with snacks and beverages and assisting with first aid when needed.

Forty-one participants from ages 12 to 62 competed on behalf of Catalina Council, and they raised more than \$4,000 in donations. The nonprofit plans to use the money raised to expand the Scout program and improve camp operations so more young men and women can stay active, athletic, and driven like Ricky, Hotchkiss said.

DiMambro currently holds 49 podium medals and over 21 wins for cycling. “My goal is to be a professional cyclist, racing on a world tour or continental pro team, and traveling the world racing bikes,” he said.

### **About Catalina Council, BSA**

*The Catalina Council, BSA has been serving youth in Southern Arizona for over 100 years and offers development programs for young people from Kindergarten to age 21. For additional information, visit [catalinacouncil.org](http://catalinacouncil.org) or contact Jeff Hotchkiss at [jeff.hotchkiss@scouting.org](mailto:jeff.hotchkiss@scouting.org).*

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