

Belgian cyclist Aldo Taillieu of the Lotto Development Team has made a remarkable start at the 2025 Tour du Rwanda, clinching the prologue victory and securing the coveted yellow jersey.

The 3.4 km individual time trial, held on February 23, 2025, saw Taillieu complete the course in 3 minutes and 48 seconds, averaging a speed of 53.471 km/h.

Taillieu's performance not only earned him the overall lead but also the Best Young Rider award, highlighting his potential in the cycling world.

His teammate, Milan Menten, showcased his climbing prowess, securing the Best Climber title. The Best Sprinter accolade was awarded to Joris Delbove of Team TotalEnergies, who finished the prologue just three seconds behind Taillieu.

Local talent shone brightly, with Masengesho Vainqueur of Team Rwanda being recognized as the Best Rwandan rider. Kieran Gordge from Team South Africa earned the Best African Rider award, while Ruhumuriza Aimée of May Stars was celebrated as the Best Young Rwandan.

Taillieu's aggressive racing also earned him the Best in Breakaway honor. Collectively, the Lotto Development Team's consistent performances secured them the Best Team award.

The 2025 Tour du Rwanda features 74 riders from 15 teams, representing 20 countries. Notably, over 20% of the participants are under 20 years old, emphasizing the event's role in nurturing young talent.

As the race progresses, fans can anticipate intense competition across diverse terrains, with emerging talents poised to make significant impacts on both local and international stages.