

# Team Profile - Metro Volkswagen Cycling Team

## By TRP Staff



enough results at NRC/National events that our women's team was invited by USAC Women's Development Program to race in Europe in 2009. Receiving a 2008 USAC Center of Excellence award in recognition of our athlete development programs. Winning the Texas State Crit Championship in Men's (2007 & 2008) and Women's P1/2 (2008)

ect was the women's program. This coming year the women's team will be racing in Europe with USA Cycling. So riders had to include some of the best U25 riders in the US, and they had to fit together as a team. To make 10 women work and to get them all on the same page is no easy task, but Rogut is encouraged. He says, "These girls are good and from what I have seen to this point we should have no problems this year."

The men's team was a bit easier to prepare as only one new rider has been added. Rogut says, "The hard part now was getting the riders to understand that 2008 was just a dress rehearsal for the big show." Learning is over for this men's group, and racing is no longer a hobby. They are expected to win. Rogut adds, "Hopefully they have put in the time, each one of them, because in this sport you're only as good as your last race and if you don't go out on top you just fade to the back of the pack."

The Metro Volkswagen team will compete for the first time in 2009 at Arizona's NRC race - Valley of the Sun. The team is managed by Nathan Rogut (DS), and this year the team is excited to have Matt Stephens on board as Assistant DS.



**Team Name:** Metro Volkswagen Cycling Team (a division of FCS)

**Main Sponsors:** Metro Volkswagen (Irving, Tx.), BH Bikes, FSA, Peter A. Erdoes and Living Well Health & Wellness.

**Website:** [www.fcscycling.com](http://www.fcscycling.com)

**Geographic area:** Elite Team and most riders are based out of the D/FW area, but elite riders come from throughout the U.S.

**Open training rides:** Saturdays, 9 am from Mad Duck in Grapevine. The Elite team rides this ride when they are in town, but during season most are on the NRC circuit. Off season training rides M/W at Exxon Mobil headquarters.

**History:** In 2004 Nathan Rogut came up with the idea of starting a local cycling club that would help support and develop an Elite Cycling Team made up of Jr., U23 & Elite athletes wanting to participate in the sport at the highest level. Foundation for the Cultivation of Sport (FCS Cycling) was formed in Jan. 2005. The 1st title sponsor was Compliance Depot (3 years) and we are currently in our 2nd year of Title sponsorship by Metro Volkswagen.

**Races promoted:** Track Races, 2 Nights on the Track and Six Days In 1 Night. The Elite team also donates cash prizes to several Texas races such as the Texas State Crit Championship, the Texas Tough race and Gary Glickman Memorial Race, which we also donate back our prize money to their cause.

**Goals or Purpose:** Developing talented athletes into elite talent is the reason the club was formed. Founded by a former Junior and Elite National team member & champion and Pan American champion with a desire to both teach the work ethic required to succeed in racing and pass on the knowledge of how to race to the next generation

**Proudest achievements of 2007-8:** Producing

**Membership and contact information:** Club Membership: Shannon Koch, [fcscycling-club@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fcscycling-club@sbcglobal.net). Elite Team Membership, submit resume to Nathan Rogut [NRogut@SBCGlobal.net](mailto:NRogut@SBCGlobal.net)

The Metro Volkswagen elite team, while based in Texas, mostly races the NRC series and Nationals. In 4 years, they have won 3 Elite National medals, 20+ Junior National medals, 7 Junior National titles, 15+ U23 National medals, 20+ state titles, and over 100 wins in 4 years (road and track combined). In 2009, they have big plans to capitalize on the team's momentum.

To put together an amateur team of this magnitude, takes full time management and a decent budget. Every year team management sits down with sponsors and decides on the team's direction and goals. Coming off such success in 2008, Nathan Rogut (Team DS) had a difficult time figuring out how to improve. He sat down with the Metro Volkswagen family and asked them for the opportunity to take the team up a notch. Given the current economic state, this was a hard pill to swallow, but once again the family at Metro stepped up to the plate and agreed. With a base budget in place, the DS began the daily grind of seeking sponsorship from the bike industry. BH and FSA really knocked it out of the park this year! With the agreements signed and the deals in place the search began for new riders for the upcoming season.

Finding riders that fit the bill is not always an easy task. With almost 100% of the team returning there were only a few spots to fill. The biggest proj-

**D.S., Nathan Rogut**  
**Assistant D.S., Mat Stephens**

### 2009 Women's Roster

**Returning riders**  
Ashley Anderson  
Kim Geist  
Shannon Koch

### Transfers

Casey Gale  
Natalie Klemko  
Sinead Miller  
Lise Olivier  
Coryn Rivera  
Whitney Schultz  
Andrea Wilson

### 2009 Men's Roster

**Returning riders**  
Peter Carey  
Andrew Dahlheim  
Christian Helmig  
Joe Miller  
Corey Ray  
Austin Robison  
Will Snodgrass  
Phil Snodgrass

### Transfers

Brad Armstrong  
Benjamin Baumgartner  
Evan Bybee  
Andrew Gonzales  
William Rader