BONALDI AND BROCARD DOMINATE THE OPENING SKATING OF THE 36TH MARCIAGRANPARADISO

159 racers at the start coming from 10 different nations.

Many racers not only from Europe but also a representer from Australia: Marciagranparadiso 2018 makes a great opening with a 25 kilometres skating which seems it has been very international.

Under the point of view of weather condition the day was absolutely perfect, ideal to open the three-day event dedicated to cross-country skiing in Cogne. Tomorrow it's the turn of Minimarcia, the challenge for the young skiers and on Sunday the Marciagranparadiso Classic, on a 25 and 45 kilometres courses.

On the technical side, the race took place on a good snow, quite fast. The start was on time at 10:00 am with the sun that was shining just above the mountains lighting up the ski stadium. In a hour and ten minutes Sergio Bonaldi (C.S. Esercito) nailed the first place on the finish line, in front of Jean Luc Perron (Ski Valtournenche) by only 28" and Simone Paredi (C.S. Esercito) by 48". Among the ladies Elisa Brocard got the win: the olympic skier from Gressan (C.S. Esercito) has completed the race, faced as a training for the Olympics, in a hour, 17' and 49", in front of Chiara Caminada (Ski Nordico Torino) 8':35", and Lea Cavagnet (S.C. Gran Paradiso A.S.D.) 24':16".

"Every year Marciagranparadiso, with lots of international participants, becomes a fundamental way to promote the spot under the touristic point of view but also to present and remember all the future events which will take place here in Cogne. This year for example on March 3rd and 4th there will be OPA Cup and OPA Games" – Raffaella Carlin, director of Cogne Touristic Bureau, said.

The event will be covered also on the official Facebook page "Marcia Gran Paradiso" and on the official Twitter account @MGranparadiso with two main hashtags: #marciagranparadiso and #MGP2018.

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