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GRAN PARADISO SKI DAY: KERMESSE AND MINIMARCIAGRANPARADISO UNDER A HEAVY SNOWFALL

Almost 500 skiers at the start of promotional event and the 11th Minimarciagranparadiso. The organizers: *«We are already thinking about the next edition».*

It seemed almost a mockery, after months spent waiting for it. However, the snow, fell during the whole Gran Paradiso Ski Day, the event dedicated to cross country skiing which combined the kermesse for adult skiers of 15 km and the 11th edition of Minimarciagranparadiso young skiers, made it magical.

In the morning 124 cross-country skiers completed the 15 km course prepared along the meadows of Sant'Orso and Valnontey. Among them American, Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish and Spanish skiers, warmed up and cheered by the local bands of Lou Tintamaro and accordionists.

Daniel Snow comes from New York and, after Marcialonga, he did not want to miss the appointment with the event organized in substitution of Marciagranparadiso. About twenty Londoners were led by Glennis Dore; the dozen Norwegians were part of Team Baken Hansen. Among the foreigners the core was represented by the skiers from Valle d'Aosta and Piedmont. To score the fastest time was a Swede, Niclas Sjögren, who took an hour 7'10". He comes from Stockholm and has already competed in the 2016 Marciagranparadiso both classic and skating techniques. Among women best time for Federica Teppex, who scored one hour 10'27".

Then, by lunchtime, it was the time for the 11th edition of Minimarciagranparadiso. 338 baby skiers were on track. Most were from Valle d'Aosta, some from Piedmont, Lombardy and also from Modena. They also competed Emilie Beltrami, daughter of the Olympic marathon runner Catherine Bertone and Nayeli Mariotti Cavagnet, daughter of former Italian national team XC-skier Klaus Mariotti. They also competed Emilie Beltrami, daughter of the Olympic marathon runner Catherine Bertone and Nayeli Mariotti Cavagnet, daughter of former national team XC-skier Klaus Mariotti.

Races were won: Baby Sprint by Allegra Grande and Cedric Nex; Baby by Emilie Tussidor and Daniel Segor; Cuccioli by Annamaria Ghiddi and Thomas Cuc; Ragazzi by Axelle Vicari and Mattia Zen; Allievi by Delponte Carole and Andrea Gradizzi.

Classifications are available here: [Gran Paradiso Ski Day 2017](#) and [Minimarciagranparadiso 2017](#).

«We took over the organization of Marciagranparadiso in November – said Christine Cavagnet, head of the organizing committee – We managed to organize a day of sport and cross country skiing trying to involve adults and children. From tomorrow we will think about the race of next year. We are part of Euroloppet and





we will work to make the event better and better. We will always have a plan B with artificial snow and alternative route to dispute the race in case of lack of snow».

The event has been covered also on the official Facebook page “Marcia Gran Paradiso” and on the official Twitter account @MGranparadiso with three main hashtags: #marciagranparadiso, #MGP2017 and #GPSkiDay.

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