

Press release of June 17th 2017

**Jochen Uhrig from Germany is the “king” of the first Stelvio Marathon
Edeltraud Thaler – local heroine from Merano – wins the womens race**

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(Prato allo Stelvio/Prad am Stilfserjoch) – it was anticipated to have such a dream finish. The sun was shining all day long, it wasn't a clear blue sky, it was a glorious blue sky, and roughly 750 participants run over paths and steep roads in the Stelvio Nationalpark and had a great finish with 24 curves at the last 7 kilometers to the legendary Stelvio Pass. The success has been announced, provided, imagined, intended and finally prevailed. It was a magnificent first edition of the great novelty of 2017 in the Italian 42km marathons.

Just on time at 8.30 am the starting pistol has been fired at Prato allo Stelvio/Prad am Stilfserjoch in the village-center. The top runners built the front line, followed by all the other runners from all over Italy and other 10 countries. On time also the arrival and the success with 3h45'30'' of the German Jochen Uhrig who praised his personal best time at the Frankfurt Marathon with 2h25'31''. “The last three kilometers have been the most exhausting one of the full route, but running on this legendary road is really emotional – are the first words of the champion – arriving at the pass and looking to the king Ortles – the highest mountain of South Tyrol, let you forget all the exertions and gives you the force to give it everything. I am really happy and proud of this success and to find my name in the hall of fame of the Stelvio Marathon”.

Upon his heels with 2'54'' spacing, the Italian Gerd Frick, member of the national team in mountain running, transgressed the finish line in 3h48'25'' followed by the swiss Christoph Schefer with a small gap in 3h48'37''.

A race dominated by Jochen Uhrig who seemed like he saved his energy in the first part of the course.

Edeltraud Thaler wins the ladies race with 4h30'46''. “I participated a few times at the Brixen- and Jungfrau Marathon, but the Stelvio Marathon is really unique. I've done a really good preparation and had a free mind for this special route, which wasn't really easy to handle. During the first 16km you have to save your energy, because you'll need it during the last kilometers -especially the last 7 with the 24 curves.”.

The ladies podium has been completed by the swiss Paola Vollmeier with 4h41'36'' and by the 3rd Francesca Scribani with 4h48'40''.

In addition to the marathon has been a “Classic” route with 26 km which another German, Andreas Schindler, with a finish time of 2h43'49'', won. Followed by Marco Maini with 2h47'18'' and Roland Osele with 2h48'58''. The ladies victory was taken by Agnes Tschurtschenthaler with 2h49'56'', who took an overall 5th rank. The 2nd Giulia Bongiovanni arrived at 3h14'18'' and the 3rd Elisa Almondo in 3h20'24''.

OC-Boss Gerald Burger is really happy about the end of this first edition: “I've never dreamed a first edition like that. We had so many participants, a beautiful day with bluebird-weather and so I would like to thank everybody involved in this event. We did a lot of publicity all over Italy and also Europe in the last months for this event but also for our region: the Stelvio Pass, the Venosta Valley and South Tyrol.

INFORMATION - www.stelviomarathon.it



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Michaela Platzer
Julia Hensel
ASV Stelvio Marathon
media@stelviomarathon.it