Press release

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**Four good reasons to enjoy the FIS Snowboard Cross World Cup in Baqueira Beret**

**On 1 and 2 March 2019, Baqueira Beret will host the FIS Snowboard Cross World Cup for the second time, welcoming the best riders from around the world.**

**Spanish riders from the Royal Spanish Winter Sports Federation (RFEDI), Olympic medal-winner Regino Hernández, World Championships runner-up Lucas Eguibar, an official village with a great atmosphere and live music, a thrilling sports event and over 2.5 metres of snow on the slopes are just a few of the fantastic reasons why you shouldn't miss the FIS Snowboard Cross World Cup 2019.**

After the success of the 2016 edition, Baqueira Beret is once again the stage of one of the top competitions of the International Ski Federation (FIS), an event sponsored by Movistar and Seguros Catalana Occidente. On Friday 1 March and Saturday 2 March, this ski resort in Val d'Aran and Valls d'Àneu will host the thrilling FIS Snowboard Cross World Cup after the events at Cervinia (Italy) and Feldberg (Germany). The World Cup circuit will celebrate its finale on 16 March in Veysonnaz (Switzerland), where we will find out the men's and women's winners of the Christal Globe for the 2018-2019 season.

**An exciting course**

The Blanhiblar area in Beret, where the Boardercross course is located, will host the qualifying rounds on the Friday and the finals on the Saturday, organised by the Baqueira Beret ski resort and the Royal Spanish Winter Sports Federation (RFEDI), with the support from local and sporting bodies. The riders who qualify on Friday will go head to head in the Saturday rounds in groups of four, manoeuvring through jumps, dubbies and banks along the 900-metre course with a 115-metre slope. Pure adrenaline!

**Podium chances for the Spanish riders**

On both days, fans can cheer on and marvel at the spectacular nature of snowboarding, an event which will include the best riders from around the world. These include **Alex Pullin** (Australia), winner of the 2016 event in Baqueira and two-time World Champion; **Pierre Vaultier** (France), gold-medal winner in the Sochi (2014) and PyeongChang (2018) Winter Olympic Games; and **Mick Dierdoff** (United States), crowned SBX World Champion in Park City, USA, last February. In the women's event, among others we will be able to see **Michaela Moioli** (Italy), podium finisher in two World Cup events this winter, bronze medallist in the World Championships in Park City earlier this year and gold-medal winner in the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in PyeongChang; and **Eva Samková** (Czech Republic), who has landed in Baqueira after having won the gold medal in the FIS World Championships in Park City earlier this year.

Local fans will be cheering on the Spanish riders from the Royal Spanish Winter Sports Federation (RFEDI), including Olympic-medal winner **Regino Hernández** (27) from the Andalusian Winter Sports Federation (FADI) and member of the EOE club; and **Lucas Eguibar** (25), from the Basque Winter Sports Federation (FVDI) and member of the Promosport club, runner-up in the 2017 World Championships in Sierra Nevada.

Both of them have a great chance of reaching the top step on the podium thanks to their fantastic current form: Eguibar came fourth in Solitude in the previous FIS World Championships in Park City (USA), and seventh in the World Cup which took place in Feldberg (Germany) back in early February. He was third in this event in Baqueira back in 2016 and therefore knows what podium success tastes like in Val d'Aran. On the other hand, Hernández, a Spanish snowboarding icon, finished in fifth position in the same event three years ago.

**Participatory official village, food tastings and live DJ sets**

The official participatory village will be set up right next to the Blanhiblar de Beret course, next to the car park and therefore accessible on foot. It will be full of entertaining activities for all ages, with the main new feature this year being the children's Snow Park, where our youngest (and slightly older) fans can stand on a board and pretend to be their heroes, who will be taking part in the third event of this year's SBX World Cup.

Also, there will be different stands where you can buy drinks, beer, coffee, hot chocolate, cold sandwiches, hot dogs, etc. to recharge your batteries while you watch the top sporting event taking place this year in Baqueira Beret. There will also be free food tastings with mulled wine and the traditional local stew, *olla aranesa*.

However, that is not all. The official village will also have different ski tents and other promotional ones, as well as the four inflatable arches: the Baqueira Arch, the Val d'Aran Arch, the Audi Arch and the Seguros Catalana Occidente Arch, which will define the different zones of this leisure area.

The closing party on Saturday, 2 March will be the cherry on the cake. At 3.00 p.m. approximately, straight after the awards ceremony, DJ Serx Einheri will take over the decks and bring the event to a close with his music.

**The perfect excuse to enjoy excellent snow in Baqueira Beret**

The Aranese ski resort of Baqueira Beret is fully open, offering 160 kilometres of slopes divided into 112 courses and 36 ski lifts in operation. With this presentation card as an unavoidable excuse to come and witness the event, the resort will welcome all teams and a large number of fans and journalists.

The weather conditions just 20 days from the event are fantastic: 2.5 metres of snow at high levels. Visitors, therefore, can enjoy excellent snow conditions with friends and family in what will be one of the best days of the winter season, with the FIS Snowboard Cross World Cup as the luxury backdrop.

**More press information**:

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