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**Press Release – 30 January 2017**

**Tons of Snow and the tracks are ready for the 38th edition of the Marxa Beret**

**The weekend of the 4th and 5th of February 2017 Baqueira Beret will be the headquarters for the 38th edition of the largest cross country ski race of Spain. Registration is still open. There will be three race distances – 10, 21 and 42 km – throughout the area from Orri until Montgarri thanks to the abundant amount of snow.**

During the first weekend of February the ski resort of the Val d’Aran and the Valls d’Àneu will hold the 38th Marxa Beret which continues to be in the calendar of the Long Distance Races of the International Ski Federation (ML) and the International Ski Federation (FIS) and for the first time has become a part of the Spanish Cup, within the calendar of the Spanish Real Federation of Winter Sports (RFEDI).

**Competitive and Family Oriented at the same time**

The previous season the race was the European Championship for Cross Country Ski Marathons of Euroloppet in which some 1200 participants raced in the Pla de Beret. 40% of those were from the Nordic countries, Germany, Austria, Holland and Italy. It was the 37th Marxa Beret. The international impulse which comes from being part of the FIS calendar, this time in the category of cross country races (ML) ensures that this event is one not only for highly trained sports persons, but also for non-professionals coming from Spain or from Europe. Moreover, the race is designed so that families can enjoy this cross country ski fest and with a registration option without a racing license.

Some of the racers with the most experience who will be present in the Under 18 category include Paula Martínez (CENA) y Gral Sellés (Club Bellver) and in the Under 16 category Maria Iglesias (ANEC) y Maria Sellés (Club Bellver). Each of these are in the FutuRFEDI program for the development of the technical capacity of the young sports enthusiasts along with the regional territories and local clubs.

**Sprint Salomon in Artíes and complete circuit in Beret**

On Saturday February 4 at 16.00h the Sprint Salomon Skate race will take place in the area of the parking lot of the C-28 as an exhibition race in which there will be a circuit with many surprises and even more emotion!

On Sunday February 5 the 38th Marxa Beret will be held with its 10km circuit in Beret and Orri, the 21km circuit in Beret, Orri and Montgarri and lastly, the 42km circuit in Beret, Orri, Montgarri and towards Marimanha thanks to the abundant snow the resort is enjoying.

The Marxa Beret is one of the most established cross country ski races in the nation and every year has large number of participants who don’t want to miss the experience. The Pla de Beret is completely covered in white as a result of the intense snowfalls throughout the peninsula.

The winners of the previous edition were Imanal Rojo from the Cross Country team of RFEDI, who frequently train in the Val d’Aran, and the French racer, Marielle Bigot, who has also won in previous editions.

The Spaniard also won the 30km Skating race of the Euroloppet and in the 42km classic race had a time of 2h 25 min and as a result won the Championship of the European Cross Country Ski Marathons having the two best times in both long distance categories of the 30km Skating and the 42km Classic.

The Marxa Beret is organized by the Conselh Generau d’Aran, Baqueira Beret and the Town Hall of Naut Aran. The organization also counts on the collaboration of the following: Volunteers of the Val d’Aran, Foment Torisme Val d’Aran, Diputation of Lleida, Town Hall of Vielha e Mijaran, Fire Department of Aran, Aran Salut, Mossos d’Esquadra Police Dept., INS d’Aran, Real Federation of Winter Sports (RFEDI), Catalan Federation of Winter Sports (FCEH) and distinct sponsors. To consolidate the event as a grand cross country ski fest, the Conselh and Baqueira Beret have put together a series of activities parallel to the Marxa Beret so all the participants can have an enjoyable and complete weekend.

**Weekend Program**

Saturday 4 February 2017:

There will be a demonstration in **category skating** in the spectacular **Sprint Salomon**. This trial will take place in the village of Arties with a distance of 1,5 kilometers and will **start at 16:00 hours**.

The participation is limited to 32 men and 16 women. To register, please send registration request to the email address of the organization, [marxaberet@gmail.com](mailto:marxaberet@gmail.com) before February 2, 2017. The award ceremony will take place the same day in the Casa de Acogida (registration center) at 19:00 hours prior to the presentation of the 38th Marxa Beret.

Sunday 5 February 2017:

38th Marxa Beret from 10:00 in the morning the race takes place in the Pla de Beret with the 42, 21 and 10 km circuits in a simultaneous start. The **classic technique** is the only technique permitted.

The men and women born in 1999 and before may participate in the both the longer distances. The 10 km race is considered promotional and is therefore open to everyone.

At 13:30 the award ceremony will take place in the same circuit with the closing ceremony at 14:00.

**Web based or in-person registration**

In this edition of the Marxa Beret registrations can only be made through the internet on the specified dates or in-person at the Gymnasium of Salardu (Reception Center) the day before the race. In this case, participants must present the corresponding documentation and pick up their race bib and gift pack.

The registrations can be done on the internet until Thursday 2 February, 2017 in the web page of the Marxa Beret (<http://www.marxaberet.com>)

The participants, members of a club, with national racing license or FIS number must also register through the registration platform of the web page of the Marxa Beret.

More Information: [www.marxaberet.com](http://www.marxaberet.com/)

**More Information**:

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