

Tre Rifugi Val Pellice 37th Edition – Start and Finishing line in Bobbio Pellice

Sunday July 15-2012– Important logistic and organizational changes

For **Tre Rifugi Val Pellice**, sports event of ancient traditions, ancestor of hundreds of mountain exertion races, the moment of radical changes is arrived.

It was born in 1972, when this speciality was still called Alpine Walk and only followed by alpine and cross-country skiers during their summer training. It was the first one, and for long time the only one, to propose the resistance courses on long distances and substantial drops.

The competition field is represented by the mountain of the high Val Pellice, where the main three refuges, run by CAI-Uget Val Pellice and symbol of this sports event, are located.

The technical evolutions of this specialty determined the shift to the Mountain Race, keeping the original route.

In 2009 the first important changes to allow the queen of the mountain races to adapt to the new characteristics of this type of race, that was living a moment of strong development: the formula Sky Marathon and Sky Race with transit into the neighboring French territory characterized the editions from 2009 to 2011.

The growing success in quality and quantity of the athletes taking part to the last editions, leads the staff to think about a new organizational project, with the goal to offer to the participants in the race the possibility to discover further views of the mountains of the high valley and in the meantime to make the participation easier from the logistic point of view. In fact, in the most crowded editions, logistic problems represented a limit to the participation in the race.

Therefore, the organizing committee has re-defined with important changes the 2012 edition, the 37th edition:

- **The formula changes.** Two different courses, as per previous editions, but in the last evolution of this specialty: **Trail** and **Ultra Trail** to propose a race of high physical strength, but less competitive from the agonistic point of view. The comparison is most of all with ourselves and we live the surroundings that host our sports exertions.
- **Start and Finishing Line in Bobbio Pellice.** So that the logistic problems that were damaging the sports event are solved.

The two routes climb the high Val Pellice reaching **Jervis refuge with the “Trail” formula** and **the classical three refuges (Barbara, Granero and Jervis) with the “Ultra Trail” formula.**

Asphalt reduced to the minimum (400/500 mt. in total) and for the rest of the route trails and tracks, partially recovered and brought to new life for the occasion. The ascent is on the right and the descent on the left, orographic sides of the high Val Pellice, discovering new mountains views.

Distances and drops are still to be defined, but approximately: **Trail 28 km with positive drop of 1900 m**
– **Ultra Trail km 48 with positive drop of 3500 m**

The staff is considering the possibility to give to this event suitable points for the participation to the Ultra Trail du Mont Blanc and to the Courmayeur – Champex – Chamonix

The date: as usual the third Sunday of July. **July 15-2012** the test of this new formula.

The organizing committee is working together with Bobbio Pellice commune to define the routes in details. The web site www.3rifugivalpellice.it is active and visiting it it will be possible to be updated on the details of the project.