



domenica 4 luglio 2021

com _ 029 - 21

Piccolo: "Satisfied with this three-year period, now let's look to the future"

With the 2021 edition of the European Youth Mountain Bike Championship in Pila (Valle d'Aosta), a three-year journey is being archived, a period characterized by great work, both on the track, curated by Paolo Pesse, and from an organizational point of view. A Committee that, step by step, has always tried to ensure the many members and all their entourage the best, from all fronts: the logistics, the competitive side and the health aspect, which never as this year has committed to I found the organizational machine.

"We are delighted with how it went - comments Felice Piccolo, president of the organizing committee of the continental event -, especially this year, returning from a complex year due to the pandemic emergency, which has not a little complicated the organization of this event. edition of the youth European championship. But the satisfaction is to have completed an ever-growing three-year period, from all points of view and, to confirm this, there are many certificates of esteem received, the establishment of many new relationships of friendship and exchange of experience with athletes. , coaches and escorts from foreign countries. In the three years we have built an excellent team, which has always spent 100% to give maximum support and which brilliantly solved every type of problem that arose. I do not hide a little sadness at having reached the end of this edition and having passed the ideal baton to Switzerland, to the Canton of Ticino. Now let's think about resting but soon we will begin to focus on the future and on the resources that our area offers us ".

An edition with dizzying numbers. First for the participants; at the end of the five days, 583 athletes lined up on the starting line of the various disciplines, representing 23 nations. Numbers of absolute importance in terms of interactions with Facebook and Instagram profiles and live broadcasts on YouTube channels, an authentic and highly appreciated novelty of the 2021 edition.

The ideal handover - sanctioned on the stage of the protocol ceremonies between the two organizing committees, with a prize donated by the presidency of the regional council, in the presence of the vice president Paolo Sammaritani - is also marked by the reading of the results of the medal table: Switzerland, with ten medals (3 golds, 6 silvers and 1 bronze), ahead of Germany (4; 3-0-1) and Austria (4; 2-0-2). Fifth was Italy, also with ten metals collected, but only one gold, compared to 4 silvers and 5 bronzes.





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"It was an extraordinary experience - says Francesca Pellizzer, president of the Aosta Valley Committee of the FCI -, and I can say that we are proud of the results obtained. Participation was very high: 583 athletes registered, only three fewer than the 2019 edition and this despite the pandemic and the date of the event, scheduled for the end of June this year, with schools still open in many European countries. The organizational aspect has exceeded all expectations and even the sword of Damocles of the anti-Covid swabs had a perfect ending, starting with the programming and booking of the tests: many swabs carried out - a thousand between Wednesday and Thursday -, no hitch and 'bubble' of Pila managed in absolute safety and, above all, no positive tests in the week of races. For this we must thank the health councilor Roberto Barmasse for the invaluable contribution. Then, the promotional feedback; many people from all over Europe arrived on our territory, 'social' and video contributions that have really made the tour of the continent, to spread the beauties of our region - thanks to the precious help of the councilor for sport Jean-Pierre Guichardaz - and, why not, the efficiency of the organizing machine ".

