



Gianmarco Fontanella and Alessandro Malta took their Porsche 356 A Coupé to a fine third place overall Photos Pierpaolo Romano

## Winter Marathon

The Franciacorta Motori crew of Alberto Aliverti and Alberto Maffi were the winners of this year's Winter Marathon, the Italian classic regularity rally centred in the Dolomite ski resort of Madonna de Campiglio. The Lancia Aprilia crew preceded the second placed Volvo 1800S of Antonino Margiotta and Bruno Perno, who in turn were only a mere two penalty points ahead of the Porsche 356 A Coupé of fellow Italians Gianmarco Fontanella and Alessandro Malta. In a glamorous fourth place was the Loro Piana Classic Car-entered Bentley 3 Litre, whose drivers Luca Patron and Massimo Danilo Casale heroically hauled the pre-war Bentley over the 427km ice and snow covered route to just miss the podium. A sterling effort, considering that the conditions were harsh and the rate of attrition amongst the 120 starters was high, with only 83 finishing.

The January 23-24 rally for pre-1968 cars, with a few specially invited later cars, is now in its 27th year, and is an incredible

F1 driver Ivon Capelli drove a Volvo Italia-entered PV544, navigated by Guido Urbini Photos Pierpaolo Romano courtesy Winter Marathon

adventure through the Trentino, Alto Adige and Dolomite passes, four of which are over 2,000 metres, with over 12 consecutive hours of driving during which the crews face 45 challenging time trials.

After a bit of rest from their all-night trial the drivers continued the show in the afternoon on the frozen lake of Madonna di Campiglio, to the delight of the townspeople, where both MA-FRA and TAG Heuer Barozzi Trophies were held: The first, for all pre-war cars entered in the rally, and the second one reserved for the first 32 classified crews of the Winter Marathon. There was success for the 1938 Fiat 508 C driven by Francesco and Giuseppe Di Pietra in the pre-war division, while in the second heat Luciano Lui and Guido Ceccardi took a surprising victory with their 1953 Fiat 1100/103.

There was also a special APT Trophy prologue run on the floodlit frozen lake on Thursday evening, before the rally began. Winners, in their Porsche 356 Speedster, were the extremely happy duo of Alberto Benetti and Enrico Battagliola

