

Winter Marathon

Edoardo Bellini and Roberto Tiberti, driving a 1937 Fiat 508 C, won their second consecutive Winter Marathon, topping a podium dominated by Fiat 508 Cs. Both runner-up teams were also past winners, with Guido Barcella and Ombretta Ghidotti coming in second for Scuderia 3T and Alberto Aliverti and Stefano Valente in third place. The regularity rally was divided into two stages running over 15 Dolomite passes, the first at night on the evening of departure along the Val di Sole and Passo del Tonale, while on Friday competitors set out at 11am to tackle more passes, and to finish the final section at midnight.

This year's event was characterised by the extreme cold, which reached temperatures as low as -15°C on the descent of the 2239-metre Pordoi Pass, with minimal distances between the leading teams until after the dinner break at the Chalet Gerard on the second day, and the final night stages on the Gardena Pass, when Bellini and Tiberti launched their final attack to break free in the points table.

First place amongst the foreign crews were Brits Massimiliano and Edoardo Ottochian, driving a 1964 Mini Cooper S Mk I, who came in 63rd place from a field of 97 finishers in their first experience in this competition, followed by the Belgian crew of Ger and Janet Bas (Lancia Fulvia Coupé 1600 HF,) and Swiss Roberto Felici and Edoardo Tasciotti in a Porsche 911 T.

92nd overall was the two-time World Rally Champion Miki Biasion, who is a brand ambassador for event sponsor Eberhard, driving a Lancia Stratos and enjoying every minute of it.

Unique to this event amongst winter rallies is the racing that takes place the following day on the frozen lake in the headquarters town of Madonna de Campiglio. The racing is reserved for the first 32 teams overall in the rally results, who compete for the Eberhard Trophy, while the first eight Porsches to finish in the rally compete for the Centro Porsche Brescia Trophy.

The Porsche Trophy went to the young crew of Nicola Barcella and Michele Vecchi, who drove a 356 C Coupé to lead the similar car of Domenico Battagliola and Paolo Fredi. Vincenzo Bertoli and Alberto Gamba, who had finished the rally in tenth place in another Fiat 508 C, went home with the Eberhard Trophy and watches.

The organisers expressed themselves satisfied with the success of the event, which had proved tricky to plan under COVID restrictions.



Eberhard Cup winners Nicola Barcella and Michele Vecchi racing on the lake



Rally winners for the second time Edoardo Bellini and Roberto Tiberti



Miki Biasion entertained himself and the spectators on the stages and on the lake

Photos Pierpaolo Romano