



PIERPAOLO ROMANO

## Alpine hat-trick for Fiat crew

The 36th Winter Marathon, based in the Italian Madonna di Campiglio ski resort from 18-21 January, crowned Edoardo Bellini and Roberto Tiberti winners for the third time in their Fiat 508C (above) – and by a clear margin. Their 278.11 penalty points score was a huge 124.85 points lower than the similar car of runners-up and 2023 winners Guido Barcella and Ombretta Ghidotti, with a third 508C, that of Fabio Salvinelli and Andrea Costa, just 4.14 points further back.

Bellini/Tiberti led throughout, while Barcella/Ghidotti got off to a poor start and had to fight back from seventh. They eventually relegated the long-time silver-medal-position crew of Salvinelli/Costa to third, but only just.

There was some consolation for Barcella/Ghidotti, who won the Veriwatch Trophy, a knockout challenge on a frozen lake. Brits Edoardo Ottochian and George Drayson (Austin Mini Cooper 'S' Mk1) were the rally's first non-Italian crew, 57th out of 89, and captured the Sparco Trophy – another frozen-lake contest, for the top eight foreign finishers.