

Press release September 3, 2022

Team spirit at the start of the DYNAFIT Transalpine Run 2022 powered by Volkswagen R

It was a successful start for the eight-day dream for trail runners as the starting signal commenced for the 17th DYNAFIT Transalpine Run powered by Volkswagen R (TAR) - one of the toughest and at the same time most spectacular trail running events in the world.

There were 267 two person teams from 27 nations that started the first stage from Garmisch-Partenkirchen to Nassereith in Tyrol. The fastest women come from the USA, the fastest men from Germany. Unanimous opinion: It's even more fun as a team.

This year's TAR will end next Saturday after eight daily stages in Vals in South Tyrol. 150 teams will contest the run as part of RUN2 and thus the first two stages of the legendary TAR.

The winners of the first stage of the Transalpine Run 2022 were Stefan and Markus Bergler, two brothers from the Upper Palatinate from **Team M-motion** in just 4:19:32 hours. Upon crossing the finish line in Nassereith after 43 kilometres, Markus Bergler stated, "We were already flirting with a top ten place, but we didn't expect to finish at the front today." His equally happy brother Stefan stated, "**We should have done a team run like this much earlier. We really complemented each other great.**" A strong second place, only about 4 minutes behind, went to the two Austrians and co-favourites Alexander Hutter and Elias Feineler from **Team F7/Coros**. Third place went to the team "Häckstixx Runners powered by Kanat Media Verlag & Bemer" with Ferdinand Hauke and Manuel Herkommer.

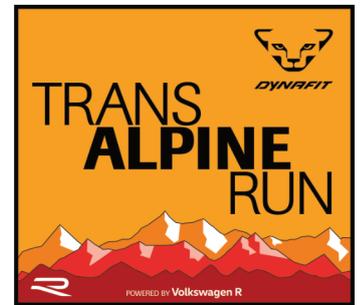
There was also an exciting battle in the **women's race** with a **double US team victory**. US team "**Ski Dog Fitness Club**" with Emmiliese von Avis and Erika Flowers won in 4:52:37 hours, followed by their compatriots Rea Kolbl and Erin Ton from the **DYNAFIT Ladies USA**, less than 2 minutes behind. "This was extremely fun. Erika was stronger downhill, I was stronger uphill. **So we really had the feeling of running as a team,**" said the beaming winner Emmiliese. Germany's Lena Laukner and Heidi Annemarie Schwartz from Team **Salomon-Skinfit**, who were in the lead until the last aid station, came in third.

Volkswagen R not to be beaten.

In the **mixed category**, the victory clearly went to the favoured **Volkswagen R team** with Sebastian Hallmann and Ida Sophie Hegemann, which was newly assembled at short notice. "That was a super start! The first half we sorted ourselves in the field and tried to find the rhythm, in the second half we were able to step on the gas," Sebastian was pleased. His partner Ida-Sophie was also overjoyed: "**There is no better race for me than the Transalpine Run. It's the Tour de France for trail runners.**" With a lead of more than half an hour, the two secured a commanding victory in 4:52.49 hours ahead of the Bemer Running Team with Maxi and Jasmin Hafenmyer and Mathias Klemm and Nolle Keßler from Team "Salomon #Elbventure."

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Old acquaintances and new winners

The Master Men classification was dominated by the two Belgians Koen Wilssens and Krijn van Koolwijk from the **"#Teamrunnerslab1"** in 4:42:37 hours. They were in the lead for the whole stage and finally won sovereignly ahead of the Swiss Helmut Perreten and Thomas Graf from the team "Jungfrau Marathon RV Run" and the Austrians Franz Fuchs and Thomas Wimmer from "De Zwoa auf da Roas". **Franz Fuchs is an old TAR acquaintance as he was at the inaugural Transalpine Run in 2005.** Old hands also in the Senior Master category with Anton Philipp and Clemens Keller from Team **Seeberger-Mammut**, two runners who have both won the TAR several times in other combinations were at the top in the end.

The **Master Women** category was dominated by the **Slovakians Linda Beniacova and Silvia Petrjanosova from Team "Runningzone Dynafit"**. They were the only team to stay under 6 hours in their class. Second went to **"Salomon Canada"** with Rene Unser and Sarah Macleod ahead of "Trailmotion Tirol powered by Imst Tourismus" with Kerstin Zangerle and Maria Tangl.

In the **Master Mixed**, the Swiss Gabriela Egli and Sascha Hosennen from the team "Suvretta Sports" prevailed in 5:13:40 hours just ahead of Team Ötztal with Stefan Zell and Edith Zell. Third place went to "We run 4 Fun e.V." with Claudia Rosegger and Benjamin Klöppel.

Winner in the **Senior Master Mixed**: Team Huto Racers with Klemens Huemer and Angelika Huemer-Toff ahead of Team Pitztal powered by Wohlleben Sport & Dynafit with Holger Schulze and Stephanie Leb. Holger Schulze continues his unique TAR history: He is the only runner who has finished every single stage in the history of the TAR.

Top performances at the RUN2. Final tomorrow in Imst

The RUN2 covers the first two stages of the Transalpine Run. **Fastest team of the day was Team Dynafit with Michael Zweigart and Chris Walther.** In 4:17:52 hours they rushed through the finish line in Nassereith. "It was entertaining and a lot of fun. At the beginning, there was a lot of running on the forest roads and then really nice trails and super signposted," Michael is pleased with the success. Just under 18 minutes behind: the "flatland fighters from Switzerland, Ramon Gut and Tobias Schmid; ahead of the Austrians Friedrich Putz and Maximilian Loy from the team "Adlerweg-Twins powered by Jolsport."

In the **women's race, South Tyroleans Claudia Sieger and Christine Griessmair, "Die Flotten Gamsn,"** snatched victory in 5:20:57 hours. They go into tomorrow's decisive second stage with a 20-minute lead over the team "TRT Vorarlberg" with Sandra Stroppa and Johanna Eppler. In 3rd place: "Dolce und Banana" with Lisa Vogelgesang and Franziska Geske.

Strong performance also in the **mixed category: "Dynafit Trailheroes"** with Miria Meinheit and Patrick Ehrenthaler won in 5:10:06 ahead of "Nase und Schnitzel" with Jona van Buren and Inga Höben and "Grupetto Allgäu/Pro Training" with Simon Malsch and Manuela Schiebel. "We just complemented each other super well as a team," beamed winner Miria Meinheit.

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On September 4, 2022, the second stage of the Transalpine Run covers 31 kilometers and 1770 meters of ascent from Nassereith to Imst.

All results and info at <https://transalpine-run.com>

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