

**11 Y 12
DE JULIO**

**RAMALES DE
LA VICTORIA**



DESAFÍO DAMA ROJA

**2026 UEC MTB MARATHON
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**



RACE GUIDE

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EN DIRECTO

LIVE ON

TV

SIROKO

***Follow the race live,
no registration or
subscription
required.***

LIVE





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CONSEJERÍA DE CULTURA,
TURISMO Y DEPORTE

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cantabria



Sociedad Regional de Cultura y Deporte

1. EVENT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

Welcome to the Desafío Dama Roja 2026! This year, we face the most significant edition in our history, and we are proud to announce that Ramales de la Victoria will serve as the official host of the 2026 UEC Mountain Bike Marathon European Championships. This historic event will bring together the continent's top specialists on July 12, 2026, in Cantabria.

The Desafío Dama Roja is a sporting event organized by the Club MTB Ramales, in accordance with the regulations of the Cantabrian Cycling Federation, the Royal Spanish Cycling Federation (RFEC), and the UCI Cycling Regulations. Following years of hard work, dedication, and steady growth, our event takes a definitive step onto the international stage by hosting the 2026 Mountain Bike Marathon European Championships, positioning Ramales de la Victoria as the European epicenter of mountain biking.

This recognition is a source of immense pride for the entire Club MTB Ramales team and the surrounding region, which will once again rally behind an event that promises to be unforgettable for both competitors and fans alike. Being designated as a European host city is the result of the commitment, passion, and dedication that have defined the Desafío Dama Roja since its inception.

El 12 de julio de 2026 viviremos una jornada histórica para el BTT, con los mejores bikers de Europa compitiendo en un entorno único, espectacular y exigente, preparado para ofrecer una experiencia de máximo nivel deportivo y organizativo.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the institutions, partners, volunteers, and cyclists who have trusted in us throughout these years.

We look forward to seeing you on July 12, 2026, in Ramales de la Victoria as we make history together at the Mountain Bike Marathon European Championships!





**From World Cup
victories to your
own weekend
rides.**



2. FORMAT AND CHARACTER OF THE EVENT

In the MTB XCM European Championships, participation is open to all male and female athletes with a valid racing license in the following categories: Men Elite MTB Marathon, Women Elite MTB Marathon, and Master Men/Women MTB Marathon, according to the category and age bracket specified on their license.

The Master Men MTB Marathon categories are established in the following age groups: 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, and 75+.

The Master Women MTB Marathon categories are established in the following age groups: 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, and 60+.

On the day preceding the MTB XCM European Championships, the organizing committee will hold a race for junior categories, replacing the hill climb, which will be open according to the categories established by the organization in the official program.



A person with dark hair, wearing a bright yellow short-sleeved shirt and dark shorts, is bent over a shallow stream. They are drinking water with their hands cupped to their face. Water is splashing down from their hands. The background is a dense forest with green foliage, and the foreground shows rocks and water in the stream.

ale®

Beyond
the Road

3. SERVICES



AID STATIONS



RIDER'S BAG



SHOWERS



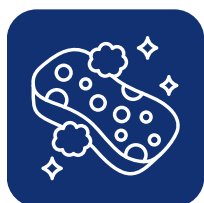
CATERING



Timing



Physiotherapy



BIKE WASH



PARKING



LIVE TRACKING

4. SCHEDULE

European Championship Program:

Thursday, July 9:

- 15:00 - Official paddock opening.
- 16:00 to 19:00 - Accreditation center opening.
- 16:00 to 19:00 - Race office opening.

Friday, July 10:

- 9:00 to 12:00 and 16:00 to 19:00 - Accreditation center opening.
- 9:00 to 19:00 - Race office opening.
- 16:00 to 19:00 - Bib collection opening.

Saturday, July 11:

- 09:00 – 12:00 and 14:00 – 18:00 | Accreditation center and race pack collection
- 09:00 – 19:00 | Race office opening
- 09:00 – 12:00 and 14:00 – 20:00 | Expo area opening
- 10:00 – 19:00 | Official training sessions
- 15:00 | Futurobike youth race
- 19:30 | Team managers' meeting / Official briefing

Sunday, July 12:

- 07:00 – 08:00 | Accreditation center and race pack collection
- 07:00 – 09:00 | Accreditation center opening
- 07:00 – 17:00 | Race office opening
- 07:00 – 17:00 | Expo area opening
- 08:00 | Team warm-up tent opening (Restricted to accredited riders and staff)
- 08:30 | Starting grid opening (Call-up)
- 09:00 | Start: MEN ELITE
- 09:05 | Start: MASTERS
- 09:10 | Start: WOMEN
- 12:45 | Estimated arrival of the first rider 15:00 | Award ceremony
- 17:00 | Estimated arrival of the last rider

Important notes:

- It is mandatory to be in the starting grids 20 minutes before the indicated time (08:40).
- All riders must wear the identification wristband provided in the race pack. Its use is mandatory.

5. BIB COLLECTION

The collection of race packs will take place at the main event tent ([Location: click here](#)), during the times specified in the previous section.

To collect your bib and additional materials, participants must present their National ID (DNI) or an official document proving their identity and age. Under no circumstances will race packs be handed over to anyone other than the registered participant, unless they present a copy of the participant's ID and a signed authorization from them.

6. IDENTIFICATION ELEMENTS

All participants are required to wear the bib provided by the organization, which will serve as an identification element for monitoring and tracking the race.

Bibs will be color-coded by category, with each category assigned a specific color:



All participants are required to wear, in a visible and mandatory manner, this bib provided by the organization. The organization will provide all registered riders with a number plate/bib and fastening elements (zip ties).

7. STARTING ORDER

7.1 Start Order

The start order will be established in accordance with UCI/UEC regulations.

Riders will line up in the order in which they are called to the start line. The number of riders in each row is determined by the President of the Commissaires' Panel and supervised by the commissaires.

The rider themselves decides which position to occupy in the row.

7.2 Starting Grid

→ ELITE RIDERS The starting grid will be determined in accordance with Article 4.02.061 of the UCI MTB regulations as follows:

1. According to the latest published UCI individual XCM ranking.
2. According to the latest published UCI individual XCO ranking.
3. Unranked riders: by draw.

7.3 Starting Grid

→ MASTER RIDERS The start order for all Master categories will be as follows:

1. 2025 defending European Champion in the corresponding categories, starting with the youngest categories first.
2. According to the order of online registration.



SPECIALIZED



8. CUT-OFF TIMES

An official time limit is set at 80% of the winner's finish time, calculated separately for men and women, provided that no specific circumstances prevent its application, in the interest of safety and the event's overall benefit.

Además, Habrá dos puntos de control a lo largo del recorrido:

1. km 26.8: Located at Feed Zone No. 2, in the municipality of Lanestosa. Any rider who has not passed this point by the following times will be out of the race: **ELITE: 12H, MASTERS: 12:05H WOMEN: 12:10H**

2. km 54: Located at Feed Zone No. 4, in Vegacorredor Park. Any rider who has not passed this point by the following times will be out of the race: **ELITE: 14H, MASTERS: 14:05H WOMEN: 14:10H**

9. SIGNAGE AND MARKINGS



FINISH LINE
SIGNAGE

FEED ZONE
SIGNAGE

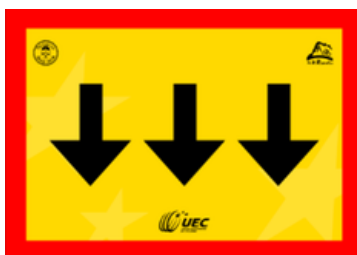




**LOW TECHNICAL
ZONE**



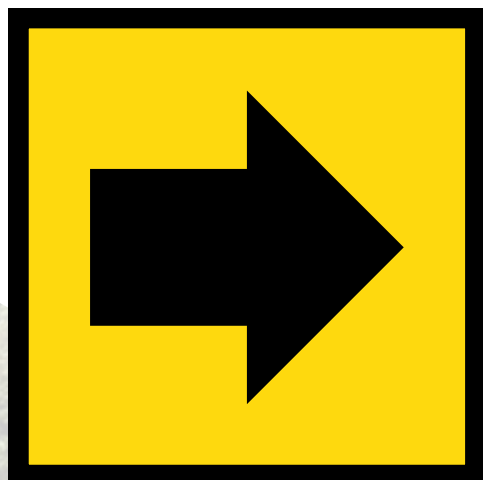
**MEDIUM
TECHNICAL ZONE**



**HIGH TECHNICAL
ZONE**

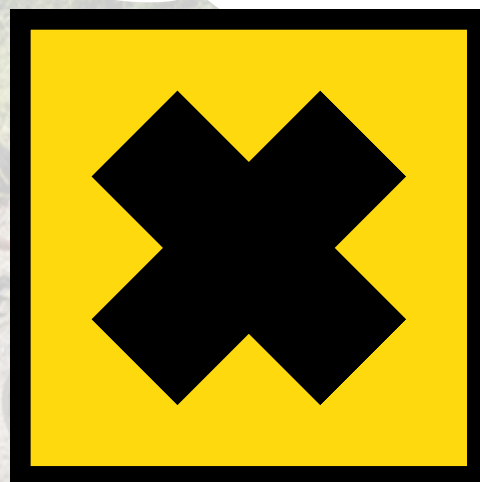


**DANGER
ZONE**



**DIRECTIONAL
ARROWS**

WRONG WAY





SUPPORT
ZONE



MARKING TAPE

10. ACCREDITATIONS



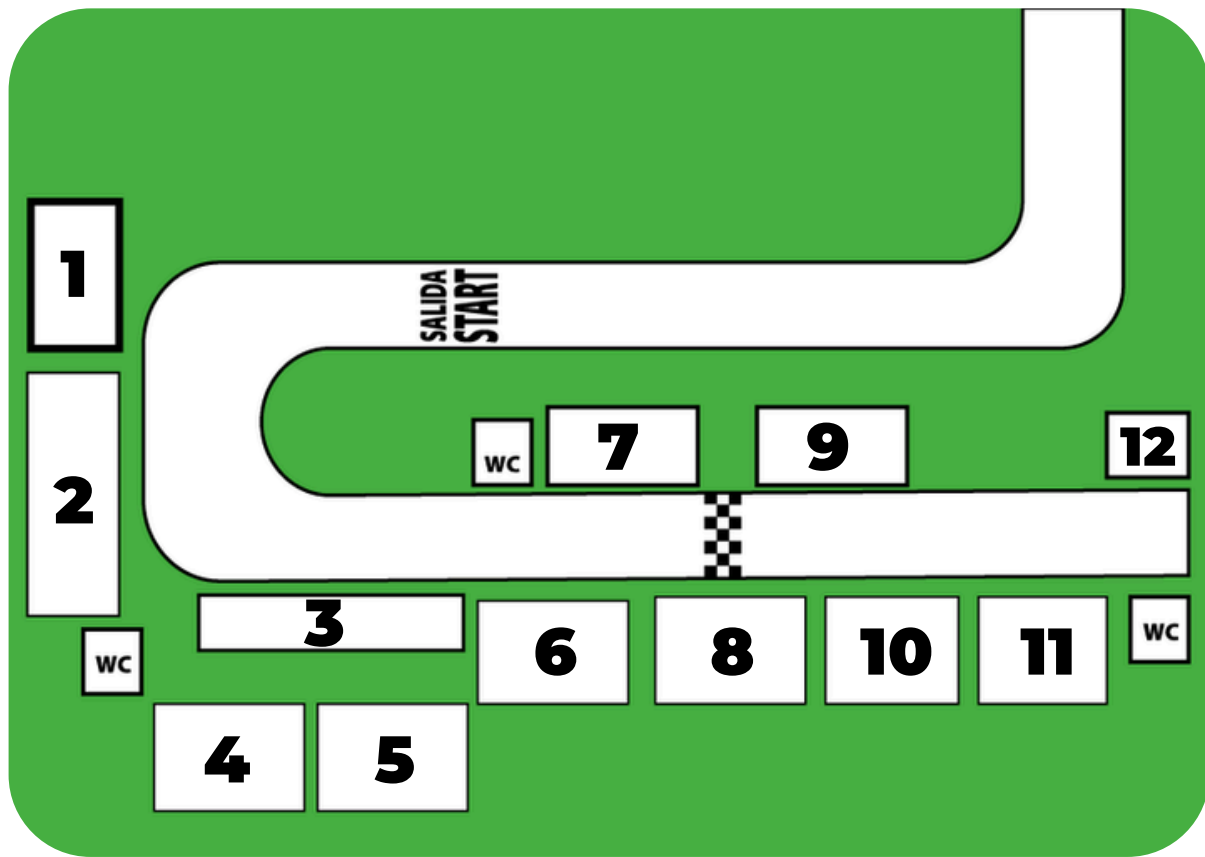


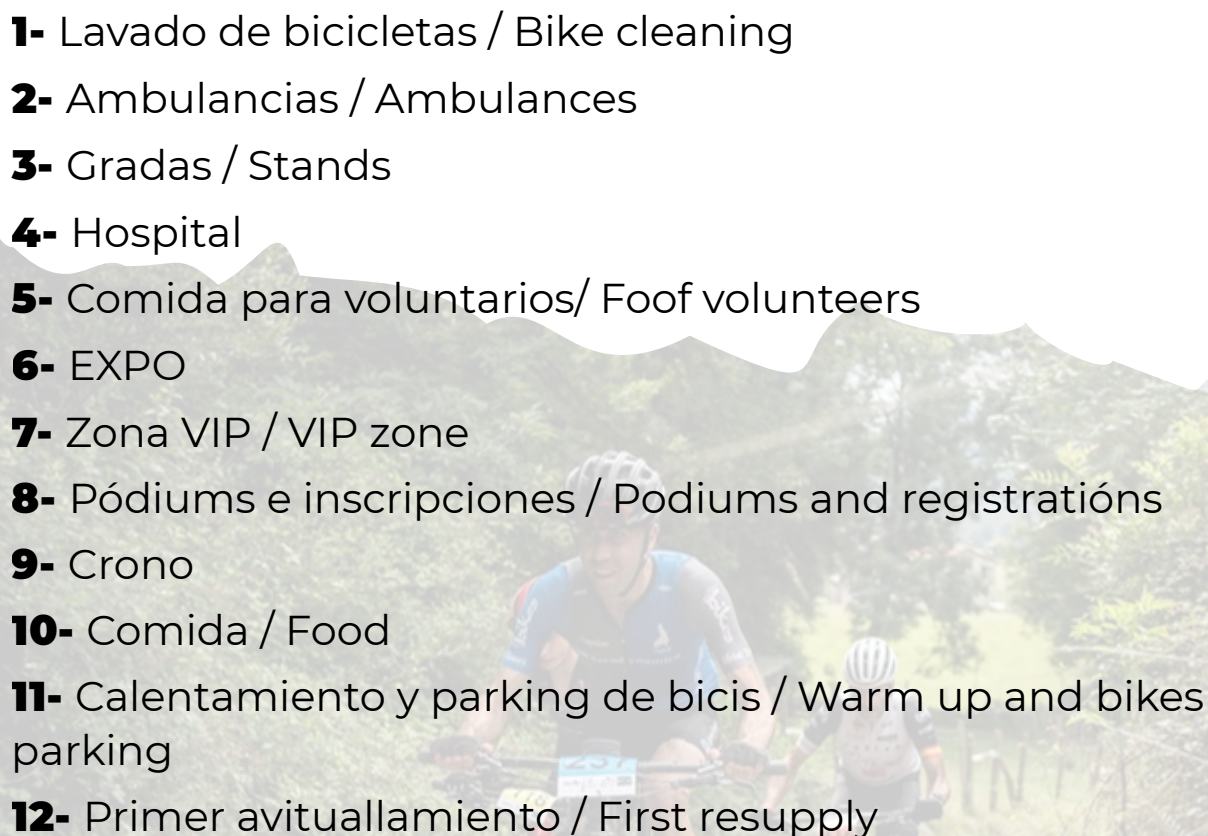
TOTEEMI

**Turn your effort into
discounts.**

**The app that pays you to train and a store
where you can pay with your training.**

11- Paddock



- 
- A background image showing a cyclist in a blue and black jersey riding a mountain bike on a dirt trail. The cyclist is wearing a helmet and has a race number on their front. The background is a lush green forest with mountains in the distance. The image is slightly faded to allow the text to be read clearly.
- 1-** Lavado de bicicletas / Bike cleaning
 - 2-** Ambulancias / Ambulances
 - 3-** Gradass / Stands
 - 4-** Hospital
 - 5-** Comida para voluntarios/ Foof volunteers
 - 6-** EXPO
 - 7-** Zona VIP / VIP zone
 - 8-** Pódiums e inscripciones / Podiums and registrations
 - 9-** Crono
 - 10-** Comida / Food
 - 11-** Calentamiento y parking de bicis / Warm up and bikes parking
 - 12-** Primer avituallamiento / First resupply



be UP SANTANDER

be UP SARDINERO

be UP BURGOS

be UP BEC!

12. COURSES

The race will feature a single 74 km course with 3,000 meters of cumulative positive elevation gain.

·Track link: [https://www.wikiloc.com/mountain-biking-trails/2026-uec-marathon-european-championships-xcm-desafio-dama-roja-255671091?](https://www.wikiloc.com/mountain-biking-trails/2026-uec-marathon-european-championships-xcm-desafio-dama-roja-255671091?wa=sc&utm_campaign=badge&utm_source=unknown&utm_medium=unknown)

[wa=sc&utm_campaign=badge&utm_source=unknown&utm_medium=unknown](https://www.wikiloc.com/mountain-biking-trails/2026-uec-marathon-european-championships-xcm-desafio-dama-roja-255671091?wa=sc&utm_campaign=badge&utm_source=unknown&utm_medium=unknown)

[CLICK HERE](#)

Participants must follow the instructions of traffic authorities and/or organization members and ride with caution. On Spanish public roads, cyclists must stay on the shoulder of the right lane. On trails, it is recommended to ride on the right side.

The course includes demanding climbs and technical descent sections. It is the participant's responsibility to decide whether to navigate them while riding. The organization is not liable for accidents related to a participant's skill level or physical fitness.

Leaving the course marked by the organization will result in disqualification.

All participants must remain within the natural boundaries of the paths, without cutting corners or taking shortcuts.

13. FEED ZONES

There will be 5 liquid and solid feed zones along the course, plus an additional feed zone at the finish line area.



•KM 14.3:

Liquids only, at the finish line (start area).

[LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

•KM 27.8:

Full feed zone and technical support, Lanestosa:

[LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

Parking for authorized personnel (technicians and other accredited staff): [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

•KM 40:

Full feed zone, Presa de Don Cecilio.

[LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

Parking for authorized personnel (technicians and other accredited staff): [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

•KM 54.5:

Full feed zone and technical support, Barrio de Vegacorredor: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

Parking for authorized personnel (technicians and other accredited staff): [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

•KM 65.7:

Full feed zone, Mentera.

[LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

Parking for authorized personnel (technicians and other accredited staff): [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

•Finish Line:

Full feed zone and post-race meal.



AVITUALLAMIENTOS

KM 14,5	🚰		
KM 27,8	🚰	🔧	🍴
KM 40	🚰	🍴	
KM 54,5	🚰	🔧	🍴
KM 65,7	🚰	🍴	





Building the future



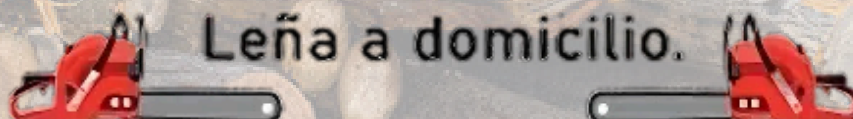
COPSESA

14. CATEGORIES AND AWARDS

A individual classification by category will be established for the scoring race.

The top three finishers in each category will receive awards.
Attendance at the podium ceremony is mandatory for all winners.
Participants must be present in their team kit and adhere to all UCI regulation criteria.

The awards ceremony will take place at 15:00, provided that all prize winners have crossed the finish line. If any winners have not yet arrived, the ceremony will be delayed to ensure that all recipients can enjoy their well-deserved recognition.



An individual classification by category will be established for the scoring race.

categories:

• **Elite Men**

• **Elite Women**

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| • Masters Men: | • 55-59 | • Masters Women: | • 55-59 |
| • 35-39 | • 60-64 | • 35-39 | • +60 |
| • 40-44 | • 65-69 | • 40-44 | |
| • 45-49 | • 70-74 | • 45-49 | |
| • 50-54 | • 75+ | • 50-54 | |

The top three finishers in each category will receive awards. Attendance at the podium ceremony is mandatory for all winners. Participants must be present in their team kit and adhere to all UCI regulation criteria.

The awards ceremony will take place at 15:00, provided that all prize winners have crossed the finish line. If any winners have not yet arrived, the ceremony will be delayed to ensure that all recipients can enjoy their well-deserved recognition.

15. YOUTH CATEGORIES

The youth and school categories race will take place on Saturday, July 11th, starting at 15:30.

- Race: XXII Futurobike and Cantabrian Open Ramales de la
- Discipline: Mountain Bike Olympic Cross-Country (XCO)
- Race Type: 1.10.7 MTB School Race
- Location: Bº Cubillas S/N
- Categories: Alevín (U13), Alevín Fem., Infantil (U15), Infantil Fem., Principiante (U11), Principiante Fem., Promesa (U9), Promesa Fem.
- Number collection date: 11/07/2026 from 14:00 to 15:00
- Registration: [www.fcciclismo.com](<https://www.fcciclismo.com>) and [www.desafiodamaroja.com](<https://www.desafiodamaroja.com>)

This event will be held in accordance with the UCI Cycling Regulations, the RFEC Technical and Specific Regulations, and all other applicable regulatory standards.



16. OFFICIAL INFORMATION CHANNELS

Stay up to date! Follow all race information and live updates through the organization's official channels.



[WHATSAPP](#)



[TELEGRAM](#)

17. LOCATIONS

- Race Start: [LOCATION](#)
- End of Guardamino descent: [LOCATION](#)
- End of Dama Roja descent: [LOCATION](#)
- El Haza climb: [LOCATION](#)
- End of Lanestosa descent: [LOCATION](#)
- Salto del Oso pass: [LOCATION](#)
- End of Cucurío descent: [LOCATION](#)
- End of the Escalón descent: [LOCATION](#)
- End of the Sel descent: [LOCATION](#)
- Start of the Sota climb: [LOCATION](#)
- 'World's Best Bench', start of final ridge descent: [LOCATION](#)
- Finish Line: [LOCATION](#)

18. LIVE TIMING

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19. WASTE MANAGEMENT

Participants must carry all personal food, gels, energy bars, or any other packaging, which must be clearly marked with their race number.

- It is strictly forbidden to discard any trash, wrappers, or other waste along the course. Any breach of this rule may result in penalties or immediate disqualification.
- Specific waste collection zones will be provided along the course where participants may dispose of waste generated during the event.
- Upon finishing, participants must ensure all their waste is removed and deposited in the designated containers at the finish area.

PLASTIC REDUCTION POLICY

- The use of a hydration bottle or pack is mandatory for refilling water at feed stations. Plastic cups will not be provided.
- All materials used at feed stations and for post-race catering will be recycled or biodegradable. Single-use plastics are prohibited.
- Participants are encouraged to bring their own reusable cutlery if consuming food at the finish line.

RESPECT FOR TRAILS AND PATHS

- All riders must strictly follow the marked course without taking shortcuts or deviating from authorized trails. This prevents soil erosion and protects local flora and fauna.

The organization has designed the course in a sustainable manner, minimizing impact on sensitive areas. Let us respect the environment to ensure future editions of the event.

It is mandatory to respect other trail users (hikers, cyclists, farmers, local wildlife, etc.) and yield the right of way when necessary.

RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR AND PENALTIES:

Exemplary behavior is expected from all participants. Any irresponsible conduct or lack of respect for the natural environment or other participants may be grounds for penalty or disqualification.

The organization will have staff and volunteers stationed at strategic points along the course to monitor and record potential environmental infractions.

If you witness irresponsible behavior by another rider, it is recommended to inform the organization so that appropriate measures can be taken.

PARTICIPATION LIMITS TO REDUCE IMPACT:

With the goal of preserving the quality of the environment and avoiding overexploitation of the trails, the number of participants is limited to 500 riders.

The organization will assess the environmental impact of the event post-race and implement improvements for future editions to further reduce our ecological footprint.



SUSTAINABLE MARKING AND GPS MANDATE

To avoid visual pollution and reduce waste in the mountains, course markings will be minimal and efficient. Only biodegradable elements and temporary signs will be used.

The use of a GPS device is highly recommended to follow the route accurately and prevent errors along the course.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS:

The organization will promote awareness regarding the importance of protecting the natural environment, reiterating these recommendations during the pre-race briefing.

All participants are encouraged to share these values and promote a spirit of environmental responsibility both during and outside the event.

With these measures, we aim to ensure that the Desafío Dama Roja remains a responsible and sustainable sporting event, guaranteeing that both participants and future generations can continue to enjoy this privileged environment.

