



TEAM MANAGERS' MEETING

2026 UEC MTB DOWNHILL EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Vitosha Mountain – Sofia – (BUL)

14 – 16 August 2026





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INTRODUCTION

2026 UEC MTB DOWNHILL European Championships- WELCOME

- **Enrico DELLA CASA (ITA/SUI)**
UEC President
- **Katarina Jakubova (SVK)**
UEC Vice - President
- **Georgi LUMPAROV (BUL)**
LOC President
- **Giorgio BARUFFI (ITA)**
UEC Technical Delegate
- **Michela VIDORI (ITA)**
President of the Commissaires' Panel

UEC MTB EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025 - Commissaires' Panel

Michela VIDORI	President	UCI
Boyan SHAHOV	Assistant PCP	BUL
Rumen VARCHEV	Component	BUL
Nikolay KOJIIHAROV	Component	BUL
Ivan IVANOV	Component	BUL
Krassimira TODOROVA	Component	BUL



Riders registered	316
Women	44
Men	272
Number of nationalities	28

A great participation!
Very important numbers!

Thank you for your interest.
Thank you for your presence.

Your cooperation in this event is very important!



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GENERAL INFORMATION

UEC MTB DHI EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 – VENUE LAYOUT

Laleto MTB Track
Vitoshko Lale Tourist Zone
Vitoshka mountain, Sofia, Bulgaria
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/8W6HKfT6YaV461nR9>



ACCREDITATION OPENING HOURS

Wednesday, 12 August		15:00 - 18:00
Thursday, 13 August	09:00 - 12:00	13:00 - 16:00
Friday, 14 August	08:30 - 12:00	13:00 – 16:00
Saturday, 15 August	08:30 – 12:00	13:00 - 16:00
Sunday, 16 August	8:30 - 12:00	=====

Official Doctor of the race: TBC

Team of doctors and paramedics will be present onsite throughout official training sessions and competitions. The medical team will be based near the finish area.

The closest Hospital with A&E department are:

As the capital of Bulgaria, Sofia **has over 12** operational emergency hospitals, and according to current legislation, each individual case is handled based on the specific situation and the measures that need to be taken.

The use of medical helicopters is an integral part of emergency medical services in Bulgaria. There is a designated landing zone located in the immediate vicinity of the trail.

In case of emergency please dial 112 (one-one-two)

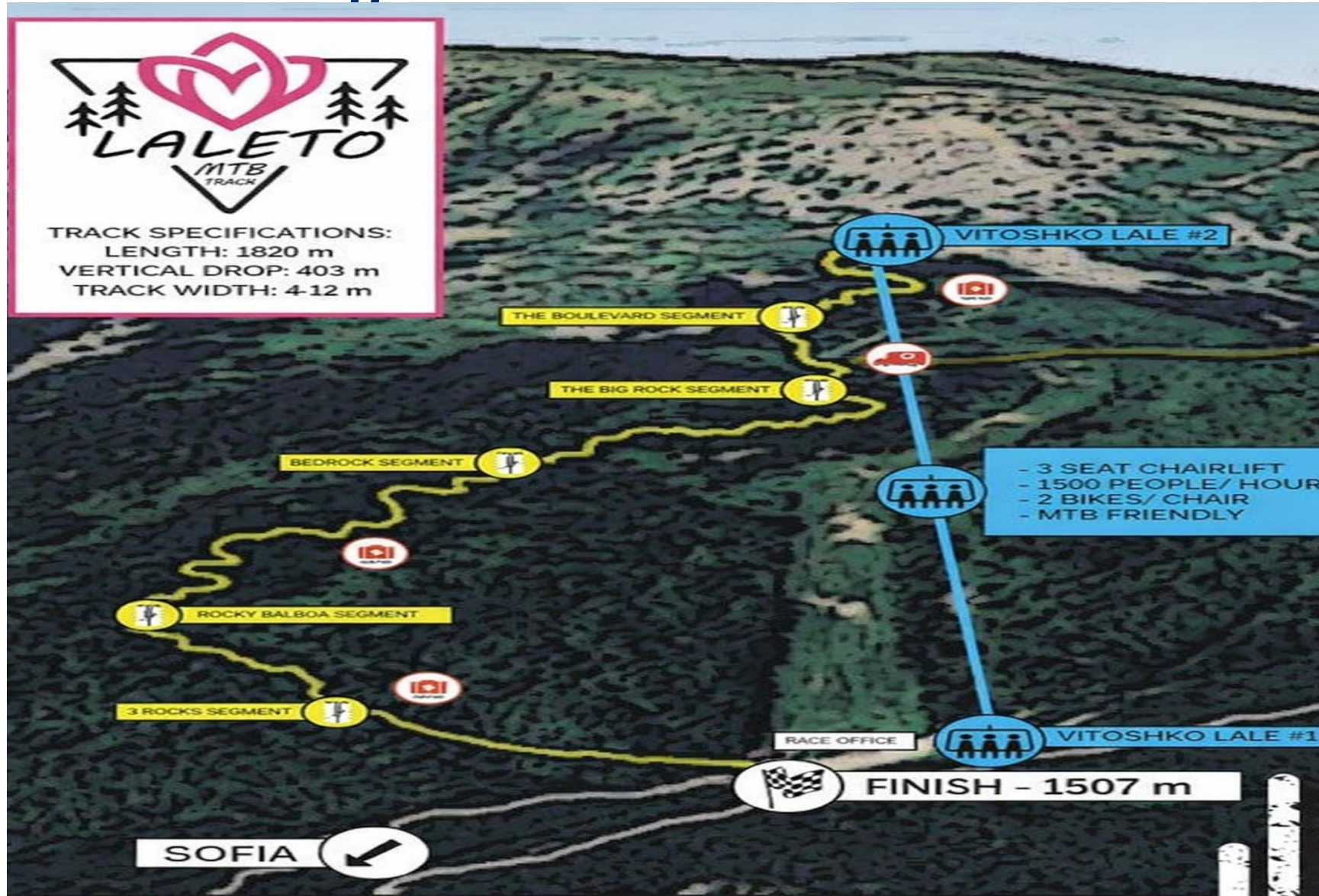




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SPORTING ASPECTS

- Course configuration



Alt. min/max: 1,507 m – 2,073 m

Length : 1,8 Km

Vertical Drop: -403 mt

Split Time 1: M.P. Nr. 17

- Race configuration

Saturday 15 August	08:30 - 09:45	Official Downhill Training >> GROUP C
	09:45 - 11:15	Official Downhill Training >> GROUP B
	11:15 - 12:45	Official Downhill Training >> GROUP A
	13:45 -	Seeding round - All Categories
	30 min after finish	On foot course inspection

Sunday 16 August	08:30 – 09:30	Official Downhill Training >> GROUP C
	09:30 – 10:30	Official Downhill Training >> GROUP B
	10:30 - 11:45	Official Downhill Training >> GROUP A
	12:00	Final Downhill European Championships all categories
		Followed by Awards Ceremonies

GROUP A = Men Elite + Men Junior

GROUP B = Women Elite + Women Junior + Men U17

GROUP C = U15 (Boys & Girls) + U17 Women + Men Master + Women Master

Separate DHI European Championship titles will be awarded for the Elite and Junior categories.

UCI 4.1.006 - At the Continental Championships and at the National Championships, separate junior events may be organised for men and women (aged 17 and 18). In this case also, separate results must be sent to the UCI.



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RACE PROCEDURES GENERAL INFORMATION

- Race configuration

The participation is open for the following categories:

U15 Men & Women 13 - 14 years old

U17 Men & Women 15 - 16 years old

Juniors Men & Women 17 - 18 years old

Elite Men & Women 19+ years old

Master Men

35-39 / 40-44 / 45-49 / 50-54 / 55-59 / 60-64 / 65-69 / 70+

Master Women

35-39 / 40-44 / 45-49 / 50-54 / 55-59 / 60-64 / 65+

It is entered on the UCI calendar as a Continental Championships event (UCI CC).

- Race Procedures – Race Format – All Categories

- All categories are doing a seeding run - all riders will qualify for the final - **but they must take the start** of the seeding run;
- The results of the seeding run determine the start order in the final, with the slowest rider from the seeding run starting first.
- If a rider does not complete the Seeding Run (DNF), he/she will start as the first in his/her category (ahead of the slowest rider who finished the Seeding Run).
- If several riders from the same category do not finish the Seeding Run, they will start first in order of the Seeding Run start list (between them).

If a biker validly entered in the race does not take the start in the Seeding Run, he/she will be considered DNS and will not be allowed to participate in the Final Run.

- Race Procedures – Awards Ceremony

- The first 3 riders must be ready for the ceremony
- In racing attire wearing national jersey (if entered at the race by the National Team)
- No advertising in the podium (no glasses, no cap, no bike, etc) till the end of the official ceremony

- Race Procedures – Prize money -

Prize money will be transferred by the UEC directly to the rider's National Federation (by mid-November 2026)



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SPORTING ASPECTS RULES REMINDERS

- Sporting Aspects – Rules Reminders

EQUIPMENT (Bulgarian Rules)

Due to the Bulgarian regulation all the riders on the DHI races (training, seeding and finals) need to wear the following protections :

- ✓ full-face helmet
- ✓ knee pad
- ✓ long sleeves jersey
- ✓ For U15 and U17 back protection
- ✓ full finger gloves
- ✓ Googles 

without these protections, the riders will not be allowed to start

- Sporting Aspects – Rules Reminders

Masters (UCI Rule)

4.1.009

All riders aged 35 or over who hold a masters licence are allowed to ride mountain bike events on the UCI international masters calendar, apart from:

1. riders who, during the current season starting January 1st, have scored 1 or more UCI points during the same calendar year as a UCI masters event;
2. riders who during the current year have been a member of a team registered with the UCI.

(text modified on 1.01.18; 1.01.20, 1.01.21)

Red Flag (UCI Rule)



4.3.019

Riders observing a waving red flag during the race must stop immediately.

A stopped rider must continue calmly to the finish and request a re-start from the finish line commissaire and wait for further instruction.

The re-run should take place before the end of the stopped rider's category, when possible. (text modified on 01.01.26)

- Sporting Aspects – Rules Reminders

- ✓ Cutting, wrapping, folding and/or any modification of numbers plates are **NOT** allowed unless approved by PCP;
- ✓ National outfit is **mandatory** for competitors entered by the National Federation, except World Champions (UCI 1.3.059 and 1.3.071);
- ✓ Anyone who is found to have altered or modified the course has his/her accreditation removed or, in case of a rider, disqualified;
- ✓ The use of radio radio links or other remote means of communication with riders is **forbidden**;
- ✓ Compression clothing is **not** allowed during the race;
- ✓ Please advise your rider to fit the bike plate vertically;

- Sporting Aspects – On board cameras-

- ✓ Cameras not allowed in the race but only in training except upon request from TV production

- Sporting Aspects – European Champion jersey guidelines-

UEC Masters European Champion



UEC European Champion





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ANTI-DOPING

Anti-doping information



A certain amount of controls may be conducted under UCI Anti-Doping rules and ITA procedures and instructions

DOPING CONTROL STATION:

If any, the anti-doping tests will take place 50 mt. to the finish line, near the chairlift bottom station

UEC will follow all UCI/ITA rules, protocols and procedures. It is the responsibility of all riders, teams, coaches to read and follow all advice and documents provided by UCI/ITA.

QUESTIONS?



Thank you !!!

