



2026 UEC MARATHON EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS (XCM)

Elite - Masters

**Ramales de la Victoria – Cantabria
Spain**

12 July 2026

TECHNICAL GUIDE

As of 30.1.2026

1. INTRODUCTION

This document summarises the information that national federations need on the participation of their riders in the 2026 UEC MTB Marathon European Championships. Intended primarily for team managers, this document focuses on the purely sporting aspects of the 2026 UEC European Mountain Bike Championship. If you have any questions about this document, please do not hesitate to contact the UEC or through the organiser by email: desafiodamaroja@gmail.com

2. ORGANIZATION

2.1. LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (LOC)

President	Joaquín Fuente	+34 650726923	desafiodamaroja@gmail.com
Director of Events	Pablo Regaliza	+34 650726923	desafiodamaroja@gmail.com
Technical Director	Fernando San Emeterio	+34 650726923	desafiodamaroja@gmail.com
Area Team Coordinator	Carlos de la Hoz	+34 650726923	desafiodamaroja@gmail.com
Accommodation	Fernando San Emeterio	+34 650726923	desafiodamaroja@gmail.com
Accreditation	Pablo Regaliza	+34 650726923	desafiodamaroja@gmail.com
Press Office	Fernando San Emeterio	+34 650726923	desafiodamaroja@gmail.com

Event website: www.desafiodamaroja.com

2.2. REPRESENTATIVE UEC

UEC Management Board

President	Enrico Della Casa (SUI)
Vice President	Katarina Jakubova (SVK)
Vice President	Raivo Rand (EST)
Vice President	Georgios GEORGIOU (CYP)
Member	Bernd DANKOWSKI (GER)
Member	Dafna LANG (ISR)
Member	Sabrina TSAKONA TWISS (GRE)
Secretary General of the UEC	Alasdair MacLennan (Great Britain)

UEC Event Coordinator	Tiziana Lardieri (SUI)
UEC Press Officer	Stefano Bertolotti (ITA)
UEC Technical Delegate	Paolo Pesce (ITA)
UEC MTB Event Coordinator	Giorgio Baruffi (ITA)
UEC Photographer	tbc



2.3. COMPOSITION OF THE PANEL OF COMMISSIONERS

President of the Panel of Commissioners (UCI)	Miranda COLENBRANDER (NED)
PCP Assistant	tbc
National Commissaire	tbc
Speaker	Juan Mari Guajardo
Live Timing / Timing	Ged Sport (Spain)

3. GENERAL INFORMATION

3.1. TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

Travel and accommodation expenses to and from Ramales de la Victoria-Cantabria must be covered by the National Federations or the teams.

Airports

Nearest airports: Santander: Severiano Ballesteros Airport 57km 45' aprox [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)
Bilbao: Bilbao Airport. 84km 1h aprox [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

Trains

Nearest train station: Santander train station 62 km away. [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)
Bilbao train station 78km away. [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)
Nearest regional station: Gibaja at 5km. [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

Check the website the Spanish National lines for tickets: www.renfe.com

Official Travel Contact desafiodamaroja@gmail.com

Equipment Area Reservation

To reserve a team area, use the official team area reservation: [LINK CLICK HERE](#)

The Team Area has limited capacity; therefore, places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Once capacity is reached, the registration form will be closed.

One place will be reserved for each team holding a UCI license. Other riders or visitors will be allocated places based on availability and order of arrival.

Visa

Each Federation is responsible for obtaining the documents for its delegation of appropriate tickets. For more information, please visit the Government of Spain website: [Ministry of the Interior | Entry into Spain](#)

For all requests for invitation letters, please contact UEC: administation@uec.ch.

All riders and attendees must have insurance valid in Spain.

3.2. OFFICIAL ADDRESS OF THE COMPETITION VENUE:

Club Mountain Bike Ramales
Gandason Park SN, 39800.
Ramales de la Victoria, Cantabria.
www.desafiodamaroja.com

Exact location of the start/finish line and official paddock: [CLICK HERE](#)

3.3. VENUE LAYOUT - FIELD MAPS

The venue layout and field maps can be found in the appendices at the end of the technical guide.

3.4. ACCOMMODATION

UEC Official Hotel
Hotel Río Asón
P.º Barón de Adzaneta, 17, 39800 Ramales de la Victoria, Cantabria, Spagna

For any hotel reservations, please contact: please contact: Tourist Information Office telephone number +34 942646504, <http://www.cantabriaorientalrural.es/>

MEDICAL - EMERGENCY - LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Medical assistance will be provided by the official doctor of the race, Dr Fernando Cortina Ceballos, as well as by the ambulances of the Nero company.

Official Race Doctor: Dr. Fernando Cortina Ceballos

Phone: +34 666 409 097
Email: fercorti@yahoo.es

Nearest hospitals

Hospital de Laredo, Av. Derechos Humanos, 40, 39770 Laredo, Cantabria (25min) [LOCATION](#)
[CLICK HERE](#)

Hospital Marqués de Valdecilla, Av. de Valdecilla, s/n, 39008 Santander, Cantabria (50min)
[LOCATION](#) [CLICK HERE](#)

Emergency ambulance: 112 or telephone provided by the organisation
National Police and Civil Guard: 091 and 062

Safety of cyclists on the roads

After dark, you will need a front and rear light installed on your bike.

Be sure to comply with all traffic signals and do not drive in the pedestrian's path; This is illegal and can result in a fine.

Make sure you have your ID with you when you are out of the venue.

4. TEAM SERVICES

4.1. ACCREDITATION

Accreditation of teams/officials

Pick-up can be made from Thursday 9 July 2026, from 16.00 at the accreditation centre, during opening hours:

[LOCATION PADOCK CLICK HERE](#)

Be sure to pick up your badge as soon as you arrive, as it will be required to access all parts of the venue. Badges must be worn and visible each time you go through accreditation checks.

Accreditation Center Hours:

Thursday, July 9	=====	16:00 - 19:00
Friday, June 10	09:00 - 12:00	16:00 - 19:00
Saturday, June 11	09:00 - 12:00	16:00 - 19:00
Sunday, June 12	8:00 - 10:00	=====

NB: *The accreditation pick-up for a participant cannot be considered as a confirmation of his participation.*

Many of the event staff members you will encounter on-site are volunteers, so please treat them with courtesy, as without them the event could not happen.

4.2. PERMANENCE / CAREER OFFICE

Location: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

This is where you can find event information such as schedules, bib times, etc.

Information point

GPS: 43°15'44.5"N 3°27'47.9"W

For general inquiries, accommodation, car packaging, lost property, etc.

Opening hours:

Thursday, July 9	16:00 - 19:00
Friday, July 10	09:00 - 19:00
Saturday, July 11	09:00 - 19:00
Sunday, July 12	09:00 - 19:00



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4.3. TEAM PARKING AREAS:

Parking - National representatives and Official Teams

GPS: [43.263158, -3.461146](https://www.google.com/maps?ll=43.263158,-3.461146)



National and UCI Teams = Parking 1
Federation teams = Parking 2 and 3

* Remember: you must request a parking space on this link: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

Passes for both parking areas can be picked up at the accreditation center.

GPS: 43.263158, -3.461146

5. OFFICIAL MEETINGS

5.1. STARTER CONFIRMATION/LICENSE VERIFICATION

Friday, July 10 16:00 – 18:00
Saturday, July 11 09:00 – 12:00 14:00 – 18:00
Sunday, July 12 07:00 – 08:00

Location: Main tent next to the start and finish [line LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

GPS: 43.262599, -3.462641

All National Federations have to present themselves at the time of confirmation of the riders to ensure the participation of their riders. The collection of the badge for a passenger cannot be considered as a confirmation of their participation.

Observations

- Timing transponders will be delivered along with the start numbers and must be returned immediately after the race to the tent located near the finish line.
- At the time of confirmation of the riders, the Team Managers of the National Teams must present their national team to the stewards.
- The bibs must be collected at the time indicated in the Championship program. Riders' licenses and passports must be submitted to the Stewards Panel.
- The Rider will ensure that their identification number is visible and legible at all times. The identification number must be properly fixed and may not be bent or altered.
- Please note that training will not be authorized without a license plate.
-

5.2. TEAM MANAGERS' MEETING

Date: Saturday, July 11 19:30
Location: Tent next to the start/finish [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)
GPS: 43.262599, -3.462641

Attendance is required from:

- President of the UEC MTB Commission
- Local Organizing Committee Representative
- UCI and National Commissaires
- Team Managers
- Director of Events
- UEC Technical Delegate
- UEC Sports Coordinator

5.3. OFFICIAL INFORMATION

All official information related to the event, Entry Lists, Start List, Official Results and Official Statement will be, in addition to being posted in the Race Office, published through the following communication channels to which it can be added using the links next to it:

WHATSAPP :	
TELEGRAM:	https://t.me/+lOf-YhvlioA4OTA0

6. MEDIA

6.1. MEDIA CENTER

Accreditation is required to access the Press Area.

To apply for media accreditation, please visit the UEC website: <https://www.uec.ch/en/media>.

Media accreditation and photographers' bibs can be collected during the opening hours of the Accreditation Centre.

Be sure to pick up your badge as soon as you arrive at the venue, as it will be required to access all parts of the venue. Badges must be worn and visible each time you go through accreditation checks.

For any other queries, please contact:

Mr. Stefano Bertolotti, Press Officer of the UEC s.bertolotti@uec.ch

Or the Press Officer of the organisation: Fernando San Emeterio desafiodamaroja@gmail.com

Media Parking: Official Team Parking [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

Opening hours:

Thursday, July 9	16:00 - 19:00
Friday, July 10	09:00 - 19:00
Saturday, July 11	09:00 - 19:00
Sunday, July 12	07:00 - 17:00

6.2. FLASH INTERVIEW AREA

Next to the podium of the award ceremony, a flash interview area open to the media will be organized.

7. COMPETITION SCHEDULE

UEC MTB Marathon European Championships (*provisional competition calendar*).

Sunday, 12 July

Category	Start time	Race distance	
Elite Man	09:00	75 km	EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
Masters Men	09.05	75 km	
Elite Women and Masters Women	09.10	75 km	
Award Ceremonies	15:30		

Starting point: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#) GPS: 43.262599, -3.462641

8. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS OF THE RACE

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL RULES

1.1 The 2026 UEC MTB Marathon European Championships are organized by the Ramales Mountain Bike Club in collaboration with the Union Européenne de Cyclisme (UEC).

Race Director (DOF): Fernando San Emeterio Gandiaga

1.2 The event will be organized according to the rules of the International Cycling Union (UCI) and these rules will be the reference for everything that is not mentioned in the current document.

1.3 The UEC MTB Marathon European Championships consist of the following races:
 ✓ **MTB Marathon (XCM) on 12 July 2026.**

ARTICLE 2. – TYPE OF EVENT

2.1 The event is open to athletes in the following categories:

✓ **MTB Marathon** **Elite Men**

✓ **MTB Marathon** **Elite Women**

✓ **MTB Marathon Masters Hombre**

Aged: 35-39 / 40-44 / 45-49 / 50-54 / 55-59 / 60-64 / 65-69 / 70-74 / 75+

✓ **MTB Women's Masters Marathon**

Age: 35-39 / 40-44 / 45-49 / 50-54 / 55-59 / 60+

2.2 It is entered on the UCI calendar as a Continental Championships (CC) and Continental Masters Championships (CCM) event

2.3 The following final classifications will be produced for:

- ✓ **Men's Elite***
- ✓ **Women's Elite***
- ✓ **All Masters categories ***

**The 3 best riders in each category must attend the official awards ceremony.*

ARTICLE 3. PARTICIPATION

3.1 National Teams

⇒ Elite only

National Federations can register the following riders for the Championships **for free**:

- ✓ **Elite Women – max. 2 riders**
- ✓ **Elite Men – max. 2 riders**

If the national teams have more than 2 riders (WE/ME), point 3.2 below applies = must be registered.

Registration:

National Federations have to register their riders directly on the UEC website:

<https://uec.evodata.it/landing/index.php>

Registration will be open on: Friday, 13 February 2026 (12:00 CET)

Deadline for registration: Sunday, 5 July 2026 (23:59 CET)

Registration applies to riders, staff and official of the NF delegates.

Riders must compete in their national jersey.

3.2 Other cyclists

- ⇒ **ELITE individuals (non-members of the "National Team")**
- ⇒ **MASTERS ***

In accordance with the UCI regulations, the participation is open exclusively to riders holding a European sporting nationality with an annual licence issued by a National Federation affiliated to the UCI.

In the event of dual nationality, the sporting nationality shall be the one recorded in the UCI Data Ride system, which shall be deemed authoritative and binding for all regulatory and eligibility purposes.

* *The attention of all participants registered in the MASTERS categories is drawn to the importance, before registration and also before presenting themselves at the license control, of checking that they meet the requirements defined by the UCI to participate in events of the UCI international masters calendar"*

- * 4.1.009 *All cyclists aged 35 and over who hold a master's licence can take part in mountain bike events on the UCI International Masters Calendar, except:*
 1. *riders who, during the current season starting on 1 January, 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 members of a team registered with the UCI. (text amended on 1.01.18; 1.01.20, 1.01.21)*

Registration:

Registration for Elite Individual and Masters must be done through the online registration link
<https://www.endu.net/en/events/uec-mtb-european-championships/>

Price fee

13 – 28 February 2026	€ 50
1 – 15 March 2026	€ 60
16 March – 5 July 2026	€ 70

Registration will be open on: **Friday, 13 February 2026 (12:00 CET)**

Deadline for registration: **Sunday, 5 July 2026 (23:59 CET)**

3.3 Start order

The starting order will be made in accordance with UCI/UEC regulations.

The riders line up in the order in which they are to be called to the start line.

The number of riders on each line is decided by the President of the Commissaires' panel and supervised by the commissaires. The rider himself decides which position on the line to take.

3.4 Starting grid

⇒ **ELITE RIDERS**

The start grid will be determined in accordance with article 4.02.061 of the UCI MTB Regulations as follows:

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

3.5 Starting grid

⇒ **MASTER RIDERS**

The start order for all Masters categories will be as follows:

1. 2025 defending European champion of the categories concerned, younger categories first
2. according to the order of the online registration

ARTICLE 4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The following UCI Regulations will apply:

4.2.038 Staff working for riders must wear easily identifiable team clothing.

4.2.040 For the Olympic Games, world championships, world cup events and continental championships nobody may enter a feed/technical assistance zone without accreditation.
For world cup events season long accreditations issued to the UCI ELITE MTB TEAMS and UCI MTB TEAMS by the UCI. For the national federations or individual riders passes are prepared by the organiser and handed out at registration: they obtain 1 accreditation per registered rider per zone. Note that for a double feed/technical assistance zone they only obtain 1 accreditation per registered rider.

4.2.042 The spraying of water on riders or bicycles by the feeders or mechanics is forbidden.
High pressure washers are forbidden in the Feed/Technical Assistance zone.
(text modified on 1.01.26)

4.2.044 No rider may turn back on the course to reach a feed/technical assistance zone.
Any rider doing so is disqualified.
Only within the feed/technical assistance zone itself, a rider may turn back without obstructing other competitors. Only within the feed/service zone, a rider can back up without obstructing other competitors.

4.2.045 Technical assistance during a race is permitted subject to the conditions below.

4.2.046 Authorised technical assistance during a race consists of repairs to or the replacement of any part of the bicycle other than the frame.
Bike changes are not permitted, and the rider must cross the finishing line with the same handlebar number plate that he/she had at the start.

4.2.047 Technical assistance can only be given in the feed/technical assistance zones.

4.2.048 Spare equipment and tools for repairs must be kept in these zones. Repairs and equipment changes can be carried out by the rider himself or with the help of a teammate, team mechanic or neutral technical assistance.

4.2.049 In addition to technical assistance in feed zones, technical assistance is permitted outside these zones only between riders who are members of the same UCI ELITE MTB team, UCI MTB team or of the same national team / nation.
Riders may carry tools and spare parts as long as they do not pose any danger to the rider himself or to the other competitors.

ARTICLE 5. AWARDS CEREMONIES

In accordance with articles 1.2.112 and 1.2.113 of the UCI Regulations, the top 3 riders in each category must attend the official awards ceremony, the organized interviews and the press conference.
Unless otherwise stated, riders must appear at official ceremonies in competition clothing.

5.1 Jersey and medals

Each European Championship will be awarded with:

1st place:	Gold medal and champion's jersey
2nd place:	Silver Medal
3rd place:	Bronze medal

List of prize money:

XCM – ELITE		
Location	Elite Men	Elite Women
First	€ 625,00	€ 625,00
Second	€ 375,00	€ 375,00
Third	€ 250,00	€ 250,00

* The prize money will be transferred by the UEC directly to the National Federations concerned by mid-November.

ARTICLE 6. ANTI-DOPING

The UCI anti-doping regulations and specific Spanish laws are fully applicable to the event.

Anti-doping tests will be carried out at:
Ramales de la Victoria Municipal Soccer Field
[LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)
GPS: 43.264739, -3.459774

ARTICLE 7. PENALTIES

The UCI penalty scale is the only one applicable.

ARTICLE 8. RESPONSIBILITIES

The organizer and UEC will not, in any case, be responsible for any accident or damage that occurs during training and competitions.

The organiser and UEC decline all responsibility towards cyclists and other people in the event of an accident.

For all cases not covered by these specific regulations, UCI rules will apply. Any issues will be resolved between the organizers, the Panel of Commissioners, and UEC officials.

Appendix 1 - COURSE FEATURES

ELITE MEN

Overall length:	75Km
Elevation gain:	3000 m
Maximum altitude:	550 m. above sea level
Min. altitude:	65 m. above sea level

ELITE WOMEN

Overall length:	75Km
Elevation gain:	3000 m
Maximum altitude:	550 m. above sea level
Min. altitude:	65 m. above sea level

MEN MASTERS 35 to 39

Overall length:	75Km
Elevation gain:	3000 m
Maximum altitude:	550 m. above sea level
Min. altitude:	65 m. above sea level

MEN MASTERS 40 to 54

Overall length:	75Km
Elevation gain:	3000 m
Maximum altitude:	550 m. above sea level
Min. altitude:	65 m. above sea level

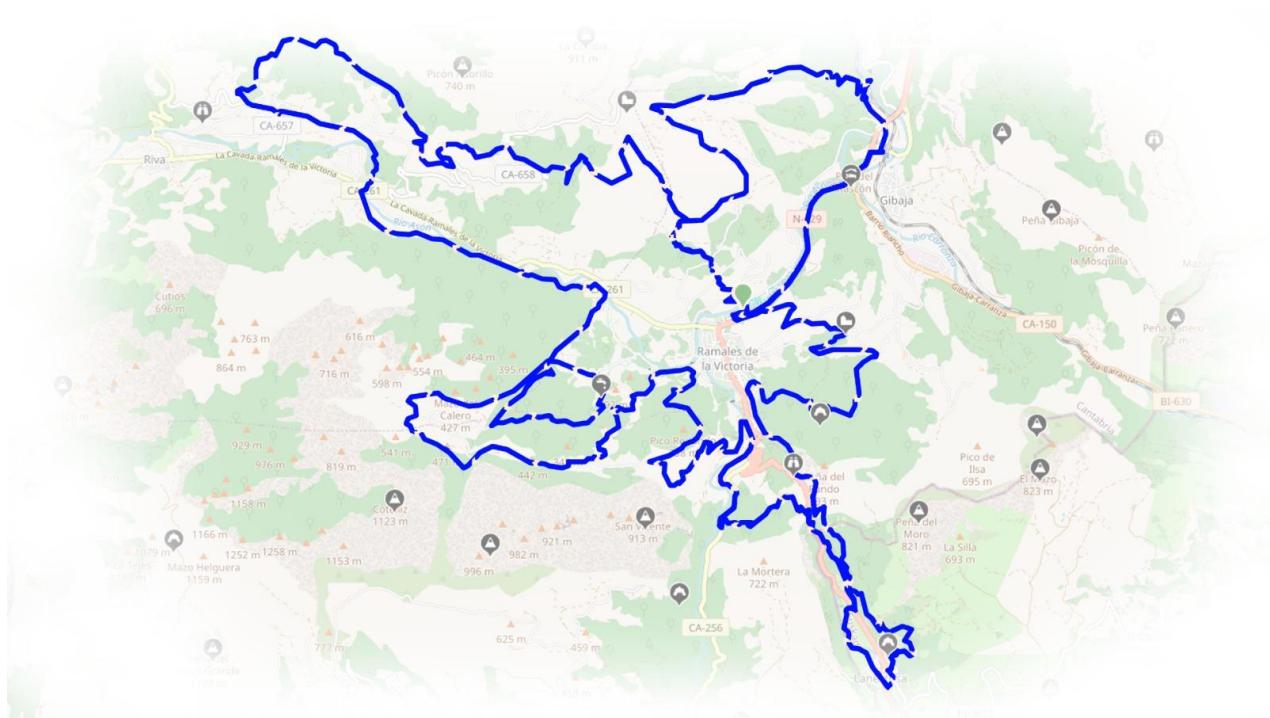
WOMEN MASTERS

Overall length:	75Km
Elevation gain:	3000 m
Maximum altitude:	550 m. above sea level
Min. altitude:	65 m. above sea level

MEN MASTERS 55 & OVER

Overall length:	75Km
Elevation gain:	3000 m
Maximum altitude:	550 m. above sea level
Min. altitude:	65 m. above sea level

Appendix 2 - COURSES MAP



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UEC Official Suppliers

Appendix 3 – Feed and Technical Zones

ZONES 1: km 17. **Liquid refreshments.**

GUARDAMINO HIGHWAY: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

ATTENDEE PARKING: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

ZONES 2: km 27.8. **Liquid and solid refreshments + Mechanical assistance.**

LOCATION MUNICIPALITY OF LANESTOSA [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

PARKING: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

ZONES 3: km 40. **Liquid and solid refreshments**

DON CECILIO DAM LOCATION: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

PARKING: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

ZONES 4: km 54.5. **Liquid and solid refreshments + mechanical assistance**

LOCATION OF VEGACORREDOR NEIGHBORHOOD: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

PARKING: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

ZONES 5: km 65.7. **Liquid and solid refreshments**

LOCATION OF THE MENTERA NEIGHBORHOOD: [LOCATION CLICK HERE](#)

PARKING: [LOCATION PICHAR HERE](#)