

# EM Masters street race in Alicante Spain

## Teamspirit and medal blessings

**Around 1200 athletes from over 20 European nations competed for medals at the Masters European Championship in Alicante, Spain. Switzerland was there with over 100 athletes and the Swiss athletes won about 46 medals.**

Alicante on the Costa Blanca offered the best conditions for this year's European Masters Championships (age group over 35 years). The programme included a 10 km run, a half-marathon, road walk competitions and as a "highlight" the Nations cross relay with three runners in all age categories.

The cross was held in the district of San Juan, it was demanding and the undulating track with different ground conditions. The 10-km run started in the evening, demanded a lot, because the temperature was above 20 degrees. Thanks for having enough water stations, the competition went without incident. The competitions of the road walkers and the final half marathon were carried out in the city centre of Alicante.

Also, at the half marathon, which started in the morning at half past eight. The conditions were very good, cloudy and a little breezy with a little sun before the temperatures raised.

## Motivated organizers

An active organising committee made sure that all competitions were well organized and offered equal conditions to all. The drinking stations on the way were adapted to the weather conditions and supplemented. All of this provided for exciting and fair play under mostly splendid blue sky.

The medal winners were not only cheered on by their home nations at the awards ceremonies, and the national anthems were sung along with emotions. It was a pity that the award ceremonies took place in the hall, although there were beautiful parks and blue sky all around.

## Swiss all-time-high

The athletes of Swiss Masters Running (the Swiss organization of the masters runners) were very impressed in the competitions. About 46 medals could be acclaimed (31 team and 15 individual). This means the second place in the Nations ranking in this European Championship and the best result ever achieved.

Switzerland convinced not only in terms of performance, but also with a team spirit that sought one's own kind. They were wearing the outstanding Swiss colours dominated the stretch of the track and the obligatory cowbell was not missing.

Swiss Masters Running and all Swiss athletes would like to thank the organising committee for their great commitment. Swiss Masters Running is already looking forward to the next Masters European Championship in 2020.