

## Torrella and Gröber claim mountain race gold in Kamnik



**Spain's Jan Torrella and Germany's Hanna Gröber claimed the senior titles in the up and downhill mountain races on the final day of the European Athletics Off-Road Running Championships in Ljubljana-Kamnik on Sunday (7 June), both producing decisive performances on the descents to secure gold.**

In the men's race, Torrella launched a fearless attack on the final downhill section to deliver Spain's first individual gold medal of the championships. The Spaniard covered the demanding 13km course in 1:00:09, finishing 54 seconds ahead of Switzerland's Dominik Rolli (1:01:03), while Sweden's Petter Engdahl claimed bronze in 1:01:48.

Rolli set a fierce early pace alongside Engdahl, while Torrella adopted a more measured approach in the warm conditions.

"The beginning was very fast and I was in 20th position," said Torrella. "In the uphill I could progress little by little and finally catch up with the leading guys."

His winning move came after the final climb.

"I had so much strength left on the top and said: all or nothing now, so I pushed as hard as I could. In the beginning I thought Dominik was going to catch me, but I never looked back."

After crossing the finish line, Torrella struggled to comprehend what he had achieved.

"I still can't believe it," he said. "I pushed so hard that I had no energy left in my legs, but the crowd has given me power."

Rolli was satisfied with silver after matching the leaders throughout most of the race.

“Jan was the fastest of the three of us in the downhill, but I am very happy with second place,” he said. “It is always like that. You are all out and you have to push, push, push.”

Engdahl secured bronze despite collapsing shortly after the finish and requiring medical attention.

“I got very overheated, but I am okay now,” he said after treatment. “I should have done some heat training before the race. Scandinavians are simply not used to that kind of weather.”



Despite missing out on an individual medal, Italy secured the men's team title thanks to the consistency of Cesare Maestri (4th), Isacco Costa (7th) and Alberto Vender (9th), who all finished inside the top ten. Switzerland claimed team silver, while Torrella's victory helped Spain secure the bronze medal.

The women's race was dominated by Germany's Hanna Gröber, who produced one of the standout performances of the championships to win in 1:09:41. Britain's Nancy Scott (1:11:07) and France's Nelie Clement (1:11:14) completed the podium.

After two days of challenging weather, the sun finally appeared for the championship finale, and Gröber took full advantage. She moved to the front on the opening climb and steadily increased her advantage throughout the race.

“At that point I knew it could be my race,” she said.

By the final summit, Gröber had built a commanding lead before unleashing her trademark downhill speed on the descent back to Kamnik.

“Downhill running is my superpower. Actually, I don't know why, but I am very good at it,” she said.

Her advantage continued to grow all the way to the finish, where she arrived 1 minute and 26 seconds ahead of Scott.

“It is a dream come true. I knew it was going to be a hard race in hot and humid conditions – but that’s what I like.”

Preparation proved equally important. Gröber had reconnoitred the course and key descents the week before the championships.



“I checked the course and the downhill one week before the championships with a friend, so I knew I had to stay concentrated until the end.”

Scott battled hard for silver despite acknowledging the German’s superiority on the descents.

“I tried to stick with the leaders on the first hill because I know I am not a strong descender,” she said. “The last climb was very slippery, and I had to grab the trees to keep my balance.”

Clement secured her second bronze medal of the championships after also finishing third in Friday’s uphill race.

“This time it was hot and slippery and a tough race with Nancy and Hanna, but I am very happy,” she said.

The women’s team competition was decided by the narrowest of margins. Switzerland and Spain both finished on 27 points, but the Swiss claimed gold after their third scorer, Flurina Eichholzer-Bott, finished ahead of Spain’s third scorer. Great Britain completed the team podium in bronze.



## Results

### Men's Up-and-Down Mountain Race

- 1/ Jan Torrella (ESP) – 1:00:09
- 2/ Dominik Rolli (SUI) – 1:01:03
- 3/ Petter Engdahl (SWE) – 1:01:48

### Women's Up-and-Down Mountain Race

- 1/ Hanna Gröber (GER) – 1:09:41
- 2/ Nancy Scott (GBR) – 1:11:07
- 3/ N lie Cl ment (FRA) – 1:11:14

## Team Results

### Women's Up-and-Down Mountain Team Competition

1. Switzerland
2. Spain
3. Great Britain

### Men's Up-and-Down Mountain Team Competition

1. Italy
2. Switzerland
3. Spain

[Full Results](#)

## **Notes to Editors**

### **About ITRA**

The International Trail Running Association (ITRA) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the development, promotion and ethical governance of trail running worldwide. ITRA supports athletes, races and national associations while helping safeguard the values and spirit of the sport.

### **About the 2026 European Off-Road Running Championships**

The 2026 European Athletics Off-Road Running Championships are taking place in Ljubljana-Kamnik, Slovenia, from 5–7 June 2026. Organised by European Athletics and the local organising committee, the event will feature Europe's leading mountain and trail runners across uphill, up-and-down and trail running races.

ITRA is sharing this release in support of the official event communication. Event-specific media enquiries should be directed to the local organising committee contact below.

### **Official Website**

<https://www.offroadrunning2026.si/>

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