

Press release

Gryon, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018

## 71<sup>st</sup> edition of the Trophées du Muveran – course change

The oldest ski mountaineering race will be held this Sunday, 8th April in Switzerland.

Exceptionally the race will take place on the Villars-Gryon ski resort as snow and weather conditions are very complex.

The organiser decided to move the race in an area offering maximum safety for the competitors as well as for the volunteers who prepare the course and make sure the event runs smoothly.

Moving the course to another location is justified by the important level of snow which was accumulated on the original course and as well as the warming which is forecasted for the end of the current week. In addition, it is very difficult to carry by helicopter the different equipment as well as the persons taking care of the preparation and organisation on the course because of the bad weather forecast scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday.

Competitors will attend one of the two technical meetings scheduled on Saturday at 4pm or 6pm in Gryon in front of la grande salle in order to get all details on the race. Three alternative courses have been designed and are being prepared for Sunday, which weather conditions will be quite warm. Starts are scheduled every 30 minutes from 5am to 7:30am. The first competitors are expected to reach the finish line in Gryon around 9am.

The organiser is looking forward to having the following "guest stars" at the start: the mountain bike olympic medallist and multiple world champion Christoph Sauser, the legendary Swiss skier Pirmin Zurbriggen, the record holders of the Trophées du Muveran, Marcel Theux and Steven Grirard as well as the couple Séverine and Nicolas Pont-Combe.

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