

Fundación Occident sets new record for participation in 17th Jesús Serra Ski Trophy at Baqueira-Beret

At the sports event, the Foundation awarded its renowned Fundación Occident Grants which are aimed at training young skiing talent

The 17th **Jesús Serra Ski Trophy**, organised by the **Fundación Occident**, has concluded with a new record number of entries and an exciting competition on the slopes at **Baqueira-Beret** despite the inclement weather on Saturday. The high winds and poor visibility on Saturday meant the competition had to be put back to Sunday, featuring only the Giant Slalom on a sunny day with ideal snow conditions. This year's event broke the record for the number of entries with 300 skiers of all categories taking part, cementing it as a leader in skiing due to its combination of sport, education and its robust social dimension as a competition open to all.

As is already customary in this tournament, at the end of the competition **Fundación Occident** awarded its **Fundación Occident Grants** to the winners of the second Giant Slalom round in which the skiers with the best times in the first round battled for the title. These grants are worth €15,000 and designed to support the education of young talents, thus furthering the organisation's investment in the sporting and academic development of skiers.

The competition, which honours Jesús Serra, founder of **GCO** and a great skiing enthusiast, has brought together promising young and experienced skiers who have demonstrated a high level of sporting prowess across the events.

The **Jesús Serra Ski Trophy** is not only a landmark in sport as it also reflects the **Fundación Occident's** passion for promoting sport and the values it conveys such as self-improvement, effort and companionship. Alongside the competition, participants have additionally enjoyed a wide range of activities and a prize-giving ceremony attended by leading figures from the world of skiing and the Foundation.

This 17th edition of the Trophy reaffirms **Fundación Occident's** commitment to promoting skiing and developing sporting talent, and it is already working on the organisation of next year's event which promises to offer new thrills and experiences.

Wind and poor visibility put the Trophy back to Sunday

The **Jesús Serra Ski Trophy** had to adapt its innovative competition format due to the inclement weather on Saturday. The spectacular **night-time Parallel Slalom** could not be held and the whole competition was shifted to a Giant Slalom held on a sunny Sunday.

On Sunday morning, the Giant Slalom (GS) race saw the participation of the U12, U14, U16, U18, U21, U30 and the various Masters categories. The 32 best men's times and the 32 best women's times in the first round qualified for a second round in which the winners of the grants and prizes awarded by the Jesús Serra Trophy in its three categories were decided.

About Fundación Occident

Fundación Occident, formerly Fundación Jesús Serra, is a private non-profit entity, created in memory of Jesús Serra Santamans, a renowned businessman and patron, who was the founder of GCO (Grupo Catalana Occidente). Its activity consists of developing and supporting initiatives in the fields of research, business and teaching, social action, sport, and promotion of the arts, with a common objective: responsible commitment to society.

- **Training Category (13 to 16 years old):** Trophy + ETEVA grant (First-tier certificate for alpine skiing) for the winners + Salomon products + ISDIN products + subscription to the Esquí Pro 2025 Catalogue.

- **Fundación Occident Grants Category (17 to 25 years old):** Trophy + €15,000 scholarship prize to share among the top finishers + GPS Coros Pace 3 watch + Salomon products + ISDIN products + subscription to the Esquí Pro 2025 Catalogue.
- **Masters Experiences Category (26 years old and over):** Trophy + gift vouchers for La Roca Village + ISDIN products + subscription to the Esquí Pro 2025 Catalogue.

The day wrapped up at around 5 pm with the prize-giving ceremony for the second round of the Giant Slalom. In the Fundación Occident Grants women's category, Anna Borrás won the €3,000 scholarship prize followed by Elena López-Diéguez and Leire Sánchez-Carvajales. In the men's category, Tomás Barata was in first place, also picking up the €3,000 prize, followed by Conrad Sastre and Jonás Sánchez.

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