

# **Press Release**

17/03/2025

# The Copa Fundación Occident – Copa de España DPD-Inclusiva de esquí alpino celebrates its 2025 edition with success and consolidation of the circuit.

#### This event has become a benchmark for sports inclusion in winter sports

The Copa Fundación Occident – Copa de España DPD-Inclusiva de esquí alpino held a new edition in 2025 with the participation of 271 skiers across the three circuit venues. Notably, 50% of the athletes held a DPD (Sports for People with Disabilities) licence, reaffirming the event as the national benchmark competition for the normalisation of sports for people with disabilities and their inclusion in winter sports.

This season's circuit once again included events in Baqueira Beret (Lleida), Sierra Nevada (Granada), and Formigal (Huesca), solidifying its position as a unique competition in Spain where athletes with and without disabilities compete on the same course in an environment of full integration and coexistence. The competition continues to focus on the development of sports talent and the access of skiers with disabilities to a stable circuit where they can be measured in equal terms.

### A pioneering initiative for the standardisation of adapted sports

Since its transformation in 2020 into an inclusive competition, the Copa Fundación Occident has become a national benchmark, gaining greater visibility for skiers with disabilities and promoting an inclusive sports culture. This edition was attended by skiers from all the categories DPD and the categories U10 and U12 of athletes without disabilities, maintaining their commitment to standardisation and accessibility in alpine skiing.

Ignacio Gallardo-Bravo, director of Fundación Occident, highlighted that "it is exciting to see how, year after year, this circuit continues to grow and add support. Our aim is to continue promoting a competition where inclusion and sport go hand in hand, allowing skiers with disabilities to compete on an equal footing and with the stability they need for their sports development."

Andrés Gómez, director of the Adapted Winter Sports Centre (CDIA), stressed the importance of continuing to strengthen the circuit: "With this edition, the competition has strengthened its commitment to inclusion, consolidating a competition model in which talent, self-improvement and sportsmanship are the main players."

## A competition recognised nationwide

The Copa Inclusiva Fundación Occident remains one of the most relevant competitions in the RFEDI (Royal Spanish Winter Sports Federation) alpine skiing calendar in Spain, scoring points for the DPD Copa de España and the U10-U12 Copa de España Inclusiva circuits.

#### **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.