

Press releaase Karlovy Vary, 26 of June 2021

# RunCzech mass participation events are back with the Mattoni Karlovy Vary Half Marathon

Is it going to rain? Is it going to be sunny? Both runners and the organizers were burbling among them. "It feels pleasant to finally get back to those typical questions before a race", could be heard all around.

Today, Saturday, June 26, RunCzech got its 2021 season going, this time with the opportunity to welcome over 1700 runners and families on the start line.

The leading pack was composed of the best Czech athletes chasing fast times and award podium place, but the event was all about restarting running in the country – for all. The first to try the new race course were the participants of the dm Family Run, from babies in trolleys to seniors, running or walking through the best part of the city, between colonnades and springs, enjoying under the banner of ALL RUNNER ARE BEAUTIFUL.

"This was a great moment to get together with friends and other sportsmen, and remind ourselves how beautiful Karlovy Vary is", said Petr Kulhanek, governor of the region and passionate runner.

The Half Marathon kicked off in two waves, in compliance with the actual health regulations serviced by the organizers and the local authorities. The best man Vit Pavlista and the best woman Hana Homolkova finished in 1:07:18 and in 1:20:36 respectively, tagging along over a thousand hobby runners behind them.

"It's great to see streets filled with people. I admire the organizers for putting together such a sportive festival under difficult circumstances, and I thank our citizens and guests for respecting all the health and security precautions", said the starter of the race, Petr Bursik, the deputy mayor of Karlovy Vary.

A 15min TV report will be shown on the Czech National TV Sport on July 1 at 1:30pm. The atmosphere can be felt also on the RunCzech YouTube channel.

What's next? RunCzech is introducing a brand new race in its portfolio, the Generali Česká Red Run, taking place on Saturday, July 24, on a surprising course – the biathlon areal in Nove Mesto na Morave, where the IBU World Cup took place.

Registrations are open on www.runczech.com.www.runczech.com.





#### **RESULTS**

#### Women

1. Hana Homolková 1:20:36

2. Tereza Jagošová 1:22:41

3. Ivana Sekyrová 1:23:19

### Men

1. Vít Pavlišta 1:07:18

2. Ondřej Fejfar 1:08:45

3. Petr Hošna 1:09:29

## CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH

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#### NOTES FOR EDITORS: ABOUT RUNCZECH

- RunCzech organizes running events in cities across the Czech Republic and in Italy, with Napoli Running, and in Japan and China supported by local entities.
- Prague International Marathon spol. s.r.o. ("PIM") was established in 1995 by Carlo Capalbo, President of the Organizing Committee, with the aim of staging a world-class international marathon in Prague.
- Nearly 1.2 million runners have participated in RunCzech events since its inception. In 2019, we welcomed over 120 000 finishers from 101 different countries.
- ALL RUNNERS ARE BEAUTIFUL is our way of welcoming everyone to the world of running.
- Initiatives like RunCzech Running League and SuperHalfs were created to motivate casual runners. To support elite European athletes, we created the EuroHeroes Challenge.
- RunCzech Racing is dedicated to the development of young athletes, community ties, and sporting excellence. Eight World records so far and over 150 podium finishes for our team!
- We host other events such as our Bambini Runs, Family Runs and Junior Marathon Championship to encourage youth participation.
- Our FreeRun courses form a network of running trails across the Czech Republic.
- Our Running Mall serves as the epicenter of the running world in Prague.



