



Il Manifesto ufficiale dei Campionati Mondiali Mtb-O 2011
di Vicenza ideato da Diego Boscolo

A 'MADE IN ITALY' WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS EVENT

Staged on the Berici Hills, the MTB-O World Championships Event has the mark of Italian excellence: art, culture, countryside

VICENZA - The sport of Orienteering in Italy has improved dramatically over the last few years and has reached a World Class technical Level. The list of big events started in 2005 with the World Cup Foot Orienteering Finals in Subiaco (Rome), continued in 2007 with the MTB-O European Championships in Castelfiorentino (Florence) and the climax was in Summer 2009 with the Junior Foot Orienteering World Championships in the splendid Valley of Primiero. This season saw the World Cup MTB- Orienteering Finals take place in Teolo on the Euganei Hills. The next stage of this project to organize important international orienteering events in Italy will be the World MTB-O Championships which take place on the Berici Hills in August, 2011. These hills of ancient marine origin - in the past the sea covered all the areas corresponding to the actual Po Valley - will be the scene of an event that has been planned to offer a mixture of art, culture and a combination of natural beauties that will give pleasure to the senses of all the participants compet-

ing in the World Championships and the Open races. The Opening Ceremony will be held at Basilica Palladio in Vicenza, a Renaissance masterpiece by Andrea Palladio, an enlightened architect capable of marking an era and an area with his buildings recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage. The first World Champion title will be awarded after the Long Distance Final event raced on a map between the towns of Marostica, a town famous for the Chess game - every two years a Chess game is organized with human actors and animals on the main square - and Bassano del Grappa with its wooden roofed bridge called Ponte Vecchio, a monument dedicated to the 'Resistenza', rebuilt after the war from a project by Palladio. The Middle Distance final will be staged in the natural countryside of Pozzolo with its magnificent hills and slopes from which you can admire the flat lands around Vicenza. The unique terrain of Alonte, Orgiano and Sarego will be the scene of the Relays, where the plain suddenly turns into soft valleys and hills of vineyards and olive groves. Finally the grand finale Sprint race in a very special terrain of its own: Sossano is famous for its very unique microclimate that allows clear skies and sunshine all year round. With terrains proven to be perfect for mountain bike orienteering, the organizing committee will have the opportunity to express itself on a very high technical level during the competition. The success is announced. The rest will be done by the athletes and fans who will flock to the Berici Hills from August 20, 2011 for the event model. ■