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Press release Chamonix, 14 June 2022

# Pre-registration open for UTMB Mont-Blanc 2023 and the first ever UTMB World Series Finals

-- Runners can pre-register for free through their dedicated My UTMB account until 31 December 2022 --

-- UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series Events are the only place to qualify for the UTMB<sup>®</sup> (100M), CCC<sup>®</sup> (100K) and OCC (50K) races with events across Asia, Oceania, Europe, and the Americas still to come this year --

Pre-registration is officially open for the UTMB<sup>®</sup>, CCC<sup>®</sup> and OCC races of UTMB<sup>®</sup> Mont-Blanc 2023, giving runners around the world over 6 months to qualify for the first ever UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series Finals.

Taking place from 28 August to 3 September 2023, trail running's pinnacle event and the inspiration for the UTMB World Series will welcome more than 10,000 runners in Chamonix, France to take on an extraordinary human adventure across three different countries in the heart of the Pays du Mont-Blanc.

The UTMB (100M), CCC (100K), and OCC (50K) will become the UTMB World Series Finals from 2023, with runners only able to qualify for the event lottery by collecting Running Stones at UTMB World Series events and by activating their UTMB Index.

Runners have until the 31 December 2022 to pre-register for the lottery and with UTMB World Series Events still to come this year across Asia, Oceania, Europe, and the Americas, there are still plenty of chances to gain entry. Runners can check if they meet the criteria for their desired race category throughout the year through their new My UTMB account, available on the <u>UTMB.World</u> website.

# Key dates and information

14 June 2022: Pre-registration opens. Runners must register on their My UTMB account. Runners can preregister for free with no deposit. Running Stones and a valid UTMB Index are not required to pre-register, however these qualifying criteria must be met by the time pre-registration closes. Entry fees for UTMB confirmed World Series Finals 2023 will be after UTMB Mont-Blanc 2022. 31 December 2022: closes **Pre-registration** 10 January 2023: Results of the lottery



#### Click here to watch the video

### **Running Stones**

A Running Stone is an entry into the lottery for the UTMB World Series Finals: the UTMB, CCC and OCC races of the UTMB Mont-Blanc. Running Stones can only be collected by finishing races in the 20K, 50K, 100K or 100M category at a UTMB World Series Event or UTMB World Series Major.

Only 1 Running Stone acquired in the past two years is needed to enter the lottery, and each Running Stone gives runners an additional chance to be drawn.

The full list of 2022 UTMB World Series Events where runners can collect Running Stones for UTMB Mont-Blanc 2023 can be found <u>here</u>.

### **UTMB Index**

The UTMB Index assesses the performance level of each trail runner in the 4 UTMB World Series race categories: 20K, 50K, 100K and 100M. A valid UTMB Index is required to enter the UTMB Mont-Blanc

lottery, which can be achieved by completing at least one race of the UTMB World Series or a UTMB Index race in the relevant category within the previous 24 months. Runners can check out their UTMB Index and that of others <u>here</u>.

# **Qualification for elite runners**

The sports best athletes must qualify for UTMB Mont Blanc by taking part in the UTMB World Series Majors or UTMB World Series Events races over a period of 15 months. This allows elite runners to optimize their season and their recovery periods.

The first 10 men and women on the UTMB World Series Majors, as well as the first 3 men and women on the UTMB World Series Events in each of the 50K, 100K and 100M categories, will win a place at the UTMB World Series Finals in the equivalent category.

Built on the principles of solidarity, fair-play, respect for the mountains and each other, UTMB Mont-Blanc is the inspiration for all UTMB World Series Events, and thousands of runners have already taken part in races across Europe and North America this year.

The next chance for runners to collect their Running Stones and qualify for the Finals is at mozart 100 by UTMB in Austria, 18-19 June, and the following week (23-36 June) at Lavaredo Ultra-Trail by UTMB (Italy), Trail 100 Andorra by UTMB (Andorra) and Western States Endurance Run (USA).

Entry for the PTL<sup>®</sup>, TDS<sup>®</sup>, MCC, YCC and ETC races at UTMB Mont-Blanc will open in January.



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# Note to editors

#### UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series

UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series is the world's ultimate trail-running circuit that unites the sport's biggest stars and passionate runners through the best, leading international events in the most stunning locations. Built on a passion for the mountains with sustainability at its heart, UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series gives all trail runners the chance to experience the UTMB<sup>®</sup> adventure across the world, with events taking place across Asia, Oceania, Europe and the Americas in 2022. It is the only place where runners can begin their quest to UTMB<sup>®</sup> Mont-Blanc, France, where the prestigious UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series Finals will be held. For more information, visit <u>www.utmb.world</u>.

### About UTMB Group

Over the last 18 years, and since the creation of UTMB<sup>®</sup> Mont-Blanc in 2003 by a group of passionate friends, UTMB Group has been the driving force behind the development of trail running. The UTMB<sup>®</sup> Mont-Blanc is the sports pinnacle event, and every year, 10,000 runners earn their place on the start line. UTMB Group also pioneered the LiveTrail<sup>®</sup> technology, an innovative digital service that supports the management of endurance races. Revered by hundreds of thousands of athletes, UTMB<sup>®</sup> has become a global, premium, and leading brand. In May 2021, UTMB Group partnered with The IRONMAN Group to launch the UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series, which from 2022, will bring together many of the best international events on the planet to provide exclusive access to the sport's pinnacle event, UTMB<sup>®</sup> Mont-Blanc. The UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series is built on the founding principles of UTMB<sup>®</sup> Mont-Blanc: surpassing oneself; fair-play; respect for people and the environment; and solidarity. Find out more at <u>www.utmb.world</u>.

#### About The IRONMAN Group

The IRONMAN Group operates a global portfolio of events that includes the IRONMAN <sup>®</sup> Triathlon Series, the IRONMAN<sup>®</sup> 70.3<sup>®</sup> Triathlon Series, the IRONMAN<sup>®</sup> Virtual Racing<sup>™</sup> (VR<sup>™</sup>) Series, 5150<sup>™</sup> Triathlon Series, the Rock 'n' Roll <sup>®</sup> Running Series, the Rock 'n' Roll Virtual Running<sup>™</sup> Series, IRONKIDS<sup>®</sup>, World Triathlon Championship Series, premier running events including the Standard Chartered Singapore Marathon<sup>™</sup> and City2Surf<sup>®</sup>, UTMB<sup>®</sup> World Series events including Tarawera Ultra and Ultra-Trail Australia<sup>™</sup>, Epic Series<sup>™</sup> mountain bike races including the Absa Cape Epic<sup>®</sup>, road cycling events including Haute Route<sup>®</sup>, and other multisport races. The IRONMAN Group is the largest operator of mass participation sports in the world and provides more than a million participants annually the benefits of endurance sports through the company's vast offerings. Since the inception of the iconic IRONMAN<sup>®</sup> brand and its first event in 1978, athletes have proven that ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE<sup>®</sup> by crossing finish lines around the world. Beginning as a single race, The IRONMAN Group has grown to become a global sensation with hundreds of events across 55+ countries. The IRONMAN Group is owned by Advance, a private, family-owned business. For more information, visit www.ironman.com/about-ironman.group.

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