

RED FOX ADVENTURE RACE powered by Polartec 2009, 12-14 of June

The multi race **RED FOX ADVENTURE RACE powered by Polartec 2009** traditionally took place on the 12-14th of June, in the north of Karelian Isthmus. The comfortable position of the race attracted the largest quantity of participants throughout the history of RF adventure races: **11 teams of 4 persons and 37 of 2 persons (118 participants)**, 24 teams from Saint-Petersburg. Among the sportsmen there were foreign multi racers as well: Turkish team **4G Adventure Racing Team** (Murat Dikmen, Alptekin Baskir), young Swedish team **Karlstad multisport 1** (Henrik Mattias Goransson, Per Tobias Landstrom, Hanna Maria Eveline Ehrencrona, Lars Anders Lindstrom) and Latvian team **RU-MAXX**. (Arnis Kalnins, Gints Ermanis, Aigars Erins, Mara Leitane). This year the organizers of the race refused the usual Light and Pro classes division, that's why no one lost, each participant passed the maximum of the distance, according to his forces and abilities. Though Konstantin Beketov promised that the race will be soft and warm, only **10** strongest team achieved the finish line.

The race started with the paddling stage on the water system of Vuoksa. Heavy shower started before the start of the race, so the participants were surrounded by water from all the sides. The leaders' teams could be distinguished right after the start. Among the teams of 4 were leading the winners of the previous races and permanent rivals **Nike ACG, Moscow and OS-DIRECT ADVENTURE TEAM, Ukraine**. Among the teams of 2 the struggle was very intense – by the end of the first stage they followed each other with an interval of just a few minutes.

The second stage was trekking, with a distance of 50 km. The participants passed through the wild dense forests, with absolute lack of roads. The additional difficulties were: the nighttime, the rain, endless ranges of rocks.

In the early morning of the 13 of June the leaders of the race started the rock climbing stage on the Iastrebinoe Lake. The teams had to pass several routes situated on different mountain ranges. The stage also included one route which had to be passed by all the team members: the first one passed it with a low self-belaying, the others – with high. After the stage of rock climbing followed the orienteering stage in the same severe area as the trekking stage.

After the trekking, climbing and orienteering stage the distance of which exceeded 70 km, only the strongest teams continued the struggle. Unfortunately **16** teams finished their race after these stages, among them one of the challengers for the victory **OS-DIRECT ADVENTURE TEAM**. The orienteering stage completed, the participants returned to the place where the night before they left the kayaks. After having a rest and hot tea, the teams began the orienteering on kayaks. The participants, who quitted the race, joined the other teams to transport their kayaks to the base camp. On the second stage of paddling the leading teams among the teams of 4 were Nike ACG, among the teams of 2– Map of the world, Red Fox, Young struggler 2, Mice. This stage offered interesting CP, for example a CP hidden on the sunken boat.

During the night 12-13 of June and on the 13 of June the weather cleared up, but by the evening the storm broke out, and the rain started again. By the evening of the 13th of June the teams returned to the base camp where the secret discipline took place. The start of the cycling stage was situated on the opposite coast of the river; the teams had to transport their bicycles and return the kayaks to the base camp. The majority of the teams sent one of the members back with kayaks and he swam across the river. There was another possible decision taken by the Red Fox team: to start the cycling stage on the camp side and to pass additional 15 km on bicycles.

Some teams, for example, Turkish 4G Adventure Racing Team and Swedish Karlstad multisport 1, who've already quitted the distance after the trekking and climbing stages, decided to take part in the cycling stage just for pleasure. The cycling stage offered a rich variety of disciplines: orienteering, orienteering by the legend and coasting by the banks of the Ladoga Lake.

The concluding stage of the multirace was paddling and at last long-awaited finish!

By the noon of the 14th of June exhausted participants returned to the camp. Despite the difficulty of the routes and the duration of the race (the time of leaders– 45 hours 10 minutes 38 seconds), all the participants were satisfied. The winners among the teams of 4 became, as

expected, **Nike ACG**, 2-3 places were awarded to the women's team **Arena-Craft** and **Svetli put - TK MAI (Light way- TC MAI)**. Among the teams of 2 the winners are: Maxim Studnev, Igor Klepcha (**The map of the world, Karta Mira**), **Yuri Borodulin, Ivan Kononov (RED FOX)**, **Alexander Eduardov, Michael Kuricin (Mishi, Mice)**, **Alexander Sokolov and Michael Pershin (Molodoi boec 2 (Young fighter 2))**.

Besides money prizes, the winners were awarded with certificates for the garments Red Fox made from the Polartec materials. The **Polartec** Company, who supported the race, gave the **Power Shield** jackets to the volunteers. Thanks to the bright jackets they could be easily distinguished in the crowd of supporters and fans.

1. NIKE ACG 45:10:38

Ivan Petrov
Pavel Sisoiev
Dmitry Timohin
Natalia Abramova

2-3. Arena-Craft 45:58:42

Anna Burlinova
Elena Bondar
Irina Safronova
Maria Pliashechko

2-3. Svetli put - TK MAI (Light way- TC MAI) 45:59:07

Pavel Demehik
Boris Malahov
Sergey Romanenkov
Anna Shavkalova

1. Karta Mira (The Map of the world) 46:41:01

Maxim Studnev
Igor Klepcha

2-4. RED FOX

Yuri Borodulin
Ivan Kononov

Mishi (Mice)

Alexander Eduardov
Mihail Kuricin

Molodoi boec 2 (Young fighter 2)

Michael Pershin
Alexander Sokolov

Organizer - Red Fox with the support of Polartec

Technical support – MES Russia

Director of the race, the main judge – Konstantin Beketov

Informational partners – the first channel, magazines: Ex, Vertically Mir, Risk, the newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda