**Balkan Rookie Fest 26 announced !**
**12.FEB.2026 - Malyovitsa Ski, Bulgaria**

Balkan Rookie Fest arrives in Malyovitsa!

Set in the heart of the Rila Mountains, Malyovitsa Ski Center welcomes the World Rookie Tour with the launch of its new freestyle snow park, marking an important milestone for the development of freestyle snowboarding in Bulgaria. Known for its authentic alpine spirit and strong winter sports heritage, Malyovitsa now opens a new chapter focused on progression, creativity, and youth competition.

The event will take place at the brand-new Fun Park Malyovitsa, located on the “Mecha Polyana” slope. The park features a modern slopestyle / rail setup, carefully designed to meet international safety and competition standards, offering ideal conditions for rookies and groms to express their riding and push their limits.

**Event Program & Discipline**

**Snowboard Slopestyle / Rail**

*Wednesday – 11 February 2026*

*13:00 – 16:30*
*Official Training*
*Location: Fun Park Malyovitsa – “Mecha Polyana” slope*

*Thursday – 12 February 2026*

*08:50 – Course inspection*
*09:00 – 09:15 – Course walk*
*09:20 – 10:20 – Training (by age groups, from Juniors to Kids)*
*10:25 – 10:35 – Course reshaping*
*10:40 – 12:00 – First run (by age groups, from Juniors to Kids)*
*12:05 – 12:15 – Course reshaping*
*12:20 – 13:20 – Second run (by age groups, from Juniors to Kids)*
*13:30 – Award ceremony*

*Location: “Mecha Polyana” slope*

* The program is subject to change in case of adverse weather conditions or other.

**What are you waiting for?**
**Come and join the 2026 World Rookie Tour!**
**The future is here!**

**BALKAN ROOKIE FEST 26 . SNOWPARK MALYOVITSA . BULGARIA**

**Entry**
20 EUR entry fee per athlete *
20 EUR BIP deposit (reimbursed at BIP return) **

*The entry fee must be paid in cash on spot.
**BIP deposit must be imputed in cash on BIP distribution.

**Qualifying criteria to the World Rookie Snowboard Finals**
Top 3 riders from each WRT qualification event, will qualify to the World Rookie Finals. For all the other information about the WRT Qualifying criteria, check here: The Tour - World Rookie Tour

**World Rookie Rank and Age Categories**
2026 World Rookie Tour Snowboard events are reserved for Rookie (1st Jan 2008 – 31st Dec 2010) / Grom (after 1st Jan 2011). All contests in the World Rookie Tour will generate results for the World Rookie Rank.

**How to get there:**
We are happy to welcome riders, coaches, and teams from Bulgaria and abroad to Malyovitsa Ski Center, located in the Rila Mountains, one of the most accessible alpine regions in the country.

By plane:
The nearest international airport is Sofia Airport (SOF), which is well connected to major European cities. From Sofia, Malyovitsa is approximately 90 km away.

By car:
From Sofia, take the road towards Samokov, then follow the signs to Borovets – Malyovitsa. The drive takes about 1.5 to 2 hours, depending on weather and road conditions. Winter tires and chains are recommended during snowy periods.

By public transport:
Regular buses run from Sofia to Samokov. From Samokov, local transport or taxi services are available to reach Malyovitsa Ski Center.

If you need any further assistance or local support for your trip, feel free to contact the event organizers.
We look forward to welcoming you in Malyovitsa and wish you a safe and pleasant journey.

**Lift Passes**

The organizer will provide free lift access on competition days for all officially registered athletes and coaches.
Information regarding lift passes for the training day will be communicated additionally.

## Accommodation

Recommended hotels:

- Hotel Malyovitsa – https://hotelmalyovitsa.com
- Hotel Alpinist – https://malyovitsa.com/bg/winter/hotel-alpinist-2/
- Hotel Arena Samokov – https://www.hotelarena-samokov.com

Accommodation contact:
Martin Itsov
Phone: +359 894 250 201
Email: m.itsov@malyovitsa.com

Please mention that the booking is for the snowboard competition (required by the hotels).

## Registrations :

**Foreign riders please submit the following information to the e-mail below:**
Name:
Family name:
Date of birth:
Gender:
Sentence:
Nationality:
e-mail:
mobile phone number (including the country code):

**Email:** snowboard.boroboard@gmail.com

**Bulgarian riders only:**
via the Bulgarian Ski Federation online system
https://timing-sb.bfski.com

For assistance with registration (Bulgarian riders):
Assia Ilieva
Email: assia.ilieva@bfski.com
Phone: +359 878 105 990 (Bulgarian riders)

**Registration deadline: 8 February 2026 (Sunday)**

**Event Contact Person:**
Hristo Ahtapodov
Phone: +359 877 603 100
Email: snowboard.boroboard@gmail.com

***Follow the World Rookie Tour online:***
*Web:* www.worldrookietour.com *Instagram:*www.instagram.com/worldrookietour
*Vimeo channel:* www.vimeo.com/channels/worldrookietour

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## EVENT INFO SHEET
## BALKAN ROOKIE FEST 26 . SNOWPARK MALYOVITSA . BULGARIA

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|---|---|
| **Event** | Balkan Rookie Fest |
| **Location** | Malyovitsa, Bulgaria ( **Malyovitsa Ski** ) |
| **WSF Ranking** | Grassroot |
| **Date** | 12.FEB.2026 |
| **Event Format** | Snowboard Slopestyle / Rail |
| **Age groups** | Rookie (1st Jan 2008 – 31st Dec 2010) / Grom (after 1st Jan 2011) |
| **Prize** | 2 tickets to Ride for the 2026 World Snowboard Finals in Kaprun (Austria) (not including travel costs)<br>Products and prizes from our tour sponsors Blue-Tomato, TSG & Contrabanda.bg<br>All podium riders will qualify for the 2026 World Snowboard Finals in Kaprun (Austria) |
| **Qualified Riders** | National team athletes can be registered directly by National Skateboard Association (registration to be submitted by national secretary or national/regional coach) |
| **Registration** | Registration must be done by 8th of February 2026<br>at: snowboard.boroboard@gmail.com |
| **Judging** | Official licensed judges |
| **Sponsor & Partner** | Sponsor: Red Bull, TSG, Blue Tomato, Contrabanda.bg<br>Media Partner: Fuel TV, Boardriding.com, Quattro Media, 360 Mag.<br>The event is energized by Red Bull. |
| **Organization** | SC Boroboard – Samokov in cooperation with Malyovitsa Ski Center with the support of Municipality of Samokov |
| **Contact for info** | Phone: +359 877 603 100<br>Email: snowboard.boroboard@gmail.com |
| **Official Website** | www.worldrookietour.com ; www.malyovitsa.com |

***ABOUT THE WORLD ROOKIE TOUR***

*The World Rookie Tour is organized by the Black Yeti ssrl in collaboration with World Snowboard Federation, National Snowboard, Ski and Skateboard Associations, and selected action sports agencies. It was born in 2005 as a series of youth snowboard events and it consists now of a selection of high-quality International events for snowboard, Freeski, Skateboard and Surf, the so-called "Rookie Fests", reserved for riders under 18's only, in Europe, North and South America, Oceania and Asia. The World Rookie Tour consists not only of competitions: it also features loads of other activities to help rookies to grow in the field of professional action sports, such as photo & video shootings, avalanche, and rescue clinics, meetings with photographers, and international team managers, parties and English talks. Every year the tour crowns the World Rookie Champions at the end of the season, during the World Rookie Finals, a unique event format where the best youngsters from almost 30 countries compete and have fun. You can follow the World Rookie Tour on our international media partners Boardriding.com and Quattro Media.*

*More information at www.worldrookietour.com*