

Italian Cup 2008: a bad start

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Today the national orienteering season in Italy started with a night race with mass start. I was looking forward to this race, because it was the first time this year to compete in Italy for me and also because of the formula of the race. I started perfect. No problems on the easy controls towards the centre of the butterfly and also a good first loop, but already on my way out from the first control of the second loop, my problems started.

I got stuck in a green area and there I ripped my map into 2 pieces. I lost some minutes to find the 2nd part and worse, I lost my complete concentration there. After that it was quite OK on the 3rd loop until the last control. The control was misplaced by almost 150 m. I tried to find the control flag by attacking it from 3 directions - without success. My race stopped there. I finished the course, but without any motivation.

Michail Mamleev won in front of Marco Seppi and my club mate Michele Tavernaro.

For sure it will be better for me tomorrow!