PERE AURELL IN THE MEN'S CATEGORY AND ANG FURBA SHERPA IN THE WOMEN'S CATEGORY WIN STAGE 2 OF THE EVEREST TRAIL RACE BY TUGA

ETAPA 2 /26'60 KM / +1.483m/ - 2.203 m / Ac 3.686 m

Kulung and Aurell lock horns in a titanic battle in the Himalayas: only 11 seconds separate them in the overall standings!

Pere Aurell claims Stage 2 of the 2026 Everest Trail Race in Ringmo after an epic comeback on a day marked by snow and a safety neutralization. In the women's category, **Ang Furba Sherpa** puts on another dominant display.

The 14th edition of the **Everest Trail Race** is delivering a relentless spectacle. The second stage of the Nepalese race delivered a thrilling new chapter in the head-to-head duel between local runner **Milan Kulung** and Catalan athlete **Pere Aurell**. Following an extreme day shaped by the harsh demands of high-altitude terrain, both runners finished the day practically neck and neck, with just **11 seconds** separating them in the general classification.

Snow forces a descent neutralization

The weather was the defining factor of the day. Recent snowfall around **Pike Peak** left the descent from the summit in extremely hazardous conditions. Prioritizing runner safety, race organizers made the right call to temporarily neutralize the stage once athletes reached the peak. Competition did not resume until the first checkpoint (CP1), where the terrain finally offered safe running conditions.

A gritty comeback by Pere Aurell

On the competitive front, **Kulung** once again showcased his strength at high altitude, cresting Pike Peak with a lead of just over two minutes on **Aurell**. Far from giving up, the Catalan runner drew upon his experience and grit on the final stretch toward the finish line in **Ringmo**. Aurell steadily chipped away at the gap, caught up with the Nepalese runner, and crossed the finish line in first place with a margin of over 30 seconds ahead of his main rival.

Fellow Spaniard **Ricardo Cherta** rounded out the stage podium, finishing just over two minutes behind the winner. He was followed by Nepalese runner **Ramesh Limbu** (around four minutes back) and **Abel Carretero**, who closed out the *top 5* nearly 18 minutes behind Aurell.

Ang Furba Sherpa remains untouchable

In the women's field, the script from Stage 1 repeated itself word for word. Nepal's **Ang Furba Sherpa** laid down the law once again with overwhelming authority, securing her second consecutive stage victory and tightening her grip on the overall lead.

Behind her, fellow Nepalese runner **Sonima Sherpa** was the only athlete able to keep pace at a distance, crossing the line in second place 15 minutes behind the leader. Veteran Italian runner **Giuliana Arrigoni** completed the women's podium, reaching Ringmo 1 hour and 38 minutes after the winner.

Everything to play for on the roof of the World

With this dramatic finish in Ringmo, the men's general classification is wide open. That razor-thin 11-second margin between Kulung and Aurell amounts to a virtual tie, promising high drama in the upcoming stages. The mountain dictated its own rules today, making it crystal clear that in the heart of the Himalayas, the **2026 Everest Trail Race** will be decided right down to the wire.