



New improved Compagnoni piste host FIS Ladies' World Ski Championship

The impressive Deborah Compagnoni piste in Santa Caterina, that was only completed weeks before the opening of the championships, provided the setting for Anja Paersson's superb victory in the FIS Alpine World Ski Championships Ladies Super G on Sunday January 30th. Compagnoni, 35 and born in Valfurva (ITA), is Santa Caterina's most famous daughter and it is a fitting tribute to one of the best female skiers of the nineties that this superb World Championship piste is named after the local hero. "I am extremely proud that this piste bears my name. This is my village. It was here I grew up and have spent most of my life", said Compagnoni whose career highlights include three Olympic Winter Games gold medals (1992 Super-G, 1994 and 1998 Giant Slalom) as well as three FIS Alpine World Ski Championship gold medals (1996 Giant Slalom, 1997 Giant Slalom and Slalom).

The piste is a full 2563 metres long, with a total drop of 785 metres, and an average gradient of 32%. The course is completely brand-new in its final part, finishing off with a bridge over the Frodolfo stream that marks the end of the course. The upper part of the piste that mostly follows the profile of the old Edelweiss slope has also been modified and adapted to conform to the latest profile of ladies downhill courses.

FIS dealing with Italian appeal

After receiving an official appeal from the Italian Winter Sports Federation relating to the results of the Mens FIS Alpine World Cup Slalom competition in Schladming (AUT) on January 25th, the Appeals Commission is presently studying the

appeal. The official timing tapes from the A and B systems as well as the hand timing from the race are being reviewed by the Chairman of the FIS Timing Working Group. The Appeals Commission intends to communicate their decision prior to the Men's Slalom at the FIS Alpine World Ski Championships in Bormio on 12th February.

Oberstdorf sets the scene for international youth ski camp

While most of the of the skiing world will focus its attention on the Cross Country, Ski Jumping and Nordic Combined competitions at the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Oberstdorf (GER) from February 16th-27th, the local organizing committee and the German Ski Federation serving under the patronage of FIS, will arrange an international youth ski camp in Oberstdorf from January 18th-28th. The idea behind the initiative is not only to promote Nordic skiing for future generations but also to use the sport to trigger an improved mutual understanding across cultural frontiers in the context and the excitement of the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships. Each FIS member association is invited to enlist 2-4 participants for the camp while 2-4 youngsters from the German regional ski associations may be invited as a "24 hour guest" in the camp. Girls and boys between 16-18 years of age who are able to hold a conversation in English and have revealed a special commitment to the sport within their National Ski Association will be selected for the special event.

Dear Friends of FIS,

Should you have any feedback, comments, you are most welcome to send them to me at: frandsen@fisski.ch. "FIS Newsflash" will not only be distributed via e-mail but also be

published in the News section of the FIS
Website.

Best regards

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