



FIS Snowboard Junior World Championships rescheduled for Zermatt (SUI)

After the FIS Snowboard Junior World Championships set to take place in Arosa (SUI) from 4th-8th April were cancelled due to poor snow conditions, the prestigious event has now been rescheduled for 20th-24th April in Zermatt (SUI).

It will be the first time that Switzerland plays host to the championships which takes place for the 9th time after the event was inaugurated in 1997 in Corno all Scale (ITA). Around 30 nations and 330 athletes will compete which is testimony to the popularity of the competition as a mere 13 nations and 33 competitors participated in the first championships. The 2005 FIS Snowboard Junior World Championships are for athletes born between 1985-1989 for Alpine, SBX events and Big Air and 1985-1991 for Halfpipe.

Heart measurement could be introduced in FIS Nordic Combined World Cup

A new interesting dimension that will be studied by the Nordic Combined Committee at its' next meeting in early May could be adopted for the FIS Nordic Combined World Cup from the start of the 2005/2006 season with the measurement of individual athletes' heart frequencies monitored and transmitted to the viewer

The initiative has come about in an innovative partnership between FIS and its data service provider, Wige, together with one of the leading manufacturers of sports instruments, Suunto, in order to provide the media and spectators with a further information tool of to illustrate athletes'

performance abilities during the cross country race and the effect of the physical efforts .

The measurement of athletes' heart frequencies was tested on a trial basis during three FIS Nordic Combined World Cup competitions during the 2004/2005 season in which 7 athletes in Oberhof (GER), 33 participants in Lahti (FIN) and 29 performers in Oslo (NOR) wore the necessary equipment to provide ARD, MTV3 and NRK with the heart rate frequencies at one fixed point of the respective routes during the cross country race of the Nordic Combined competitions.

Feedback from the new initiative has been well received overall by the general public and media. Indeed there has been a general consensus that the system has an interesting a future, especially when the possibility is there to make heart frequency comparisons between a leading athlete/leading athletes and the pursuer.

Eurosport wins 2005 FIS Award

TV station Eurosport has earned the 2005 FIS award thanks to its' extensive coverage of the FIS disciplines. Eurosport Chairman Angelo Codignoni was presented the trophy at an international press conference where FIS President Gian Franco Kasper described Eurosport's "superb winter sports coverage" as the main background for the honor.

"Eurosport is an important partner of FIS and has provided an outstanding service in the coverage of winter sports in the past years", said Kasper. "As Eurosport is broadcast in 54 countries in 19 different languages, FIS is able to reach all spectators in Europe who otherwise didn't

have the possibility to follow alpine skiing and all the other winter sports on television before.”

Additionally Eurosport and FIS have teamed up to provide the Eurosport newsfeed animating the home page of the FIS website www.fis-ski.com with stories and reports in each of the official FIS languages, English, French and German throughout the 2004/2005 season.

Hannes Schneider conference to take place at FIS Ski-museum St. Anton am Arlberg
An international Hannes Schneider conference will take place from 8th-10th April in the ski-museum in St. Anton am Arlberg (AUT) to conclude an exhibition of the famous Austrian ski pioneer. The conference, which has been arranged in recognition of the 50 year anniversary of his death, will be attended by the Chairman of the FIS Committee for Public Relations and Mass Media, Elizabeth Hussey, and will feature speeches about the development of the ski runner and skiing teacher Hannes Schneider as well his Arlberg-technique and his movies.

The exhibition has presented a review of the life and work of the famous skiing pioneer in a manifold special presentation. Apart from an extensive portrait of Hannes Schneider with numerous pictures, documents and texts of his time as well as interesting interviews with contemporary witnesses, the special exhibition has also documented the development of skiing in Arlberg as well as in the USA and Japan.

Arnold Lunn Citadin World Cup comes to a thrilling end
No less than 271 men and 221 ladies from 35 nations took part this season in the ever growing Arnold Lunn Citadin World Cup which is open for skiers who reside permanently at a location which is not a winter sports resort and which is not linked to a skiing area by an uphill transport facility.

The FIS-CIT races of the Arnold Lunn World

Cup take place annually. The scope of these races is to promote international amateur ski competition and to offer international competition to citizen racers from both alpine and non-alpine countries. Besides competitive sport, the purpose of the races is to encourage multicultural exchange which often turns into long-lasting friendships.

In the season 2004/2005 it was the more experienced names who came away with the glory. As such Italy's Oscar Paschner, who also prevailed in the individual Downhill and Super-G standings was crowned overall winner of the Men's competition while Doris Bergner captured the top spot of the Ladies' overall standings. The overall winners in the individual alpine World Cup disciplines were:

Ladies:

Overall: Doris Bergner (AUT)
Downhill: Doris Breuer (AUT)/Tomi Crewes (AUS)
Super G: Maite Alaerts (BEL)
Slalom: Lucile Mogeon (FRA)
Giant Slalom: Doris Bergner (AUT)

Men:

Overall: Oscar Paschner (ITA)
Downhill: Oscar Paschner (ITA)
Super G: Oscar Paschner (ITA)
Slalom: Martin Dengler (GER)
Giant Slalom: Peter Kropf, Austria

Overall Nations Cup (Men and Ladies combined): Austria

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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