



## Former Chairman of the FIS Nordic Combined Committee passes away

Former Chairman of the FIS Nordic Combined Committee, Gunde Gundersen (NOR), has sadly passed away. Gundersen joined the Committee for Nordic Combined in 1968 and was the Chairman of the Committee from 1975-1979.

In 1967 Gunde Gundersen introduced the competition format named after him and for the first time in 1967 his system was applied internationally and since 1984 at FIS Nordic World Ski Championships and Olympic Winter Games. (The Gundersen Method converts final ski jumping point differentials into time intervals. Under the Gundersen method, or pursue start, skiers start at a pre-designated disadvantage in time in relation to the athlete who leads the jumping portion of the competition. The first skier crossing the finish line is the winner of the whole competition).

In the year 2000 Gunde Gundersen was elected by the FIS Council as honorary member of the Committee for Nordic Combined.

## Goldberger calls it a day

One of Ski Jumping's all-time great athletes, Andreas Goldberger (AUT) has decided to bring down the curtain on a successful career. Goldberger struggled to make an impression in the 2004-2005 season, finishing 36th in the overall FIS Ski Jumping World Cup standings, and 28th in the annual Four Hills tournament.

Besides his role-call of medals, the Austrian retires as the first person in history to clear the 200-metre mark during the FIS Ski Flying World Cup contest in Planica (SLO) in 1994.

"The main reason for my decision is the disappointing past season. I no longer felt the desire to win inside me and when you are only 95% committed you have no chance of achieving anything in this sport. Consequently this is the right for me to quit", said Goldberger.

Goldberger, who will remain as Co-Commentator at Ski Jumping events for Austrian TV-Channel ORF, won three overall FIS Ski Jumping World Cups from 1993-1995 and won no less than 20 individual FIS Ski Jumping World Cup events.

## Bischofshofen (AUT) to host FIS Ski Jumping Seminar

Austrian ski resort, Bischofshofen (AUT), which every year stages one of the prestigious events in the showpiece "Four Hills Ski Jumping" tournament, will play host when the FIS Jumping Sub-Committee for Judges arranges a two-day seminar for Jumping Judges and Candidates over the weekend of 17<sup>th</sup>-18 June 2005.

Participants will get a chance to become familiar with technical equipment from FIS' data service provider WIGE in terms of keyboard input, objective judging by video, presentation of judges' scores on TV and also receive an analysis of the work carried out by Jumping Judges during the season 2004/2005. By the end of the course candidates in the second year will undergo an exam.

This is only one of a series of seminars for Technical Delegates and Judges that will follow during the summer in the Nordic Skiing disciplines. As such Liberec (CZE), Pragelato (ITA), Sapporo (JPN), Zürich (SUI) and Nove Mesto (CZE) are all scheduled to host FIS Seminars over the

next five months with dates still to be confirmed.

## Austria still ahead in the fight for podium spots

Last week we reported on the number of athletes registered for FIS points within the various disciplines, today we have chosen to explore statistics in relation to which countries have earned most podium places (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> positions) in FIS World Cup competitions for Cross Country Skiing, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Alpine Skiing, Freestyle Skiing and Snowboarding during the season 2004/2005.

Mainly thanks to their dominance within alpine skiing, Austria claims the top spot with 155 places on the podium. Finland might surrendered their stronghold on Cross-Country Skiing but the Scandinavians still capture second spot with 92 podium spots ahead of the USA with 87. Switzerland has dropped to 5<sup>th</sup> position with 76 podium spots, 5 less than Norway in fourth spot.

Dear Friends of FIS,

Should you have any feedback, comments, you are most welcome to send them to me at: [frandsen@fisski.ch](mailto: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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