



Japanese Ski Association celebrates 80th anniversary

On June 26, the Japanese Ski Association of Japan (SAJ) celebrated its 80th anniversary.

More than 600 guests including Japanese Olympic Committee members, Senior Officials from Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and well-established athletes such as former Nordic Combined ace Kenji Ogiwara were invited for the event to look back over the history of skiing in Japan and reaffirm their commitment to the sport.

The Ski Association of Japan which was founded in 1925 - just a year after the foundation of FIS, is the 4th oldest national sports federation in Japan. SAJ became an affiliated member of FIS in 1926.

New Judges' Stand in place at Mt Buller (AUS) for FIS Freestyle World Cup opener

A completely new Judges' Stand has recently been finished at the Freestyle aerial site at Mt Buller (AUS). The construction of the tower which will offer local organizers a permanent facility with offices, a clubhouse and accommodation, began last year and is now ready to welcome officials for the tenth successive season in which the resort will kick off the Freestyle FIS World Cup season with two Men's and Ladies' Aerials competitions on 3rd/4th September.

Mt Buller Alpine Resort which is located 250km north east of Melbourne and rises to an altitude of 1804 metres above sea level functions as the national training centre for the Australian Ladies' aerials team. The Resort embodies some of Victoria's most spectacular alpine and sub-alpine terrain

and offers 180 ha of ski trails as well as wide, open space above the tree line. The longest ski trail is 2.5 km with an average snowfall of 1.5 metres.

Italy promises secure Turin Olympics

Italy will "fight terrorism with every tool they have" to ensure the safety of the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Turin. Government officials and Turin organizers unveiled plans for a symbolic "Olympic Truce" during next February's Olympic Winter Games on Thursday 14th July.

The announcement came a week after bombings killed at least 56 people in London, and two days after Italian Interior Minister Giuseppe Pisanu said that terrorism is "knocking on Italy's door." "We're doing everything in our power to ensure that the Olympic Winter Games represent a white flag," said Mario Pescante, a government minister and supervisor of the Olympic Winter Games in Turin.

CAS issues decision in appeal of Hans Knauss

On 20th July, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) issued its' decision in the appeal of Alpine skier Hans Knauss (AUT) against the sanction applied by the FIS Doping Panel of 18 months suspension from 27th November 2004 until 26th May 2006, after testing positive for the banned substance norandrosterone that was contained in a nutritional supplement.

In its' award the Court of Arbitration for Sport dismissed the appeal filed by Hans Knauss to reduce the suspension to 12 months.

The award can be viewed on the CAS website <http://www.tas-cas.org>.

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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