



FIS Summer Ski Jumping Grand Prix to provide vital experience for athletes and organizers

Athletes and officials are gearing up for the 12th FIS Ski Jumping Summer Grand Prix set to start on 6th August in Hinterzarten (GER). The Grand Prix series, which will include eight individual and one team event during a one-month period, will provide an excellent opportunity for organizers as well as participants to become further familiar with the rule changes concerning ski jumping suits and starting procedures that were approved at the FIS Council Meeting in Munich earlier in the year.

Some of the world's finest ski jumpers have announced their participation, led by last year's overall winner, Polish ace Adam Malysz (POL) who won four out of seven individual competitions in last season's Grand Prix. In addition, the series could offer the first clues as to which athletes to look out for in the 2005/2006 FIS Ski Jumping World Cup. The complete program for the Summer Grand Prix can be found here: http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/disciplines/skijumping/fiscalendar.html?cal_date=&cal_suchseason=2006&cal_oldsector=&cal_codex=&cal_suchgender=&cal_suchcategory=GP&cal_suchplace=&cal_suchnation=&cal_search=Search

Previous overall winners:

- 1994 Takanobu Okabe (JPN)
- 1995 Andreas Goldberger (AUT)
- 1996 Ari-Pekka Nikkola (FIN)
- 1997 Masahiko Harada (JPN)
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- 1999 Sven Hannawald (GER)
- 2000 Janne Ahonen (FIN)
- 2001 Adam Malysz (POL)
- 2002 Andreas Widhölzl (AUT)

- 2003 Thomas Morgenstern (AUT)
- 2004 Adam Malysz (POL)

Freestyle athletes prepare for season at Swiss Water Ramp Facility

This summer the "Jumpin" Sports facility in Mettmenstetten (SUI) will host some of the world's leading Freestyle skiers who are using the five magnificent water ramps at the training centre to prepare for the upcoming season. Indeed, National Freestyle teams from Belarus, Russia, France, Switzerland, Slovenia and Austria will have a chance to test their abilities during a five-month period from the beginning of May until the end of October at the centre which this year is celebrating its tenth anniversary after facilities were opened in 1994. The highest of the five ramps can launch the airborne athletes nearly 70 feet in the air, allowing the aerialists to perform jumps and skills with the highest degree of difficulty.

"Jumpin", whose steep terrain presented unique challenges for its designers to make it resemble competition requirements, will arrange a "World Master Competition" on August 20th in which athletes can measure themselves before they head off for Mt Buller in Australia for the FIS Freestyle World Cup on 3rd/4th September. "Jumpin" is one of around 14 water ramp facilities located around the world.

Nokia renews agreement as title sponsor of Nokia Snowboard FIS World Cup

FIS is delighted to announce the renewal of the sponsorship agreement with Nokia as the title sponsor of the Nokia FIS Snowboard World Cup for a further 3 years.

Nokia has been the title sponsor since 1997.

“As Nokia is very interested in reaching a young audience, the FIS Snowboard World Cup with all its international technology has proven to be the perfect platform for Nokia to launch their products”, stated FIS Marketing and Communications Director Christian Knauth. The Nokia Snowboard FIS World Cup includes the disciplines of Halfpipe, Snowboard Cross, Parallel Slalom, Parallel Giant Slalom, and Big Air featuring in an extensive schedule of events in mountain resorts, city events and indoor ski hall competitions all over the world in the Southern Hemisphere, various regions of Europe, Asia, North America and Scandinavia.

Nokia is one of the world leaders in mobile communications. Backed by its experience, innovation, user-friendliness and secure solutions, the company has become the leading supplier of mobile phones and a leading supplier of mobile, fixed and IP networks.

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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