



FIS NEWSFLASH

Edition 40/ 14th September 2005



Fédération Internationale de Ski
Internationaler Ski Verband

International Ski Federation

New names and developing nations excel at FIS Ski Jumping Summer Grand Prix

For the first time in the history of the FIS Ski Jumping Summer Grand Prix, a Czech athlete, Jakup Janda, grabbed the overall title when the final event in Hakuba (JPN) on 11th September concluded the 12th successive edition of the Grand Prix. The competition began in Hinterzarten (GER) on 6th August and since then athletes have traveled to six countries to participate in eight competitions. The Grand Prix indicated that the effects of the FIS Aid & Promotion Programme launched in 2001 to help and thereby promote skiing in countries who have limited resources to develop ski jumping (among other disciplines) is about to kick in. Indeed athletes from nations like Kazakhstan, Belarus and Russia (countries which are all part of the Programme) performed outstandingly throughout the Grand Prix series to suggest that the developing nations could have a bigger role to play in future ski jumping competitions.

For organizers and athletes, the Grand Prix series was a welcome opportunity to become further familiar with the introduction of new TV-graphics as well as rule changes concerning ski jumping suits and starting procedures that were approved at the FIS Council Meeting in Munich earlier in the year. A series of tests were conducted during the Grand Prix in respect to these innovations and the results of these tests will now be discussed at the FIS technical committee meetings in Zürich at the end of this month.

Valle Nevado stages 2005/2006 FIS Snowboard World Cup Opener

Valle Nevado (CHI) takes centre stage from 13th to 18th September when the high altitude South American ski resort opens the FIS Snowboard World Cup in spectacular surroundings for the fifth consecutive year. Athletes from no less than 27 nations will show off their skills during the intensive six-day program in Chile which will offer spectators plenty of action with two HalfPipe and two Snowboardcross competitions for Men and Ladies. 101 athletes are entered for the HalfPipe competitions while 109 participants will compete in the Snowboardcross events.

The top competitors are scheduled to participate in Chile. In the Men's Halfpipe competition Mathieu Crepel (FRA) and Jan Michaelis (GER) are favourites for the podium while Torah Jane Bright (AUS), Hannah Teter (USA) and current FIS HalfPipe Junior World Champion Sophie Rodriguez (FRA) are considered as the athletes to beat in the Ladies events. With Snowboardcross featuring on the programme for the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Turin for the first time, extra incentive has been added to the SBX competitions in South America as athletes across the world are eager to kick-start their campaign on a bright note in their quest to secure a ticket for the Games. Xavier Delerue (FRA) and Jasey Jay Anderson (CAN) are believed to be the main contenders in the Men's events while Doresia Krings (AUT) and Tanja Frieden (SUI) feature among the favourites for the Ladies competitions. You may find the complete program for the event here: http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/604/1228.html?event_id=18011&cal_suchsector=SB

Dublin to host FIS Youth Seminar

Irish capital, Dublin, will play host to a FIS Youth Seminar between 28th-30th October which has come about in a co-operation between the Irish Ski Association, the FIS Youth and Children's Committee, the FIS Medical Committee and the FIS Working Group Aid & Promotion.

The seminar will seek to explore topics like the establishment of a "Kids Village" and Snow League for young children, the early experiences of a former Alpine World Cup star and the medical concerns in relation to the performances of young contenders. The distinguished speakers at the Seminar will include among others Managing Director of the Swiss Ski and Snowboard School, Vali Gadiant, former Swiss Alpine skier Didier Plaschy, German National Ski Team Doctor, Dr. Hubert Hörterer and Chairman of the FIS Youth and Children's Committee, Harald Scönhaar.

The International Ski Federation will cover the costs for the accommodation for two nights including full board and the seminar costs for one person per National Ski Association.

Vancouver set to benefit heavily from Turin experience

A working group from the IOC Coordination Commission for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games has completed three days of visits and meetings in Vancouver. The working group reviewed the plans put forward by the Vancouver Organising Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC) across a full range of Olympic Games preparations issues.

The meetings concluded with sessions involving all the partners working towards Vancouver 2010, including various levels of government, the Canadian Olympic Committee and local First Nations. The full IOC Coordination Commission will visit Vancouver in June 2006, while smaller groups from the IOC will continue to make regular visits to review projects and provide transfer-of-knowledge services.

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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