
FIS COMPETITION FACTS

WC Ruhpolding FIS World Cup Nordic Combined

FIS World Cup Nordic Combined in Ruhpolding (GER) on January, 3rd 2007

Manninen - Koivuranta win, Haseney - Ackermann 2nd, Bieler - Stecher 3rd

Hannu Manninen, together with Anssi Koivuranta, won the Team Sprint competition in Ruhpolding. They got the trophy of the so called "Ruhpoldinger Bär", which is awarded annually in Ruhpolding during the Warsteiner Grand Prix Germany.

Team Finland 1 (Manninen, Koivuranta) placed first in front of Germany 1 with Sebastian Haseney and Ronny Ackermann (+8.2s) and Austria 1 with Mario Stecher and Christoph Bieler (+37.2s).

Leading after the jumping, Team France 1 with Jason Lamy Chappuis and Maxime Laheurte (127m, 122m; +45.0s) could not hold on to its lead and finished fourth in the end. Manninen – Koivuranta (121,5m, 127,5m) were third after jumping, Haseney – Ackermann (120,5m, 118,5m) were fourth and Bieler – Stecher (127,5m, 122m) second.

Finland is now leading the Nations Cup with 1023 points in front of Austria (995 points) and Germany (927 points).

Although no individual World Cup points were awarded, points were given for the Warsteiner Grand Prix ranking. Here, Hannu Manninen is now leading with 150 points in front of Sebastian Haseney (120 points) and Ronny Ackermann (100 points).

Anssi Koivuranta (FIN) could again win the Warsteiner Young Talent Award with his victory together with Hannu Manninen. He was the best young Nordic Combined racer born 1985 or later.

Number of participants/ participating nations: 44/10

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Spectators: 4000

Number of Media/TV on site and HBC: 3, HBC: ZDF

Weather: snowfall, cloudy, -1°C (Cross Country & Ski Jumping)

Snow Conditions: packed

Special Remarks: Only one jumping round due to difficult conditions (snowfall and wind). Points per minute remained the same. One trial-jumper, who fell quite badly right after the competition (as first "after-jumper"), has a big concussion and some bruises on arms and legs, but is alright.

Pictures:

Please note that high quality action and podium pictures from today's competitions are available for purchase through the Internet portal offered by Nordic Focus, FIS Partner for photos from the Nordic Disciplines, at www.menzipics.ch/info/indexfisevents.html

Quotes:

Hannu Manninen (FIN): "My jump today was really good, although I have to admit I was lucky with the conditions. There was a lot of waiting today and the conditions were changing all the time. But during my jump, the snowfall stopped. I also used a new jumping suit and it worked really well. However, my skis were the old ones and together with the new suit, my system was once again one single one and therefore I could show a good jump. The race was also really good. The first two rounds, the snow was quite sticky, but from then on it got better and I felt very good, so I could ski more relaxed! Anssi was the best partner for me in my team and I think we worked together very well. He had a really good jump and was also strong in skiing. Today, we were the best team!"

Sebastian Haseney (GER): "We both had a really good competition today and showed a good performance. I am really satisfied with my jump, although the conditions were really

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difficult and changed a lot of times. I was lucky and got quite good conditions. However, the waiting was the same for everyone. My race was alright, I would say normal, but Hannu just had a really really good day today; therefore it was hard to follow him. But Ronny and me, we were a strong team and worked really good together, so I am happy about our second place.”

Mario Stecher (AUT): “First, I am happy that we could have a competition today, although the conditions were really tough. I am satisfied with my jump and Christoph showed one of his best ones again, so we had a good starting position for the race. My race was also ok, but I still lack the power on an uphill I would need to keep track with other strong racers. But Christoph and I worked really good together today and we are both happy with our place. The competition in the whole was really tight and therefore extremely interesting for the spectators. However, I think we should think about a different calculation for the race if we can only have one round; or we should only race half the distance.”

For complete results please visit www.fis-ski.com

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