



Martin Schmitt stops Austrian winning run in Garmisch-Partenkirchen

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It was the first competition on the brandnew HS 140 "Große Olympiaschanze" today in Garmisch-Partenkirchen and it was the first time this winter that there was not an Austrian athlete on the top of the podium of a Ski Jumping competition in World Cup or Continental Cup.

Former World Cup overall winner Martin Schmitt (GER) won (jumps up to 130 and 135,5 meters / 255.9 points) 15 points ahead of the three austrians Balthasar Schneider (128.5 and 129.5/ 240.9 points), Stefan Thurnbichler (126.5 and 130.5/ 240.1 points) and Mario Innauer (127 and 128 / 236.5 points) first of two COC competitions in Partenkirchen.

About 4.000 spectators witnessed not only a high-class Ski Jumping competition under bavarian blue-white sky and perfect conditions but also a huge celebration for a great new hill.

Austrian Manuel Fettner who was competing the qualification in Engelberg (SUI) today (9th place in qualification) is still in the lead in the Continental Cup overall with a total of 365 points ahead of his team mate Roland Müller (340 points) and Andreas Vilberg (269 points) from Norway who finished 5th today in Partenkirchen.

Next COC competition will be held tomorrow in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

Statements:

Martin Schmitt (GER):

"Of course the first competition on the new hill was a big success to me. My jumps were good and I'm pretty satisfied today. This new hill is really a great.

I'm now looking forward to the new years competition here in Garmisch-Partenkirchen and I hope that my mates do well too in Engelberg this weekend".

Balthasar Schneider (AUT)

"As you know I'm from Vorarlberg in Austria. This new hill was built by a company from Vorarlberg. So I knew from the beginning that this will be perfect here in Partenkirchen...".

Stefan Thurnbichler (AUT)

"It was a really beautiful competition today with perfect conditions. The hill, the weather, everything was perfect and my personal performance was good today as well. I'm absolutely satisfied with my result".

Today's result in detail can be found on <http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/604/610.html?sector=JP&raceid=2475>

A picture for free use (indication of source is essential: <http://www.fis-ski.com>) can be downloaded on

ftp://ftp.fis-ski.ch/Jumping/Photos/COC_2007-2008/Partenkirchen/

Kind regards

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