

Brand Name: Völkl

What the Constructors Championship means to your team and how it works for you ?

The Constructors' Championship is an important part of ski racing, but for our team, it's not our current focus. After relaunching Völkl's race strategy in the summer of 2024, we are prioritizing providing the best possible support to our athletes. With a relatively smaller budget compared to other teams, our goal is to help our athletes achieve their personal best performances. While we respect the importance of the Constructors' Championship, our main focus is on the individual success and growth of our athletes.

Team details, athletes, technicians, team principle and general info on factory, equipment etc

Team Details:

25 female and male athletes from 11 nations competing in WC and EC/NORAM

Technicians // Athletes // Team:

- Martin Holzmeister // Sebastian Holzmann & Jonas Stockinger // DSV (GER)
- Josef Weissenbacher // Katharina Truppe // OESV (AUT)
- Miha Kosmac // Sam Maes // Global Racing
- Marian Bires // Stefan Luitz & Andrej Drukarov // Global Racing
- Nick Orfanakis // Patrick Kenny & George Steffey // Global Racing
- Alex Chyc // Tormis Laine & Harry Laidlaw // Global Racing
- Gabriele Morandi // Stefano Gross // FIS (ITA)
- Pepi Culver // Cooper Puckett & Camden Palmquist // US-Skiteam
- Manfred Pichler // Felix Marksteiner, Nico Gstrein, Fabio Walch, Asaya Sturm // OESV EC (AUT)

Team Principle:

Our mission is to empower each athlete to reach their next level, with PB`S (Personal Best Performances) as our ultimate goal. We are dedicated to providing the support, resources, and environment needed for every individual on our team to excel, grow, and achieve their highest potential.

General Info on Factory:

Volkl was founded in 1923 in Straubing, Germany (1 ½ Hours away from Munich), the place where our skis are still manufactured today. The production is one of the most modern ski production facilities in the world and the entire value chain is united at one location.

Equipment:

Volkl athletes hit the slopes with bindings and plates from sister company Marker. With the Marker Comp bindings, they have access to the most 'wanted' binding in the alpine ski circus. Since this season, athletes have been able to choose between raceboot models from Dalbello and Lange, with the clear aim of giving every athlete the best possible setup.

Key athletes in the team, biography, and brand association

Key Athletes:

- Leona Popovic, Croatia // <https://www.fis-ski.com/DB/general/athlete-biography.html?sectorcode=AL&competitorid=187064>
- Katharina Truppe, Austria // <https://www.fis-ski.com/DB/general/athlete-biography.html?sectorcode=AL&competitorid=175818>
- Istok Rodes, Croatia // <https://www.fis-ski.com/DB/general/athlete-biography.html?sectorcode=AL&competitorid=172529>
- Sam Maes, Belgium // <https://www.fis-ski.com/DB/general/athlete-biography.html?sectorcode=AL&competitorid=194529>
- Sebastian Holzmann, Germany // <https://www.fis-ski.com/DB/general/athlete-biography.html?sectorcode=AL&competitorid=146347>
- Stefan Luitz, Germany // <https://www.fis-ski.com/DB/general/athlete-biography.html?sectorcode=AL&competitorid=137452>

Pre-season planning, new ski developments, what length for what discipline

Pre-Season began with perfect prototype testing in April, where the first results exceeded our expectations. However, conditions in the summer training locations in New Zealand and Argentina did not meet our standards, which delayed further testing with the new models until just before the World Cup opener in Sölden. A focus during these sessions was fine-tuning ski models to complement the Lange boots, which several of our athletes have chosen for the season.

New Ski Developments:

We have introduced new models in both Slalom and Giant Slalom to enhance our existing portfolio. These additions allow athletes, together with their service technicians, to achieve improved fine-tuning according to specific course settings and varying snow conditions.

What length for what discipline?

- Women SL 157
- Men SL 165
- Women GS 188 / 191
- Men GS 193 / 195

Ski Technical details, who are the servicemen and how their job works

Due to the competitive nature of the sport, we do not disclose technical details, ensuring confidentiality and safeguarding the unique techniques that give our athletes an edge on the slopes.

Ski technical details are crucial in competitive racing, where even the smallest adjustments can make a significant difference. This is where the expertise of the servicemen comes in. Our Servicemen are highly skilled technicians who work closely with our athletes to fine-tune ski equipment to suit specific race conditions, course settings, and personal preferences. Their responsibilities include selecting the right skis, adjusting edges, waxing for optimal glide, and setting bindings to ensure safety and performance. Working in coordination with athletes, they carefully adapt each setup to meet the demands of different snow types and weather conditions.