



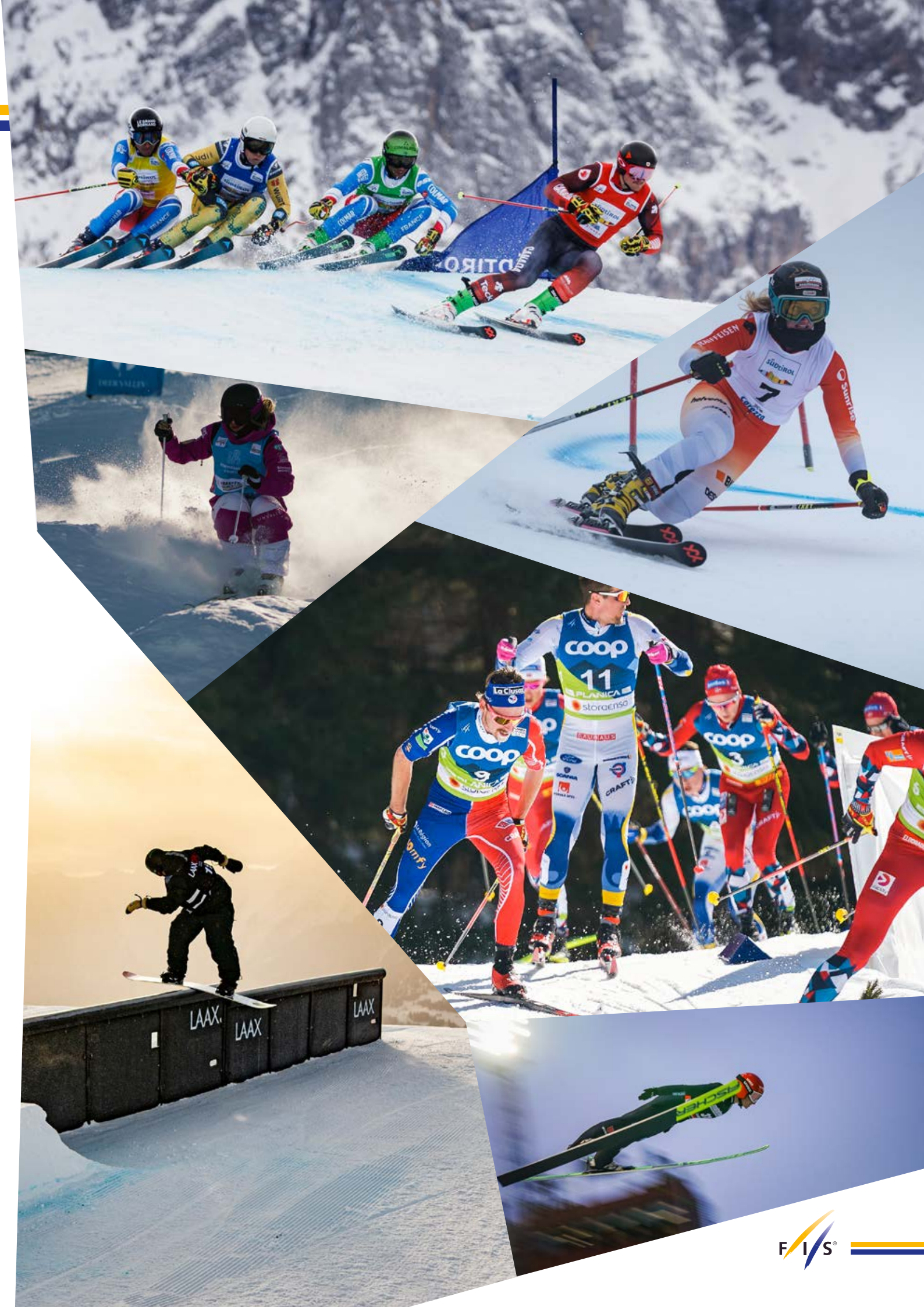
OFFICIAL

BULLETIN 2023



CONTENT





INSIDE

FIS





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY JOHAN ELIASCH



Every day I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as President of FIS. Since I was a young boy snow sports have been a passion of mine. Whatever happens in our federation, whatever triumphs or difficulties we encounter, it always comes back to that love of being in the snow, and a desire to share it.

Here I want to look back on the year and share my thoughts and reflections on the direction we are heading in. What a year it has been! Looking back on the rich season of 2022-23 it is hard to pick particular highlights, but the incredible World Ski Championships we enjoyed are certainly up there.

I will never forget the incredible atmosphere at the Alpine World Ski Championships in Courchevel/Meribel: watching AJ Ginnis create history by taking a first-ever World Championship medal for Greece; seeing Mikaela Shiffrin's world record-breaking races; enjoying the famous Alpine hospitality – and all under clear blue skies.

Planica put on an excellent Nordic World Ski Championships which put the athletes centre stage – and showed how sustainable an event of this size can be. While in Slovenia it was my pleasure to meet Prime Minister Robert Golob, who was keen to discuss how we could build on the work of 'Green Planica' to inspire the world.

This was the year that Georgia hosted its first ever World Championships, laying on two weeks of extraordinary competitions in Snowboard, Freestyle and Freeski. The organising committee and the Georgian Ski Federation didn't have it easy, not least because of the pandemic disrupting the vital preparation phase. Despite this they put on a stunning show, making a great impression on

all who visited. With Prime Minister Irakli Gharibashvili and President Salome Zurbishvili I discussed ways of building on the legacy of the Championships.

One of the proudest moments of my presidency so far has been the transfer of many para disciplines to FIS, broadening the snow sports family and showing that, for us, the slopes is open for all. The Para World Ski and Snowboard Championships in Oestersund, Espot and La Molina showed the courage, endurance and strength of our para athletes, not least in the exciting premiere of the Dual Banked Slalom (DBSL) team competition.

Last but not least, the Junior World Ski Championships provided evidence that the pipeline of future stars is strong. Young talents from all over the world flocked to St. Anton, Whistler, Airolo, Bansko and Cardrona to prove themselves on the world stage – and they certainly delivered. These Junior Championships were a chance to embrace social media in order to attract new audiences; by live-streaming events on YouTube, Facebook and FIS TV and engaging with TikTok we drove up the under-35 proportion of the viewership to 38%.

The World Ski Championships are a great source of pride for FIS, and an inspiration for our next major step. That is to stage a mega-event – the FIS Games – on a regular basis. This will be an unprecedented

festival of snow sports, a chance for all our athletes to shine: Olympians and Paralympians, speed skiers, Freeriders, Telemark champions. For two weeks all will come together in a grand spectacular, an opportunity to engage the world and show how thrilling all our disciplines can be.

This year we made the decision to hold the first FIS Games in 2028, throwing open an invitation for regions around the world to bid for the opportunity to host. Given the scale of this event, the quality of proposals we have received is very high. We look forward to announcing who will be hosting this next spring – and then the real countdown can begin...

Since the start of my Presidency I have made clear that my goal is to make swift and meaningful progress on many fronts: to improve our governance, to develop new markets, to inspire new generations, and to embrace new opportunities and technologies for the benefit of both athletes and fans. I hope you will agree that we are making good progress on all fronts.

The publication of the Strategic Plan in May was an important moment for the federation. Nearly two years in the making, this involved the creation of 15 Working Groups representing 105 members from 60 NSAs, as well as an in-depth consultation with all NSAs. With this input, the FIS leadership and team was able to shape a clear roadmap for the coming years; a plan that

is unapologetically bold in scope and ambition.

Central to that strategy is our mission to take control over our sports media rights, thus determining our own destiny. This is a time of enormous opportunity for all international sports. There are new technologies to be harnessed, new audiences to inspire, and new markets to explore. In order for us to have full control of this destiny, we need control of our media rights. We're not centralising for the sake of centralisation. We're doing it to unleash enormous potential in the way we market and package and promote our sports –and to build value for our partners, our NSAs, and above all our athletes.

This year we took a major step forward on the journey to centralisation, by entering an historic World Cup Centralised Media Rights Agreement with Infront. This sets out terms for an exclusive agency agreement for the distribution of the international media rights to FIS World Cup events for all platforms, kicking off in the 2026/27 season and covering eight seasons until and including 2033/34. With its great experience of the FIS World Cup media rights due to its role as media rights partner of the majority of NSAs for more than 20 years, Infront is a great partner to have.

I truly believe this will open a new chapter of prosperity for the FIS family. It will allow for a better product and planning, more

money, investment, and opportunities for our athletes, our disciplines, and our national associations. It's an exciting step – and it's just the beginning.

Another key part of our strategy is to make FIS and all our events more sustainable. You may know this is a personal priority of mine. For decades I have been involved in the climate action movement, advising governments and leaders worldwide about what we can do to preserve rainforest and cut global emissions in a meaningful way. That is why FIS has signed up to the UN Sports for Climate Action Framework, and why I established the FIS Rainforest Initiative, through which we support some excellent projects in the Peruvian rainforest.

We believe saving the rainforest is a critical climate action and should be one of the top goals on the climate crisis agenda – and we believe the best way to do that is by directly supporting the people and communities who protect the rainforest day-in, day-out.

Our education project provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to kick-start their futures in agriculture if they wish. Be it fish farming or growing cacao and coffee, they will be able to provide food and financial security for their family, helping today's dedicated students to become tomorrow's successful farmers. The forest benefits too, as poverty is a common driver of deforestation. If families are

healthy and secure, the forest is more likely to be healthy and standing strong too.

If anyone in snow sports was sceptical about the need for a more sustainable approach – or indeed about the impact of climate change more generally – I am sure that the warm weather we experienced in December and January would have convinced them of the need for urgency. This was a stark reminder of the impact that man-made climate change is already having, with slopes closed and some resorts shut entirely.

It is because our sports depend on the environment that we at FIS have got to lead the way on environmental action. That is why this year we have been redoubling our efforts on the sustainability front. New sustainability guidelines will be there to guide our member federations on the hosting of all major events – and we will be rewarding those who achieve the most in terms of reductions. A new Sustainability Director has recently been appointed to oversee this work. Our goal, in line with the UN Sports for Climate Action Framework, is to cut our emissions in half by 2030 – and I am determined that we will get there.

The past year at FIS has been exciting, challenging, rewarding and encouraging. None of it would have been possible without the people I call the FIS family. That's everyone from the NSAs who build our sport from the ground up and to the FIS officials and

all the volunteers, the athletes who put their hearts into every competition and the fans who cheer them on, the sponsors who make our spectacular events possible and all the World Cup organizers who bring our vision of the events to life.

I owe every member of the FIS family a great debt of gratitude for making ours the most vibrant and exciting sport on earth. Thank you for your contribution to the year we have just had – and here's to an even better year to come.



RIGHT TO PLAY
PROTECT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.



Project PLAY with FIS and Pat Burgener

Right To Play is a global organization that protects, educates, and empowers children to rise.

We work with children in some of the most difficult places on earth, helping them to stay in school and graduate, to resist exploitation and overcome prejudice, to prevent disease and to heal from war and abuse.



"As a child I was given the opportunity to pursue various activities such as sports and music. This enabled me to discover my passions, which quickly became my purpose in life. It is my greatest wish that all children on this planet have the same right."

- Pat Burgener, Right To Play Ambassador,
Snowboarder

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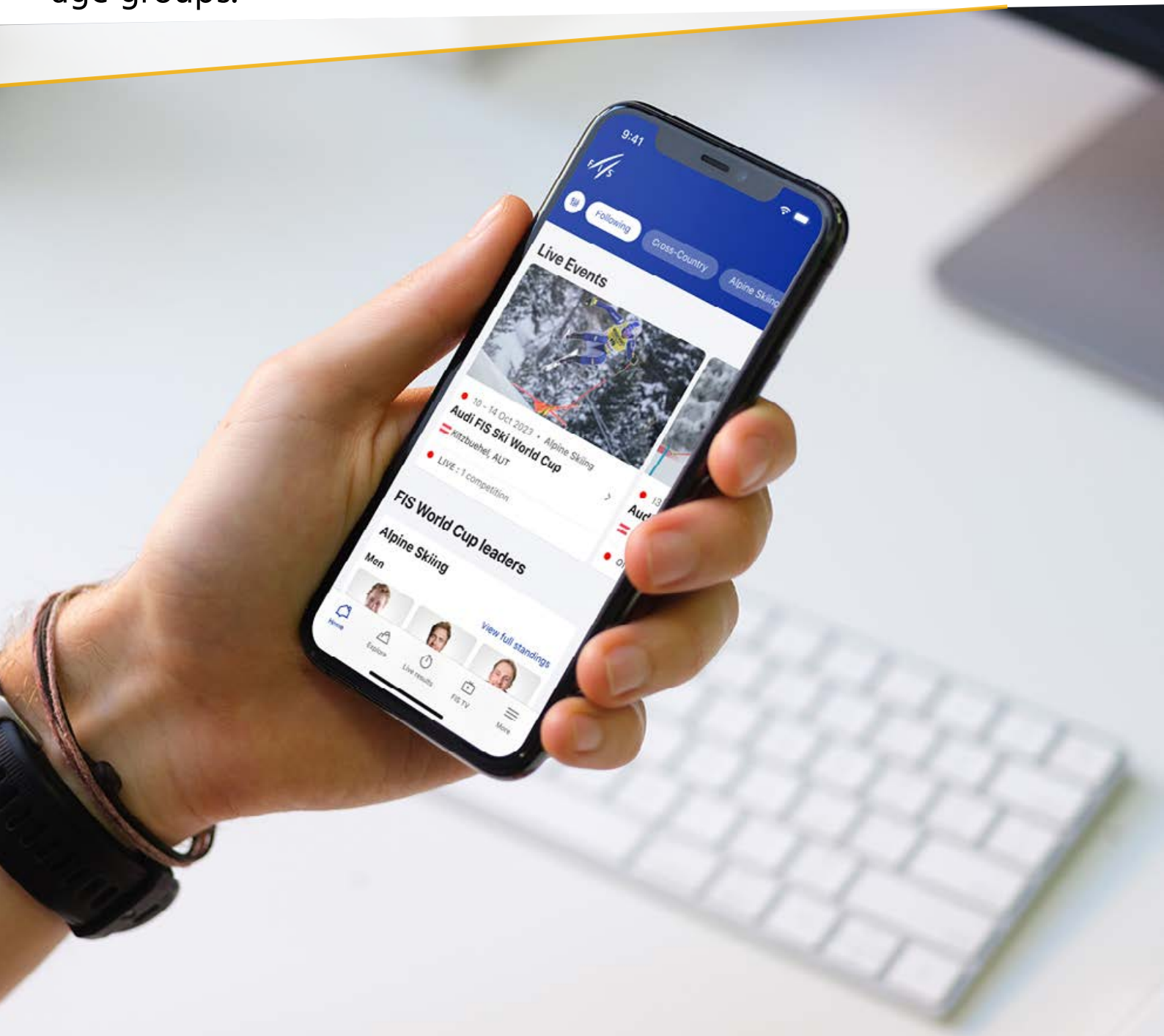


FIS MEDIA & MARKETING / DIGITAL & INNOVATION REPORT

BY BENJAMIN STOLL

DRIVING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND VALUE CREATION WITH A PLATFORM MODEL

“What we know is that if you don’t acquire a fan by the time they’re 18, you’re most likely never going to get them.” This statement of Tim Ellis, Chief Marketing Officer of the NFL, highlights the importance of promoting our sports and competitions to younger audiences and creating meaningful relationships through consumption realities. Globalization and Digitalization are continuously transforming media consumption and purchasing behaviors, values and expectations towards brands including sports and entertainment organizers across all age groups.



Especially younger audiences such as Gen Z are consuming sports very different as previous generation.

Social media ranks as the top way 18–34-year-olds engage with sport, and they over index on other digital platforms such as online, streaming services or video games. They expect short-form content to catch up with the latest events, pre-game interviews, and competition stats and analysis in the format and on the channels of choice.

As a challenger in the global attention economy FIS needs to create more and better content with the objective to reach, retain and engage with all fan and consumer segments based on their different needs.

During the last season FIS has already started many new digital initiatives and fan engagement experiment, such as live streaming for the FIS Junior World Championships in St. Anton and Whistler (with more than 220,000 and 330,000 respec-

tive video views) and the Para World Championships (including video clip services to athletes, national associations and broadcasters), a YouTube mini-documentary called “down the line” upon the mindset of Ski Alpine downhill athletes, a new channel on TikTok (with 13.6m video views and an engagement rate of 10.8%), virtual meet and greet and digital autograph sessions with cross-country athletes and new content and channels to further develop the Chinese market (18m views in Weibo, 7m views on Douyin, 4m views on Red).

Based on a thorough analysis FIS has identified various challenges in a hyper-fragmented rights content and channel ecosystem that is not set up to develop future audiences and service current community in efficient and effective ways. Fans have a hard time to find competition highlights, behind the scenes and short-form content as well as information upon TV schedules, calendar and athletes in a seamless, timely and consistent fashion.

FIS CENTRALIZED DIGITAL PLATFORM STRATEGY

As part of a wide-ranging digital transformation process, FIS has drafted the FIS centralized digital platform strategy. This will lay the foundational framework to realise our collective ambition to deliver a new digital era for our sport, with FIS, the national associations, the athletes, the local organizers and the media

partners setting new standards for the industry.

Together, we need to optimize our direct-to consumer proposition based on new user behaviours, expectations, a data-lead approach and the necessity to reach out and engage with global and re-

gional audiences in a competitive sports, media and entertainment market.

In order to realise our vision the development of state-of-the-art content, channels and services will be at the core. FIS intends to be a platform and service to all national associations, athletes, competition organizers and the wider ski and snowboard industry. The centralisation of the media rights are essential to unlock the further benefits of our strategy to maximize the audience development and growth as well as the value of our commercial rights on every level.

The road to FIS's digital transformation is a collective journey where FIS, alongside all stakeholders, aspires to become a pioneering force in the sports industry and transition from being a "second mover" to an "innovator" over the next three years.

FIS aims to aggregate and distribute competition videos via a new content exchange platform from all FIS World Cup events to all national associations and athletes and collaborate and co-create new from of content across all nations, disciplines as well as with other sports and entertainment partners on order to reach new audiences and attract to our competitions. This will create an unrivaled access to content for all stakeholders and will increase the promotional effects towards the competition organizers and the media rights partners as well. Via new content formats, especially lifestyle, en-

tertaining and behind-the-scenes content as well as documentaries beyond the sport narratives, we intend to create new stories and identification effects for the athletes and their disciplines and therefore foster new reasons to care, to follow and to tune into the sports coverage.

In August FIS has launched FIS TV as a new one-stop shop for snowsports fans as well as a service for all FIS stakeholders. The new video experience platform will provide integrated videos services across a new fan-centric mobile app and a new website, which will be launched in Q4/2023, as well.

As platforms and technologies are developing rapidly FIS will establish new processes and guidelines that will enable the FIS family to evolve its digital strategy and roadmap together over the next years, realize various cost and service synergies, optimize the marketing funnel and realize new digital commercial assets (while respecting and enhance the value of our media rights).

Digital transformation and innovation can only prosper as teamwork and with the right collaboration attitude. We are looking forward to our joint journey with the objective to realize incremental values for all FIS stakeholder and to protect and grow the future of FIS competitions as well as our global snowsports community.

FIS FINANCES 2022

BY CHRISTIAN WEGENER
AND SIBYLLE GAFNER

The current accounting period covers the period from January 1 to December 31, 2022. The financial statements have been

reviewed by the auditors and were approved by the FIS Council and endorsed by the FIS Congress.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We concluded the year 2022 with a loss of CHF (4.7)m. This is almost CHF 10m better than initially budgeted, hence despite the losses it has been a satisfactory financial year.

We saw a Gross Income of CHF 34.8m, a decrease compared to the prior year since we only realized marginal revenues from the world championships (SFWC). We incurred expenses of CHF 45.0m across the disciplines, for the operations of FIS and for supporting the NSAs, more than offsetting the Gross Income. Considering the

turbulent macro-economic environment, the war in the Ukraine, and the risks of raising interest rates, we chose to take a prudent approach and temporarily liquidate all securities, realizing a financial income of CHF 8.2m, thus partly offsetting the negative Operating Results/ EBIT.

The liquidation of securities was not budgeted (since those crises and their impact on the capital markets were not known at the time); it explains most of the favorable performance vs. plan, alongside CHF 1m higher revenues and CHF 1m lower costs.

FINANCIAL DISTRIBUTIONS

In 2022, a total of CHF 15.4m were distributed to NSAs, which is a healthy increase compared to the prior year. On top of the base distribution (CHF 5.2m, in line with

Budget), we chose to distribute CHF 7.5m from the prior year's profits, and we maintained the extraordinary COVID support of CHF 2.5m. FIS Solidarity and General

Support were also maintained at CHF 0.2m.

Looking forward, in 2023 the distributions will be held at 2022 levels, except for the COVID support, which will not be continued (=> distribution to NSAs: CHF ~12.9m).

Additionally, in 2022 CHF 3.8m were distributed to the athletes and to develop-

ing nations in the form of prize money and support from funds.

FIS operates at the moment with a 2yr accounting period, hence the net loss of 2022 and overall result of 2023 will be combined to set the distributions to NSAs in the years 2024/2025.

>> CLICK THE PLUS ICON ON TOP OF THE PAGE FOR THE FINANCIAL TABLE

BRING CHILDREN TO THE SNOW

BY ANDREW CHOLINSKI



WSD Dagmar Ski Resort (CAN)

One of the biggest achievements of the 2022/23 season of Bring Children to the Snow was the surpassing of the 10'000th event. The moment took place in August of 2023 and the milestone is a key moment in the history of the campaign.



WSD Ski Dubai (UAE)

WSD La Molina (ESP)

Between its two programmes, SnowKidz and World Snow Day, 7.7 million participants have taken part.

As the campaign progresses into its 16th year of operation, the question of how will the campaign maintain motivation amongst its Organisers becomes more and more prevalent. This is because according to academic research the majority of international campaigns tend fade by the 15th year of operation. Thankfully Bring Children to the Snow shows no signs of

SNOWKIDZ

A highlight of the past 12 months has been the addition of the SnowKidz Shred Parks. Developed in conjunction with SnowKidz partners Nitro Snowboards, Fischer Skis and Neveplast Artificial Surfaces, the Parks were an instant success. The first Shred Park, which was delivered by FIS free of charge, was delivered to Portugal who together with the University of Lisbon established the Portuguese Snow Sport Laboratory. The facility sees weekly activations of school children to come learn, experience and enjoy snow sports all in the comfort of an indoor facility. Two subsequent Shred Parks were then purchased. The first of these parks was delivered to Canada and put to use immediately at the FIS Snowboard World Cup in Edmonton. Thanks to Snowboard Canada and Toronto Tourism the Shred Park then went on to feature at the Chinook Blast festival in downtown

slowly. Firstly, Event Organiser motivation stands at 93%. Secondly, FIS has a number of new products in the works. These include the Junior Ski Patrol concept, a Nordic version of the Shred Park, a specific schools gym package and many more. These new products will create new avenues for new partnerships and new ways for Organisers to bring children to snow sports. By offering these new items it is certain that new Organisers will be attracted and thus new actions leading to a healthy future of the campaign.

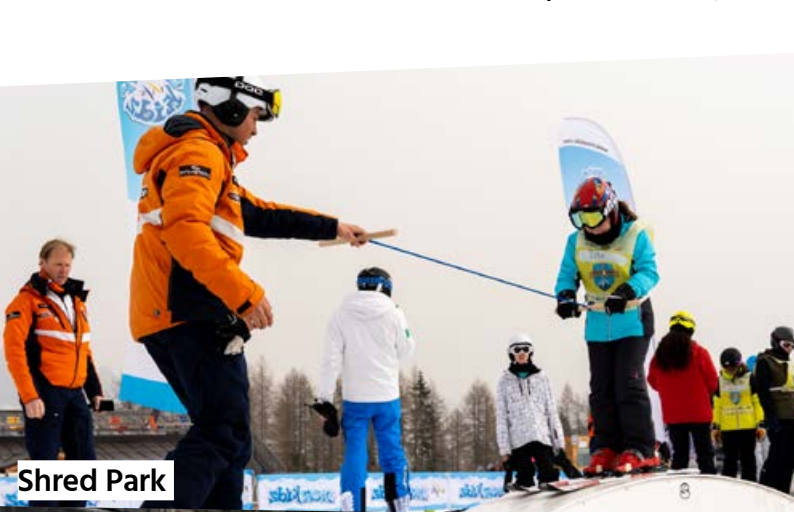
Toronto where even more children were introduced to snowboarding. The second purchased Shred Park was delivered to Germany where it successfully toured the country thanks to Nitro Snowboards. In parallel with the standard Shred Park, a Nordic version has been tested over the past months. Tests were carried out in connection with a local ski club in Germany. All tests proved successful the Nordic Shred Park is set to launch in 2024.

The introduction of the Shred Parks saw great interest and thus a slew of new Organisers. Since the last report, 33 new Organisers have joined SnowKidz. Organisers continue to be from various areas in the snow sports industry including ski and snowboard schools, ski and snowboard clubs, resorts, cultural and tourism organisations and FIS National Ski and Snowboard Associations. The addition of new

Organisers also means new countries. Three new countries joined SnowKidz, Albania, Thailand and Uzbekistan. All in all the new additions bring SnowKidz to a total of 401 Organisers across 61 countries.

To round out the 2022/23 season of SnowKidz, significant developments were made to the SnowKidz Awards. Firstly, since its inception the Awards have been restricted to one candidate per country.

For the 2024 edition of the SnowKidz Awards the restriction has been lifted and Awards are open to all SnowKidz Organisers. Secondly, the nomination form has been released a full 5 months earlier than its usual time of November. The June release means Organisers have a longer time to prepare their events to match the Awards judging criteria. All in all it expected that the 2024 edition of SnowKidz Awards will see a hot contest.



Shred Park



Snowkidz Ice Mountain (BEL)



Snowkidz Parnassos (GRE)



Snowkidz Kremnica (SVK)

WSD Kuutsemäe Ski Resort (EST)

WSD Straja (ROM)



WSD Grandvalira (AND)



WORLD SNOW DAY

On January 15th 2023, 126 in 41 countries took part in the 12th edition of World Snow Day.

The activities that took place included, free lift passes in Tarvisio (ITA), kids snow fiesta in Aramon Cerler (ESP), discounted lift passes at Dagmar Ski Resort (CAN), free ski and snowboard lessons at Big Sky Ski Resort (MGN), free lift passes for kids at Skíðasvæði Ísafjarðarbæjar (ISL), free ski and snowboard lessons in Vatra Dornei (ROM), free lessons for children and adults in St.Moritz (SUI), free lift passes for children and adults in Aletsch Arena (SUI), free lift passes and equipment rental at Skistar resorts Sälen (SWE), Åre (SWE), Vemdalen (SWE), Trysil (NOR) and Hemsedal (NOR), free ski lessons in Peyongchang (KOR), kids safety day and free lift passes in Furano (JPN), discounted kids ski lessons and snow day at Ski Dubai (UAE), free ski lessons and lift passes at Ski Egypt (EGY) and snow day for persons with an intellectual disability Macau (CHN) among many others.

Following the event focus shifted to the World Snow Day Awards. Organisers

were invited to submit reports of their events which then doubled as the nomination form for the Awards. Events competed in four categories. The categories and their winners were:

Category: Line Honors

For the first event to register for World Snow Day 2023.

Winner: Snowboard Club Peru (PER)

Prize: 1'000CHF

Category: Most creative

For the event with the most innovative actions

Winner: Jahorina Olympic Centre (BIH)

Prize: Film crew to film their next World Snow Day

Category: Best small World Snow Day

For: For the best event under 500 persons

Winner: Levi Ski Resort (FIN)

Prize: 2'000CHF

Category: Best World Snow Day

For the best World Snow Day event

Winner: Ski Egypt (EGY)

Prize: 10'000CHF

The next edition of World Snow Day is set to take place on the 21st January 2024



21st January 2024



www.worldsnowday.com

FIS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

BY JELENA DOJCINOVIC AND
DIMITRIJE LAZAROVSKI

The FIS Development programmes, operating under the newly established FIS Development department, are experiencing robust growth. In the upcoming season, FIS Development will be expanding its offerings beyond Moguls and Aerials development camps, introducing new additions such as Snowboard Cross and Alpine camps.

In addition to these development activities, there is a growing focus on coaching education. In the 2023/2024 season, several joint education initiatives for athletes and coaches will be presented. Furthermore, specific coaching programs, in collaboration with Apex 2100, will be delivered. This time, FIS will host two sessions at the Apex 2100 facility. The first session is dedicated solely to female coaches, while the second session focuses on

gender balance and includes coaches who serve para snowsports.

Recently, in April 2023, the FIS Development department expanded its portfolio to include membership activities. These activities will be overseen by Ms. Jelena Dojcinovic, who recently joined FIS as the Membership Manager. Below, you will find a list of activities and initiatives planned for the upcoming 2023/2024 season:

FIS SUMMIT

The FIS Summit is a new gathering that took place on September 26 in Zurich, in conjunction with the FIS Fall meetings. This event provided an excellent opportunity for developing National Ski Associations (NSAs) to familiarize themselves with new activities, concepts, and opportunities that FIS Development and FIS, in general, will offer to NSAs in the months and years ahead. Presentations on Integ-

rity, Sustainability, Media, and Marketing were also featured. NSAs had the chance to gain insights into the highlights of the FIS Strategic plan and the planned implementation of strategic directives.

Based on the positive feedback received from participants, we are considering making the FIS Summit an annual event in conjunction with the FIS Fall Meetings.

FIS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CAMPS

The 2023/24 season has kicked off with remarkable vigor. We have successfully executed 100% of our planned activities, and the interest from NSAs continues to

surge. All planned activities are oversubscribed, necessitating a meticulous selection process for participants.

[>> CLICK THE PLUS ICON ON TOP OF THE PAGE FOR DETAILS ON THE TRAINING CAMPS](#)

COMING SOON

After nearly 30 years of continuous support from FIS to developing National Ski Associations (NSAs), it is time to modernize our approach to development activities and adapt to the evolving needs of the sport. The very definition of the sport and its implementation has evolved. To better align with these changes and provide sustainable support to the NSAs,

we are introducing two new HUBs as follows:

- FIS Development HUB
- FIS Membership HUB

Under these newly defined HUBs, NSAs will be introduced to a range of new activities and programs. The traditional free

training days provided to NSAs will be revamped and delivered under the guidance of the FIS Development team. Additionally, we will reform the equipment program in collaboration with the SRS, making it more user-friendly and appealing.

On the membership front, NSAs will be introduced to fresh programs, traditionally delivered through FIS Solidarity:

- FIS Plus Programme: This program will focus on education, governance, and partnership projects.

- FIS Start Programme: This program will concentrate on associated members and their development.

The establishment of the FIS Development and Membership Hub is aimed at keeping all NSAs well-informed about the various activities, applications, reports, news, and other relevant initiatives. For the first time, associated members will have the opportunity to seek support from FIS and explore the possibility of becoming full members.





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PHOTOGRAPHIC AGENCY

Photo assignments
Graphic studio
Sporting event imagery
Image database management



FIS SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES

BY SUSANNE SIEFF AND
ANNETTE BRAUN

Sustainability is central to our strategic plan. It is our passion and our mission: to protect the habitat on which snow sports depend.

The way we see it, FIS has two clear responsibilities. First, our responsibility to our athletes and fans, to keep making our sport exciting and attractive, with a calendar rich enough for our athletes to make a living. Second, our responsibility to the planet, making sure that we steward our sport in a way that is as conscious of the environment as possible.

To achieve this balance, we are focused on both reduction and offsetting. In recent times we have been making concerted efforts to reduce

our emissions. Though we can't bring them down to zero, we are making good strides to halving them by 2030, a goal we pledged when we signed up to the UN Sports For Climate Action framework.

To ensure that sustainability is considered in everything we do, FIS has hired a new Sustainability Director. Under her leadership the federation is in the process of working out the most accurate calculation of FIS emissions possible, to see where there are areas we can and must improve. Most

importantly, we are working with our National Associations and partners to help guide best practice.

Our NSAs will be provided with an emission-cutting toolkit to spread awareness about how best to reduce their environmental impact. We are in the process of developing guidelines for all event organisers. FIS is also working to strengthen partnerships with other Sport Federations and NGOs working internationally on sustainability issues, following SDGS goal 17 which aims to revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. As a sign of this commitment, President Eliasch has been appointed to the Sustainability and Legacy Commission of the IOC.

As well as our work on reduction, we are committing serious resource to offsetting. It is globally and officially recognized as a useful tool in the fight against climate change. Without it, the 1.5 degree target cannot be achieved by 2050.

Up to 20 per cent of global emissions are accounted for by rainforest destruction, which is why we have focused our attention on preventing deforestation through

the FIS Rainforest Initiative. This follows several declarations of the United Nations Climate Change conference by supporting indigenous communities, giving directly to local people to help them conserve these vital forests and make a significant difference to global emissions.

Sport has an incredible power to raise awareness and act as an ambassador for good. FIS wants to use its influence to effect real change. We are engaged in this work not for quick and easy headlines but for long-term, practical change that will make a meaningful difference to the lives of the people, and to the future of the planet.

FIS GOVERNANCE

BY SARAH FUSSEK AND
ANNETTE BRAUN

SAFE SPORT EDUCATION FOR CULTURAL CHANGE IN SNOW SPORTS

We want our sport to be thrilling, enthralling, fun, inclusive – and, above all, safe. FIS believes that training and competing in a supportive and positive environment should be a basic right for every athlete – a belief that was enshrined in policy by the FIS Council in 2018. In snow sports, we want to lead the way by ensuring that all our athletes – from the youngest to the veterans – are nurtured and supported. Indeed, this treatment should apply to everyone involved in our sports.

At the first-ever FIS Staff conference in Dubrovnik in May 2023, FIS Integrity Director Sarah Fussek gave a presentation underlining the importance of Safe Sport, emphasizing the fact that keeping our sports healthy, harmonious and free from harassment and abuse is the responsibility of everyone in the FIS family.

Staff were guided through essential training on safe sports, focusing on how we can build an environment which is respectful, equitable, and free from all forms of harassment and abuse. To understand the concept, different forms of non-accidental violence were discussed, from psychological or physical abuse to neglect or harassment.

The safeguarding of young athletes and vulnerable adults was a particular focus. We want to promote good practice and provide athletes of all ages with appropriate safety and protection while involved in FIS activities. Where there are straightforward instances of harassment or abuse, all staff now know the steps that must be taken. Fussek also led discussions on more complicated safeguarding issues, such as distinguishing between a strict disciplinarian style of coaching and abuse.

Most of all, the session was about empowering FIS staff with knowledge and awareness. These are not minor issues but central to our sport. We want to encourage a culture of openness in which all concerns and questions can be aired, for the good of us all. To promote this culture across our key competitions, all FIS World Ski Championships organizers are now required to provide a Welfare Officer during the event.

Integrate Quote: “Never underestimate the power you have as an individual to make a difference”(Olympic cross-country champion Kikkan Randall).

It is up to all of us to keep snow sports safe, and equally we will all benefit from it.

MAJOR EVENTS



FIS JUNIOR AND U23

NORDIC

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

2023

NEXT GENERATION OF NORDIC ATHLETES EXCELS IN WHISTLER

Thirteen years after the Olympic Winter Games 2010, the Nordic Disciplines were back in the Whistler Olympic Park. From January 28th to February 5th, British Columbia hosted the Junior and U23 Nordic World Championships during which 23 titles were awarded, results of some of the most exciting competitions of the season both on the Cross-Country Courses and the Jumping Hills.



Nika Prevc (SLO) , Alexandria Loutitt (CAN) and Julia Mühlbacher (AUT)

CROSS-COUNTRY

The Cross-Country competitions marked the first year of equal distances between men and women and promised some thrilling fights on the demanding tracks inherited from the 2020 Vancouver Olympic Games.

With the 20km Mass-Start events back in the program for the U23 categories, 14 titles crown the best athletes of the Junior and U23 categories. In the sprints,

disputed in Classic technique this year, Finnish women demonstrated strong skills with Eevi-Inkeri Tossavainen winning the U20 race and Jasmin Kahara the U23 final. Swedish Junior Anton GRAHN took the gold medal in the men race and Ansgar Evensen gave Norway its first victory in these championships.

The Norwegian anthem kept on playing in the Canadian Western Prov-

ince as Milla Grosberghaugen Andreasen (U20) and Martin Kirkeberg Moerk (U23) won the Individual 10km Freestyle events. Finnish Junior Niko Anttola won the Junior race with a 6 second lead on his next concurrent. In the Women U23 event, Helen Hoffmann from Germany took the best out of reigning champion from Poland Izabela Marcisz by only 1.5 second.

In the 20km Classic Mass-Starts, Norway asserted its dominance by clearing a full sweep with Milla Grosberghaugen An-

SKI-JUMPING

Awaited by the host country, the Ski Jumping competitions did not disappoint the Canadian fans. On the Normal Hill, prepared in honour John Heilig, very appreciated member of the Ski Jumping Community worldwide deceased in 2021 during the Beijing 2022 preparation, the next generation of top-level ski jumpers offered spectators high level performances.

Alexandria Loutit delighted her home crowd by winning the Junior World Champion title ahead of Nika Prevc (SLO) and Austrian Julia Mühlbacher.

Less than two points separate the top three competitors on the Men's side. Af-

dreassen, Mathias Holbaek, Kristin Austgulen Fosnaes and Jonas Vika winning all four gold medals.

In the 4 x 5 km relays, the Norwegian juniors raced up to their statute of favourites and dominated the race by crossing the finish line 33 seconds before Sweden and 40 seconds before Italy. The same day, in a tactic race, Gaspard Rousset defeated all prognostics and gave France its only title after an exciting finale sprint ranking Sweden second and Switzerland third.

ter two exciting rounds, Vilho Alosaari from Finland took home the gold medal while Jonas Schuster from Austria ranked second and Jan Habdas from Poland completed the Podium.

The Team events saw Japan win their first medal of these Junior World Championships with the Women Team winning the gold medal ahead of Slovenia and Germany. In the Men's event, Austria dominated Poland and Slovenia took the remaining spot on the podium, but won the Mixed Team Event for the last day of competition, ahead of Japan and Germany.



Junior Men Nordic Combined Team event

NORDIC COMBINED

The Men Team event kicked off the competitions on the Nordic Combined side. Ranked third after the Ski Jumping Competition, Team Germany managed to catch up with the Norwegian leaders, with Team Austria, second after the Jumping event, tagging along in the race for victory. After an exciting sprint, Tristan Sommerfeldt offered the Gold Medal to Germany while Andreas Ottesen gave Norway its only medal of these Championships, ranking second in front of Austria.

In the Individual Gundersen Events, Annika Sieff from Italy, ranked second after the Jumping event won her second Junior World Champion title in a row ahead of German youngster Nathalie Armbruster. Lisa Hirner from Austria, ranked 7th after the Ski Jumping event, skied her way to the podium with the fastest time on the skis.

The strong performance of Annika Sieff inspired her teammate Iacopo Bartolas, who, a few minutes later, showed a strong performance on the Cross-Country course, winning ahead of Tristan Sommerfeldt from Germany and Paul Walcher from Austria.

Finally, the Mixed Team Event concluded the 2023 Junior World Championships for Nordic Combined. Two seconds separated the two strongest team after the Ski Jumping event. Spectators held their breath until the very last meters of the race when Paul Walcher sprinted to the finish line, offering the title to Austria, one second ahead of Germany. With two World Champions in the team, Italy delivered a strong fight to join the podium festivities.

FIS ALPINE JUNIOR WORLD SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023

BY LUKAS BRAWAND



The FIS Alpine Junior World Championships 2023 in St. Anton, Austria, kicked off with a burst of energy and excitement. These young talents showcased their incredible skills, promising a bright future for alpine skiing.



Alban Elezi Caninaferina (FRA)



The Junior Championships opened with the downhill races on the Karl Schranz course. Unforeseen overnight snowfall forced the event to move the start down to the reserve point, but it didn't dampen the spirits of the athletes. Despite challenging visibility conditions, the U21 women and men raced fiercely.

Switzerland's Stefanie Grob stole the show in the women's downhill, clinching the gold medal. Italy's Vicky Bernardi and Norway's Pernille Dyrstad Lydersen secured the silver and bronze, respectively. The men's race was equally thrilling, with Aznoh Rok from Slovenia, known as „the rocket,“ claiming the gold medal. Frenchman Alban Elezi Cannafarina took silver, and Switzerland's Livio Hiltbrand secured bronze.

In the men's super G there was a Swiss double victory, razor-thin ahead of the Austrian Vincent Wieser +0.11. Livio Hiltbrand won ahead of Lenz Hächler. In the

women's super G Lara Colturi won gold after an excellent run, ahead of Stefanie Gross and the Italian Alice Calaba.

Next up was the women's giant slalom. Sweden's Hanna Aronsson Elfman emerged victorious in a dramatic race, leaving her competitors behind by over a second. The event witnessed several incredible performances, including Stefanie Grob, who continued her impressive streak of four medals in four starts. Lara Colturi made history as the youngest athlete in the field.

The men's giant slalom showcased outstanding skiing on a perfect race slope. Alban Elezi Cannafarina from France defended his lead from the first run, securing the gold. Finland's Eduard Hallberg clinched the first medal for the Finnish team, and Oscar Andreas Sandvik added to Norway's success with a bronze.

In the mixed team parallel event held

in Lech Zürs am Arlberg, Sweden, Italy, and Norway claimed the top spots, with a floodlight spectacle adding to the excitement.

The Junior Championships concluded with slalom races. Hanna Aronsson Elfman (SWE) continued her winning streak, taking the gold in the women's event. Swiss sensation Janine Maechler secured silver, while Beatrice Solca from Italy completed the podium.

In the men's slalom, Italy's Corrado Barbera displayed nerves of steel to secure the gold, with Sweden's Adam Hofstedt and Antoine Azzolin from France following closely behind.

The FIS Alpine Junior World Championships 2023 in St. Anton celebrated the extraordinary talents of young skiers, leaving us eager to witness their future achievements on the Audi FIS Alpine World Cup stage. This event was not only about medals but also about the dedication and spirit of these rising stars in alpine skiing.

As the organizer, St. Anton provided excellent event framework conditions. A highlight was that the entire host moderation of the event was carried out by juniors for juniors. The 43rd FIS Junior World Ski Championships will take place at Portes du soleil – Haut Savoie in France during the 28th of January until 4th of February 2024.

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Planning and provision of grandstand, event, and media structures for the Audi FIS Ski World Cup Flachau. Photo: © Doris Wild

CARDRONA 2023 FIS PARK & PIPE JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY CHAD BUCHHOLZ



FREESKI & SNOWBOARD SLOPESTYLE

The Cardrona 2023 FIS Park & Pipe Junior World Championships brought excitement to the Big Buck terrain park, where the slopestyle competitions stole the spotlight. In the morning's snowboard competition, Japan's Taiga Hasegawa and New Zealand's Lucia Georgalli emerged as the gold medalists, creating a stir in the snowboarding world.

Lucia Georgalli, a 16-year-old local sensation, etched her name in history by securing New Zealand's first-ever Park & Pipe Junior World Championship gold medal. She wowed the crowd with a commanding performance that left her closest competitors far behind. Georgalli's initial run earned her a staggering score of 85.25, setting her on a path to victory. Even on her victory lap, she raised the stakes, executing remarkable tricks, including a backside 720 Weddle. Her final score of 91.00 was an exclamation point on her gold medal win.

Taiga Hasegawa, a 17-year-old snowboarding prodigy, showcased his skills and earned a well-deserved gold medal for Japan. Hasegawa's second run featured a series of mind-boggling tricks, including a cab 1440 Weddle. His score of 90.25 secured his second Junior World Championships gold.

The excitement continued on the freeskiing side, where Germany's Muriel Mohr and Canada's Charlie Beatty delivered storming final runs to claim gold medals.

Muriel Mohr, a 16-year-old with prior JWC silver medals, secured Germany's first slopestyle JWC gold in over a decade with her outstanding performance.

Charlie Beatty of Canada made a thrilling leap from last to first on his final run, scoring an impressive 92.25 to clinch the gold medal in the men's freeski competition.

Despite some technical glitches, the Cardrona 2023 FIS Park & Pipe Junior

FREESKI & SNOWBOARD BIG AIR - A GLIMPSE OF THE NEXT GENERATION'S BRILLIANCE

In the picturesque setting of Cardrona, New Zealand, the stage was set for the grand finale of the Cardrona 2023 FIS Park & Pipe Junior World Championships. Here, the young freeskiers showcased their remarkable talent on one of the world's finest big air jumps. The big air competitions proved to be a thrilling spectacle, culminating in gold medal victories for Italy's Flora Tabanelli and Norway's Leo Landroe.

Flora Tabanelli, the silver medalist in slopestyle, raised her game for the big air event, securing a well-deserved gold medal. She wowed the crowd with her switch left bio 900 mute and a left double cork 1080 safety, earning a remarkable score of 177.50. Notably, this victory marked Italy's first snowboard Park & Pipe Junior World Championship title.

On the women's side, Han Linshan and Yang Ruyi of China clinched silver and bronze, respectively. Han showcased her skills with a left double cork 1080 mute and a switch left 900 mute, while Yang

World Championships provided an electrifying showcase of talent in slopestyle competitions, setting the stage for the big air finals and more thrilling action in New Zealand.

impressed with a switch left 1080 mute and a left corked 900 tail.

In the men's competition, Leo Landroe of Norway left spectators in awe with his extraordinary performance. He was the sole rider to achieve a score exceeding 90.00 points, achieving this remarkable feat with both of his initial two runs. His first run, featuring a near-perfect switch left triple cork 1620 mute, earned him a score of 93.25. In his second run, Landroe elevated his game, landing a massive left triple cork 1800 mute and securing a score of 96.50. His combined score of 189.75 crowned him as the dominant Junior World Championships gold medalist.

Canada's Matthew Lepine claimed silver with an impressive two-jump performance, and Switzerland's Fadri Rhyner secured the bronze, adding to his slopestyle silver.

The snowboard big air competition was equally enthralling, with Canada's Momo

Maheux and Japan's Taiga Hasegawa emerging as the gold medalists. Maheux, despite starting as the sixth qualifier, displayed nerves of steel and a dazzling array of tricks, ultimately earning the gold medal.

On the men's side, Taiga Hasegawa proved unstoppable, maintaining his championship streak with an outstanding performance that included a near-perfect cab 1620 frontside grab.

These remarkable athletes have shown that the next generation of freeskiers and snowboarders is ready to shine on the world stage. The Cardrona 2023 FIS Park & Pipe Junior World Championships have set the stage for an exciting season to come, and the world eagerly awaits the continued brilliance of these young talents.



2023 PLANICA FIS NORDIC WORLD SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY SOPHIE HARGESHEIMER, HORST NILGEN, SYNNE DYRHAUG



A SPECTACULAR DISPLAY OF NORDIC SPORTS

The 54th FIS Nordic World Ski Championships brought an unprecedented level of excitement and competition to Planica, Slovenia. This marked the first time the event was hosted in Slovenia, making it an unforgettable spectacle for both athletes and spectators alike. The championships were a showcase of skill, athleticism, and international camaraderie.

SKI JUMPING GLORY: WOMEN'S NORMAL HILL

The Women's Normalschanze event started the championships with a bang, and it was Germany's Katharina Althaus who soared to victory. Althaus clinched the gold with a mere 2.2-point lead over Austria's Eva Pinkelnig and Norway's Anna Odile Stroem. Slovenian favorite Eva Klinec finished 19th, much to the dismay of the home crowd.

TEAM EXCELLENCE: WOMEN'S NORMAL HILL TEAM

Germany continued to shine as they secured the gold in the Women's Normalschanze Team event. Katharina Althaus played a crucial role in this victory, along with her teammates Anna Rupprecht, Luisa Goerlich, and Selina Freitag. The German team's total of 1017.2 points outshone their Austrian and Norwegian counterparts, who finished second and third, respectively.



INDIVIDUAL MASTERY: MEN'S NORMAL HILL

The Men's Normalschanze competition witnessed Poland's Piotr Zyla successfully defending his title from the 2021 championships in Oberstdorf. Zyla soared

to a victory with 261.8 points, narrowly edging out the German duo of Andreas Wellinger and Karl Geiger, who took silver and bronze.

MIXING IT UP: MIXED TEAM NORMAL HILL

The Mixed Team Normalschanze event featured the German team securing yet another gold medal. This time, the team consisted of Katharina Althaus, Selina Freitag, Andreas Wellinger, and Karl Gei-

ger, who proved their dominance once more. The German squad's total of 1017.2 points placed them ahead of Norway and Slovenia, who took home the silver and bronze medals, respectively.

A CANADIAN SURPRISE: WOMEN'S LARGE HILL

A standout moment in the competition came when the 19-year-old Canadian skier, Alexandria Loutitt, clinched the gold in the Women's Großschanze event. Loutitt's incredible performance saw her

win with 264.4 points, surpassing the defending champion, Maren Lundby from Norway, and Katharina Althaus of Germany.



Timi Zajc (SLO)

Frida Karlsson (SWE)

Elegance is an attitude



Marco Odermatt

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HOME SOIL TRIUMPH: MEN'S GROSSSCHANZE

In the Men's Großschanze event, the local hero, Timi Zajc, sent the Slovenian crowd into jubilation by claiming the gold. Zajc's triumphant jump of 287.5 points secured the gold ahead of Japan's Ryoyu Kobayashi and Poland's David Kubacki.

TEAM SUCCESS: MEN'S TEAM GROSSSCHANZE

Slovenia continued to bask in the glory of their home championships as the team of Lovro Kos, Ziga Jelar, Timi Zajc, and Anze Lanisek secured another gold medal in the Men's Team Großschanze event. They outperformed Norway and Austria, who settled for silver and bronze, respectively.

STAR PERFORMERS: KATHARINA ALTHAUS AND TIMI ZAJC

Katharina Althaus from Germany emerged as the most successful athlete of the championship, clinching three gold medals and one bronze. On the men's side, Timi Zajc from Slovenia also stood out, securing two gold medals and one bronze.

CROSS-COUNTRY DOMINANCE IN PLANICA

While the ski jumping events dazzled the spectators, the cross-country events added depth and diversity to the championships. Sweden's Jonna Sundling showcased her prowess by winning gold in the Sprint C. In the Team Sprint, Sundling joined forces with her compatriot, Emma Ribom, to secure another gold for Sweden.

EBBA ANDERSSON'S TRIUMPH

Ebba Andersson, also from Sweden, was a standout performer in the distance races. She overcame adversity, including a fall during the Skiathlon, to claim her first gold medal in the 10 km individual start. Fellow Swede, Frida Karlsson, took silver, while the bronze went to the surprising and inspiring 35-year-old Norwegian, Astrid Øyre Slind.

JOHANNES HØSFLOT KLÆBO'S SPRINT DOMINANCE

In the men's sprint competitions, Norwegian star Johannes Høsflo Klæbo displayed his unparalleled skill, making history by winning three consecutive World

Championships in sprint. Pål Golberg, also from Norway, won silver, while Jules

Chappaz of France secured his first-ever medal with a bronze.

HISTORIC GOLD FOR JESSIE DIGGINS

The championships witnessed a historic moment for the United States as Jessie Diggins won an individual gold medal in the 10 km race. Her performance marked the first time the United States had won

an individual gold in the competition. The moment was unforgettable, as Diggins crossed the finish line ahead of strong Swedish and Norwegian competitors.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN DISTANCE RACES

The distance races provided more unforgettable moments, with the likes of Johannes Høsflot Klæbo and Pål Golberg aiming for individual gold in the 50 km race. Pål Golberg emerged as the vic-

tor, achieving his first individual World Championship gold. Klæbo secured silver, while William Porooma from Finland took home the bronze.

NORDIC COMBINED GLORY

Nordic Combined events were a thrilling part of the championships. The home crowd witnessed Gyda Westvold Hansen successfully defending her World Cham-

pionship title. After excelling in the ski jumping competition, Hansen dominated the 5 km Championship race, earning gold for Norway.

JARL MAGNUS RIIBER'S DOMINATION

Jarl Magnus Riiber, a standout Norwegian athlete, left a lasting mark on the championships. Riiber won gold medals in various categories, including the Individual

Normal Hill, Mixed Team, Team, and Individual Gundersen on the large hill. His exceptional skills and consistency made him one of the stars of the championships.

TEAM NORWAY'S HISTORIC VICTORY

A historic moment unfolded as Team Norway secured the gold in the Nordic Combined Mixed Team event. Despite the challenges posed by fresh snowfall,

the Norwegian team, featuring Ida Marie Hagen, Jens Luraas Oftebro, Jarl Magnus Riiber, and Gyda Westvold Hansen, displayed unparalleled team performance.



Paal Goldberg (NOR)



Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (NOR)



EXCITING RELAY RACE

The 15-kilometer relay race showcased strong performances by the Norwegian team. Jens Luraas Oftebro led the way, building an impressive lead over Team Japan. The exciting relay event saw Jarl Magnus Riiber securing another gold

for Norway, while Julian Schmid and Johannes Lamparter took home silver and bronze for Germany and Austria, respectively.

A FITTING CONCLUSION

The FIS Nordics World Ski Championships 2023 in Planica provided a platform for athletes from around the world to exhibit their exceptional talents. With thrilling competitions in ski jumping, cross-country skiing, and Nordic Combined, the championships left a lasting impression

FIS ALPINE WORLD SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS THAT HAD IT ALL

BY CHARLOTTE CHABLE

For fourteen days the world's very best surprised, delighted and inspired tens of thousands of sun-drenched fans in the iconic French resorts of Courchevel and Meribel, with countless more worldwide tuning in to the almost-nonstop action.



THE WOMAN OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Coming into World Championships, the word “historic” had already been used to label Mikaela Shiffrin’s 2022-’23 ski season. In January, she broke Lindsey Vonn’s record of most World Cup wins by a female alpine skier (82), and she sits one shy of Ingemar Stenmark’s all-time record (86).

In Méribel, Mikaela Shiffrin (USA) kept adding milestones to her career. She

collected three more medals to her already-prodigious collection. With 14 FIS medals now hanging in her trophy cabinet, she jumped to the top of the list for most World Championship medals won in the modern era — surpassing Norway’s Kjetil Andre Aamodt, who won 12 medals between 1991 and 2003. And Shiffrin climbed into a tie with four other skiing legends for most World Championship golds won in individual events (seven and counting).



THE MAN OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Marco Odermatt (SUI) may have a long way to go to get near Shiffrin-esque statistics but the 25-year-old is giving it a good go. Since the beginning of 2022 and including his first Olympic Games, Odermatt has lined up for 12 major GS races and won eight of them, including Olympic and now world championship success.

Perhaps even more impressively, the Swiss man chose the slopes of Courchevel on which to claim his first ever senior global downhill win, producing what he described as a “perfect run”.

The double gold medallist led what was a fantastic Championships for Switzerland, and, while two silvers for Wendy Holdener (SUI) and one for Loic Meillard (SUI) were no surprise, you would have got long odds on the identity of the nation’s other gold medallist.

GOOD FORTNITE

It was a good fortnight for the Vikings too. In the three parallel events alone, Norway won four medals, including a notable gold in the women’s discipline for Maria Therese Tviberg (NOR). While Henrik Kristoffersen (NOR) produced one of the second run performances of this, or any championship, to jump up from 16th to 1st in the men’s slalom.

The 29-year-old Jasmine Flury (SUI) has never won a World Cup downhill – in fact on her nine years on tour she has finished on a downhill podium only once – but she is now a speed world champion.

Sofia Goggia (ITA) was among those Flury beat and the failure of the 30-year-old to repeat the red-hot form she has shown on the World Cup in the past two-and-a-half seasons did put a slight dent into what had been a brilliant start to the women’s competition for Italy.

Federica Brignone (ITA) started it off for those in blue. Sublime in taking Alpine combined gold, she then climbed off her sickbed to almost deny Shiffrin for a second time in the GS. Not to be outdone, compatriot Marta Bassino (ITA) defied her relative lack of previous success in the super-G discipline – no World Cup wins to date – to grab Italy their second gold.

While success for three such powerhouse Alpine nations was not unexpected, Canada’s position on the final medal table certainly was.

Not since 1960 had a Canadian woman won a world slalom title but that did



not deter Laurence St-Germain (CAN). Nor did her status as a relative unknown in the rarefied air at the very top of world skiing.

The 28-year-old, who had never finished higher than sixth in a World Cup slalom, not only took the final women's gold on offer, she snatched it from Mikaela Shiffrin, the greatest ever. No wonder St-Germain admitted in the finish area that "winning was not expected at all, like, ever".

Compatriot James Crawford (CAN) had almost as big a task. Very few people get the better of Odermatt and Kilde in super-G right now, but the Canadian did.

The thousands of people who flocked to the Championships were rewarded with what many of them really wanted. Courchevel-born and bred, Alexis Pinturault (FRA) admitted after claiming men's Alpine combined gold he had been "thinking about the Championships for two years". A bronze in the super-G followed as the 31-year-old made his dreams come true.

But the last word goes to a skier who did something no one from his nation has ever done before.

"It is a memory for me, but history for Greece," said AJ Ginnis (GRE) after winning men's slalom silver – the first time any Greek athlete has won a world medal in any winter sport.



Mikaela Shiffrin (USA)

Alexis Pinturault (FRA)

**FIS FREESTYLE SKI,
SNOWBOARD
AND FREESKI
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
BAKURIANI
2023**

Snowboard Halfpipe: Cha Eun Lee (KOR)

FIS BULLETIN 2023

The biggest sporting event in the history of Georgia took place in the Trialeti Range of the Caucasus Mountains from 19 February to 5 March this past season, as the Bakuriani 2023 FIS Freestyle Ski, Snowboard and Freeski World Championships brought 12 days of action, 700+ of the world's best snowsports athletes, and 30 medal competitions to the rising ski and snowboard nation.



Despite some occasional weather-related challenges, Bakuriani 2023 was a huge success from the World Championships-opening aerials team competition, through to the biggest final day in our World Champs history, where freeski halfpipe and big air competition for both freeski and snowboard

all took Bakuriani's slopes in a period of just a few hours.

With friendly hosts, phenomenal venues, thrilling competition, and more than a few history-making performances, Bakuriani 2023 was a World Championships that will not be soon forgotten.

Read on for the event-by-event breakdown...

AERIALS

The first Freestyle medal event at the Bakuriani 2023 FIS Freestyle, Snowboard and Freeski World Championships went down in epic fashion on Saturday, with Ashley Caldwell, Chris Lillis and Quinn Dehlinger of the USA claiming aerials mixed team World Championships gold, followed by China with silver and Ukraine taking home the bronze.

In the super final Caldwell put down a solid back Full double Full, while Lillis, who jumped second, came through with a near-perfect double Full-Full-Full, putting USA in the lead with just one more round of jumps remaining in the competition.

Last but not least for the U.S. squad was Quinn Dehlinger, who was fresh off his first ever World Cup win a couple of weeks earlier in Canada. In Georgia, Dehlinger managed to put his double Full-Full-Full down to his feet under enormous pressure, consequently sealing the deal for the US team

for their first world championships aerials team gold medal.

In the women's individual event it was Kong Fanyu, the bronze medallist from the 2018 PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games, who stepped things up a notch on to claim the biggest win of her career, also snagging her second medal at the Bakuriani 2023 World Championships following her silver medal performance with Team China in the mixed team event.

Moving over to the men's event it was Switzerland's Noe Roth who came through with a clutch performance in the big final to claim the first ever aerials World Championships gold medal for Switzerland in the individual event. After making the cut into final top-6, Roth put it down clean when it mattered most, sending it to the moon on his Full-double Full-Full, straight for the Bakuriani 2023 gold.

TOP-3 RESULTS AERIALS

WOMEN

1. Fanyu Kong (CHN)
2. Danielle Scott (AUS)
3. Anastasiya Novosad (UKR)

MEN

1. Noe Roth (SUI)
2. Quinn Dehlinger (USA)
3. Longxiao Yang (CHN)

AERIALS MIXED TEAM

1. Ashley Caldwell, Christopher Lillis, Quinn Dehlinger (USA)
2. Fanyu Kong, Tiana Li, Longxiao Yang (CHN)
3. Anastasiya Novosad, Oleksandr Okipniuk, Dmytro Kotovskyi (UKR)



SNOWBOARD ALPINE

History makers Tsubaki Miki of Japan and Poland's Oskar Kwiatkowski took parallel giant slalom gold medals after a dramatic first day at the 2023 FIS Freestyle Ski, Snowboard and Freeski World Championships in Bakuriani.

Both Miki and Kwiatkowski claimed alpine snowboard world gold for the first time ever for their nations with Miki beating Olympic silver medallist, Daniela Ulbing of Austria in the big final, while Kwiatkowski overcame Switzerland's two-time World Cup winner, Dario Caviezel to take the win in the men's edition.

Thrills and spills were all over the place also in the parallel slalom at the Bakuriani

2023, making for another exciting day with Switzerland's Julie Zogg bagging gold in the women's event to claim her second world title and Austrian icon Andreas Prommegger, topping the men's edition to claim a third world's best gong and becoming the oldest World Champion in the history of FIS.

Wrapping things up for snowboard alpine was the inaugural mixed team parallel slalom World Championship race, where Aaron March and Nadya Ochner were history-makers and won the title after a thrilling display in a highly entertaining competition, the first ever World Championships medals for each after 13 starts for Ochner and 18 for March, in any discipline.

TOP-3 RESULTS SNOWBOARD ALPINE

PARALLEL GIANT SLALOM WOMEN

1. Tsubaki Miki (JPN)
2. Daniela Ulbing (AUT)
3. Aleksandra Krol (POL)

MEN

1. Michal Kwiatkowski (POL)
2. Dario Caviezel (SUI)
3. Alexander Payer (AUT)

PARALLEL SLALOM WOMEN

1. Julie Zogg (SUI)
2. Ladina Jenny (SUI)
3. Sabine Schoeffmann (AUT)

MEN

1. Andreas Prommegger (AUT)
2. Arvid Auner (AUT)
3. Arnaud Gaudet (CAN)

PARALLEL MIXED TEAM

1. Nadya Ochner, Aaron March (ITA)
2. Sabine Schoeffmann, Andreas Prommegger (AUT)
3. Julie Zogg, Dario Caviezel (SUI)





MOGULS

We had two picture-perfect days on the Kokhta venue at the Bakuriani 2023 World Championships, with optimal snow conditions and an exciting course making for a perfect backdrop of what turned out to be one of the most exciting showcase of mogul skiing we've seen in recent history.

At the end of this extraordinary two-day extravaganza it was Perrine Laffont and Mikael Kingsbury, who wrote history while bagging two gold medals in moguls and dual moguls.

24-year-old Laffont kept on charging the challenging course in Bakuriani with her skis tips pointed down, acing the course's

middle section and launching it from both airs with style throughout the entire World Championships and after winning her fourth and fifth gold medal she moved into sole possession of top spot on the FIS Freestyle all-time women's World Championships rankings, moving ahead of moguls great Jennifer Heil and Kari Traa and firmly establishing herself as the Queen of Moguls.

On the men's side the King of Moguls, Mikael Kingsbury claimed his seventh and eighth World Championships title of his career and an incredible sixth straight gold medal, making him the first ever FIS back-to-back-to-back double World Champion.

TOP-3 RESULTS MOGULS

WOMEN

1. Perrine Laffont (FRA)
2. Jaelin Kauf (USA)
3. Avital Carroll (AUT)

MEN

1. Mikael Kingsbury (CAN)
2. Matt Graham (AUS)
3. Walter Wallberg (SWE)

TOP-3 RESULTS DUAL MOGULS

WOMEN

1. Perrine Laffont (FRA)
2. Jaelin Kauf (USA)
3. Avital Carroll (AUT)

MEN

1. Mikael Kingsbury (CAN)
2. Walter Wallberg (SWE)
3. Matt Graham (AUS)



SKI CROSS

It was a golden day for Sweden at the Bakuriani 2023 FIS Freestyle Ski, Snowboard and Freeski World Championships, once Mother Nature was on the ski cross athletes' side following some challenging days leading up to both individual and team competitions. With a readjusted schedule it was a busy day on the cross course at Didveli venue, with the individual event taking place in the morning and the historic first ever World Championships ski cross mixed team competition following in the afternoon.

In the women's event it was Sandra Naeslund who won the race in her typically dominant fashion, leading the way from start to finish on her way to a third individual World Championships gold.

On the men's side it was 22-year-old Simone Deromedis, who upset all the

favourites and snagged the biggest victory of his career, earning World Championships gold before ever standing on the podium at the World Cup - or any other major event - before. Deromedis' gold was the first ever ski cross medal for Italy.

Finally it was Sandra Naeslund and David Mobaerg who wrote history by becoming the first ever World Champions in ski cross mixed team event, after sweeping across the line victorious against Canada, Italy and France in the big final matchup. It was Naeslund's second gold medal of the day, with Mobaerg wrapping up the World Championships in Georgia by adding the second medal to the Mobaerg family record after his brother Erik placed third in the individual event just a couple of hours before.

TOP-3 RESULTS SKI CROSS

WOMEN

1. Sandra Naeslund (SWE)
2. Katrin Ochner (AUT)
3. Fanny Smith (SUI)

MEN

1. Simone Deromedis (ITA)
2. Florian Wilmsmann (GER)
3. Erik Mobaerg (SWE)

SKI CROSS MIXED TEAM

1. Sandra Naeslund and David Mobaerg (SWE)
2. Marielle Thompson and Reece Howden (CAN)
3. Jole Galli and Federico Tomasoni (ITA)

SNOWBOARD CROSS

With a weather-affected schedule forcing competition to be moved forward in the schedule by two days, back-to-back days of SBX competition at the Bakuriani 2023 World Championships began with the singles event on 1 March, where Czech great Eva Adamczykova claimed her second World Championships title in the women's event, and Austrian's Jakob Dusek played the dark horse role on his way to a surprise, last-second gold medal win for the men.

Not only did the weather in Georgia force the changing of the schedule, the format for the competition was changed as well, with pre-heats replacing the typical timed-run qualification format and leading us to some shocking results, including both of the reigning 2021 World Champions - Charlotte Bankes (GBR) and Lucas Eguibar (ESP) - failing to advance through to finals.

However, that's the name of the game in wild and crazy world of snowboard cross,

and both Adamczykova with her dominant big final performance and Dusek in an eventful, photo-finish men's big final were worthy winners in Bakuriani.

Also notable in the women's competition was the bronze medal win for SBX GOAT Lindsey Jacobellis, who with her medal reclaimed top spot on the all-time SBX World Championships rankings with five individual podiums.

The day after the individual competition at Bakuriani 2023 saw the mixed team competition take to the technical World Championships course in some tricky weather conditions. Despite the challenges, the best of the best stepped up to put on an exceptional show.

Leading the way was team GBR, with youngster Huw Nightingale setting the pace as the first out of the gate before two-time reigning crystal globe winner

TOP-3 RESULTS SNOWBOARD CROSS

WOMEN

1. Eva Adamczykova (CZE)
2. Josie Baff (AUS)
3. Lindsay Jacobellis (USA)

MEN

1. Jakob Dusek (AUT)
2. Martin Noel (GER)
3. Omar Visintin (ITA)

SNOWBOARD CROSS MIXED TEAM

1. Charlotte Bankes and Huw Nightingale (GBR)
2. Pia Zerhold and Jacob Dusek (AUT)
3. Chloe Trespeuch and Merlin Surget (FRA)



Charlotte Bankes left the rest of the women in her wake to earn the gold medal that many expected her to earn in the individual competition.

FREESKI

Slopestyle got the ball rolling on freeski competition at Bakuriani 2023, where Mathilde Gremaud became the first freeskier in history to simultaneously reign as the Olympic and World Championships gold medallist in the event, dominating from start to finish in Bakuriani on her way to her first World Champs title.

For the slopestyle men it was the phenomenal Birk Ruud throwing down some last

While the win in the mixed team event may have been somewhat unexpected for the British duo, it was a well-deserved one, showcasing all the thrills, spills and surprises that mixed team SBX brings to the table.

run, gold medal-winning heroics to kick off what was a hugely successful, five-medal showing for the Norwegian team in Bakuriani. With Beijing 2022 big air gold, back-to-back freeski overall crystal globes, the slopestyle crystal globe, and Bakuriani 2023 slopestyle globe all earned from February 2022 to March 2023, Ruud more than proved himself to be the world's finest freeskier over the past couple of seasons.

Freeski halfpipe saw 18-year-old Hannah Faulhaber taking her lofty airs to the top of the podium in Bakuriani, as the understated US ripper's smooth style and amplitude earned her the first major international victory of her career in the perfect Bakuriani pipe.

On the men's side of things we saw pre-competition favourite Brendan Mackay living up to expectations, dropping in with the very last run of pipe action at Bakuriani, stomping a brand new trick on the final hit (a left double cork 1620 safety), and walking away with the first World Champs halfpipe gold for Canada since 2011.

Freeski action at Bakuriani 2023 closed out with a big air competition that was truly one for the history books, with the women and men of the finals unleashing a truly dizzying onslaught of tricks.

Tops amongst them on the women's side was France's Tess Ledeux, earning her third career World Championships title with a performance that included her stomping a trick she had never before attempted in competition, as the Beijing 2022 big air silver medallist put down a switch left double cork 1260 mute on her final run of the day to earn World Champs gold.

TOP-3 RESULTS SLOPESTYLE

WOMEN

1. Mathilde Gremaud (SUI)
2. Megan Oldham (CAN)
3. Johanne Killi (NOR)

MEN

1. Birk Ruud (NOR)
2. Christian Nummedal (NOR)
3. Andri Ragettli (SUI)

TOP-3 RESULTS HALFPIPE

WOMEN

1. Hannah Faulhaber (USA)
2. Zoe Atkin (GBR)
3. Rachael Karker (CAN)

MEN

1. Brendan Mackay (CAN)
2. Jon Sallinen (FIN)
3. Alex Ferreira (USA)

TOP-3 RESULTS BIG AIR

WOMEN

1. Tess Ledeux (FRA)
2. Sandra Eie (NOR)
3. Megan Oldham (CAN)

MEN

1. Troy Podmilsak (USA)
2. Lukas Muellauer (AUT)
3. Birk Ruud (NOR)





The Slopestyle course in Bakuriani 2023



Freeski Halfpipe: Hannah Faulhaber (USA)

Birk Ruud (NOR)

Tess Ledeux (FRA)

The men's Bakuriani 2023 big air competition closed out the World Championships in truly mind-blowing fashion, with 18-year-old Troy Podmilsak making history by becoming the first freeskiier ever, anywhere, to land a forward triple cork 2160, while also becoming the youngest-ever men's big air World Championships gold medallist in the process.

To get an idea of the level of skiing exhibited at the Bakuriani 2023 big air competition, consider that while Podmilsak's 2160

was the first of any kind landed in FIS competition, it was followed almost immediately after by the second 2160 ever, as eventual silver medallist Lukas Muellauer stomped a switch version of his own in his next run.

Bakuriani 2023 big air was a freeski spectacle of the highest level, closing out a thrilling two weeks of action with a truly game-changing final show.



SNOWBOARD PARK & PIPE

Snowboard park & pipe competition at Bakuriani 2023 started off with a history-making high in the very first event and didn't let up from there, with edge of your seat action the norm in each one of the six World Championships finals.

It all began with Great Britain's Mia Brookes, as the just-turned-16-year-old became the first woman to land a 1440 in competition (and possibly the first woman to land a 1440, full stop), while also becoming the youngest FIS Snowboard World Champion in history when she took Bakuriani 2023 slopestyle gold ahead of two-time reigning World Champion and Olympic gold medallist Zoi Sadowski-Synnot (NZL).

After that it was time for the Marcus Kleve-land show, as the uber-talented Norwegian showed his incredible poise under pressure and unmatched trick arsenal on his way to becoming the first man in FIS Snowboard World Championships history to earn back-to-back slopestyle gold medals.

After that it was on to the halfpipe World Championships, and as expected the competition did not disappoint.

For the women it was the legend Cai Xuetong reaffirming her place as the one of the greatest halfpipe riders in the history of FIS competition, as the 29-year-old returned to the top of the World Championships podium for the first time in six years



Marcus Kleve-land (NOR)

to claim her third career gold. 13 years into her international career, Cai proved once again in Bakuriani that she remains amongst the halfpipe world's elite.

The men's Bakuriani 2023 halfpipe competition saw some more youthful history being made, as Chaeun Lee become the youngest ever men's World Champion in any FIS Snowboard event, as the 16-year-old earned his first major international podium in dramatic fashion. Also the 2022 halfpipe Junior World Champion, Lee stunned a hugely talented, deeply experienced field with a 93.50-scoring third and final run on his way to gold.

Also noteworthy in the men's competition was Valentino Guseli's silver medal-winning performance, as the 17-year-old came back from what looked like a devastating ankle injury suffered in slopestyle training to land on the halfpipe podium.

Snowboarding at the Bakuriani 2023 World Championships would close out with slopestyle big air competition, where the great Anna Gasser and rising star Taiga Hasegawa would nab the final medals of Bakuriani 2023.

The two-time reigning Olympic big air gold medallist, it had been six years since

TOP-3 RESULTS SB SLOPESTYLE

WOMEN

1. Mathilde Gremaud (SUI)
2. Zoi Sadowski-Synnott (NZL)
3. Miyabi Onitsuka (JPN)

MEN

1. Marcus Kleveland (NOR)
2. Ryoma Kimata (JPN)
3. Chris Corning (USA)

TOP-3 RESULTS SB HALFPIPE

WOMEN

1. Cai Xuetong (CHN)
2. Elizabeth Hosking (CAN)
3. Mitsuki Ono (JPN)

MEN

1. Chaeun Lee (KOR)
2. Valentino Guseli (AUS)
3. Jan Scherrer (SUI)

TOP-3 RESULTS SB BIG AIR

WOMEN

1. Anna Gasser (AUT)
2. Miyabi Onitsuka (JPN)
3. Tess Coady (AUS)

MEN

1. Taiga Hasegawa (JPN)
2. Mons Roisland (NOR)
3. Nicolas Huber (SUI)



Gasser last stood on the big air podium at Sierra Nevada 2017. Drawing on her experience to get the job done in some tough conditions, Gasser in Bakuriani showed yet again why she's considered one of the very best to ever do it.

Second place for the women went to Miyabi Onitsuka for her second medal of the Bakuriani 2023 World Championships. With her two Bakuriani medals, Onitsuka brought her career total to five - matching Zoi Sadowski-Synnott and Seppe Smits for the most in park & pipe World Champs history.

In the men's competition 17-year-old Hasegawa put an exclamation mark on what was a breakout season. With 2022/23 World Cup wins in slopestyle and big air,

along with his Bakuriani 2023 big air gold, Hasegawa is well on his way to becoming the next big star out of the snowboard hotbed of Japan.

We'd like to extend huge thank you to the organisers of the Bakuriani 2023 FIS Freestyle Ski, Snowboard and Freeski World Championships for their incredible cooperation, flexibility, and hard work in helping to ensuring a hugely successful, entertaining and memorable World Championships in oftentimes challenging conditions.

And of course, congratulations and thank you to all the incredible athletes for bringing the passion and performances to the 2023 World Championships to make them all so special!

FIRST EVER FIS

PARA

WORLD SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

2023

BY SANTONIO CHIRACU,
ELKE GUNDERMANN,
TIMOTEJ DUDAS
AND LUKAS BRAWAND





FIS PARA WSC IN ESPOT (ESP)

The FIS Para Alpine World Championships in Espot (ESP) were met with a challenging start, as athletes waited nearly four days for favorable weather conditions. However, when the skies finally cleared on January 24th, the competition began in earnest. The championship showcased the remarkable talents of Para alpine skiers from around the world.

In the vision impaired category, Neil Simpson (GBR) achieved a stunning victory by edging out powerhouse Johannes Aigner (AUT) by a mere 0.02 seconds. The bronze medal went to Giacomo Bertagnolli of Italy. Meanwhile, on the women's side, Italy secured a 1-2 sweep, with Chiara Mazzel and Martina Vozza claiming gold and silver, respectively.

The men's standing category saw Austrian Markus Slacher triumph in a closely contested battle against Switzerland's Robin Cuche, winning by a mere 0.20 seconds. In the women's standing category, Ebba Aarsjoe (SWE) took home the gold medal, holding off two strong German competitors, Andrea Rothfuss and Anna-Maria Rieder.

The sitting competitions provided nail-biting moments, with Japan's Tai-ki Morii seizing gold by a razor-thin 0.01-second margin ahead of Dutchman Jeroen Kampschreur. Anna-Lena Forster (GER) had a more comfortable victory, securing the gold medal with a substantial 2.74-second lead over her American rivals, Lauri Stephens and Saylor O'Brien.

Despite the weather challenges, the athletes displayed remarkable skill and determination in these FIS Para Alpine World Champi-

onships. With the revised schedule, fans could follow the action via live streams on the FIS website. The championship was a testament to the unwavering dedication

of these Para alpine skiers, who showcased their talents on the world stage, proving that patience and persistence can lead to extraordinary success.

PARA NORDIC WSC IN ÖSTERSUND (SWE)

The Para Nordic World Championships 2023 in Östersund, Sweden, kicked off with a bang, showcasing the incredible talent and determination of Para Nordic skiers from around the world. The championship featured a thrilling mix of races, from classic to sprint and relays, as athletes competed in various Para categories.

In the men's sitting competition, Italy's Giuseppe Romele left a lasting impression, securing the gold medal with a commanding lead over Collin Cameron from Canada. Ukraine's Pavlo Bal secured the bronze medal. Meanwhile, in the women's sitting competition, American Kendall Gretsche dominated the field, leaving Germany's Anja Wicker in her wake and earning Brazil's Aline dos Santos Rocha the bronze.

The Classic VI competitions saw a spectacular performance by host nation Sweden as Zebastian Modin clinched the gold, with American Jake Adicoff close behind. Norwegian Thomas Oxaal secured the bronze. In the women's event, Linn Kazmaier claimed gold for Germany, with her compatriot Leonie Maria Walter taking silver.

The closely contested races continued in the women's standing category, with

Norway's Vilde Nilsen narrowly edging out Canadian Natalie Wilkie for gold. Brittany Hudak, another Canadian, joined the podium with a bronze medal. The men's standing competition was equally exciting, as Witold Skupien from Poland narrowly secured gold, with Japan's Taiki Kawayoke in second and Ukraine's Grygorii Vovchynskyi in third.

The sprint competitions on the third day offered intense battles on a changing track due to milder weather conditions. Brazilian Aline Dos Santos Rocha emerged victorious in the women's sitting class, narrowly beating Kendall Gretsche. In the men's Class VI sprint, Jake Adicoff clinched the gold after a dramatic final stretch.

The 10-kilometer freestyle races showcased dominant performances from Italian Giuseppe Romele, Kendall Gretsche, Vilde Nielsen, and Mark Arendz, earning them well-deserved gold medals. Mark Arendz's consistent excellence secured his third gold of the championships. The championships culminated with exhilarating relay races. Germany claimed gold in the open relay, while the mixed relay saw the United States emerge victorious after a hard-fought battle.

The Para Nordic World Championships 2023 in Östersund provided a stage for Para Nordic athletes to showcase their dedication, talent, and resilience. These remarkable competitors continue to inspire and amaze us with their incredible performances.

The Championships was also stage of an initial workshop between FIS and IBU, where representatives from both federations, discussed the future of the cooperation and the management around the sport of Para Biathlon.



Para Snowboard

Para Snowboard

Para Sprint Podium

FIS PARA SNOWBOARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023 IN LA MOLINA (ESP)

The Plaza del Telecabina in La Molina played host to the recently concluded FIS Para Snowboard World Championships 2023.

For more than a week, La Molina was a sporting heaven for hundreds of people linked to the world of Paralympic sport: athletes, coaches, trainers, physiotherapists, specialized journalists ...

Taking advantage of the closing ceremony of the competition, the high level of all the athletes was highlighted in a day of sportsmanship, discipline and effort.

Toni Sanmartí, president of FGC Turisme, explains: "We are very happy with how these both the Alpine and Snowboard FIS Para Snow Sports World Championships 2023 have been developed and we keep a good memory that will allow us to dream about the next ones".

In total 57 of the worldwide top Para athletes participated in La Molina from 18 different nations. All the results can be checked [here](#).



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SEASON REVIEW





COOP FIS CROSS COUNTRY WORLD CUP 2022/23

FINALLY BACK TO NORMAL

BY SYNNE DYRHAUG

Finally, it was time for a season without any Covid. At least the regulations from FIS were gone, and we could slowly adapt and dive into the Cross Country world as the skiing-family used to remember it. Some of the teams still kept



their Covid-regulations, but in the end of the day it was a season almost like before Covid, with some masks here and there. Luckily we went through a season without any cancelations, and in order to achieve that, every single organizer made a great commitment with a strong flexibility. We are really proud on a complete season, without the need of doing any major adjustments to the calendar.



Distance Winner Pal Golberg (NOR)



Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (NOR)



Tiril Udnes Weng (NOR)

Distance Winner Kerttu Niskanen (FIN)

A SPECIAL SEASON

This year we went back to France and Les Rous-ses. After two years of trying and cancellations it was as the wording says -“third time is a charm” – and we could arrange a World Cup in France for the first time since 2017. It was a special moment for the French athletes, who really got a big crowd coming up to cheer on them. It became even more special with Richard Jouve winning his one and only individual victory for the season on home soil. Going through a more than two years period without spectators, it was very much appreciated and special for the athletes that the spectators were finally back in the ranks. The super fans brought out some great moments and emotions as big crowds at many event destinations across the globe.

GREATEST WINNERS

It is impossible not to name Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (NOR), when talking about the greatest winners throughout this season. The Norwegian skier won 20 World Cup victories, equalizing Therese Johaug’s (NOR) achievement in 2020. Klæbo won three gold medals in Planica, and two silver medals. He won almost every single sprint race over the entire World Cup season, except from two, which made him the unbeatable winner of the Sprint globe.

On the women’s side, did the Olympic Champion Beijing 2022 Jonna Sundling (SWE) not compete in the first part of the season. But eventually as the season was progressing, she found her way back to the track very well prepared. In the World Championships in Planica, she managed to beat





Iconic Astrid Øyre Slind (NOR) in Shorts

her teammates Emma Ribom and Maja Dahlqvist and won the back-to-back Sprint gold medal. It was a lot of talking going on behind the scenes, regarding who will be taking over after Therese Johaug retired from the Norwegian team. Already at the beginning of the season we could see a new Norwegian coming

BEST STORYLINE

Jessie Diggins wrote sports history last season. The American star did what no American athlete in Cross Country skiing ever managed to achieve before. To win an individual gold medal in a World Championships. The atmosphere that day was vibrant, you could hear the quote “this was really well deserved on Jessie” several times in the mix zone after the race. The American team was on the road for the whole skiing season, and we all saw an emotional Jessica Diggins who could put on the “World Champion” bib. A big and well-deserved day for American cross-country skiing.

up as a rising star. In Ruka she claimed the first podium for the season, and in Val Müstair she took her first World Cup victory. Tiril Udnes Weng (NOR) was relentless. She competed in almost every race through the season and managed to collect enough points to win the overall globe for the very first time.

Just a few days earlier, during the women’s Skiathlon, Astrid Øyre Slind (NOR) got her first appearance in a World Championships. The 35-year old woman went to the start to surprise the audience big time. Before the race, it was some drama in the starting area. Her racing suit broke apart, and they had to get a new one in the very last minutes. The only problem with the new one was that it was a bit too small. So, her team staff had to cut it to make it fit over her skiing boots, while getting dressed before the race started. This was all happening fractions before the start and one of the most dramatic behind the scenes story. In the end, Slind raced in shorts through the whole 20 km. There is an iconic picture of her when she raised her hand crossing the finish line. And at the same time winning her first individual medal in her first World Champs attendance ever.



Jessica Diggins (USA), the first American to win a gold medal at World Championships



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BEST NEWCOMERS

Ben Ogden (USA) came with a great attitude to the skiing season. Already at the event in Beitostølen he showed that he would be a man to count on. During the sprint heat he crushed the others right from the start and took everyone by surprise. It became his signature move and he did it several times during the season. It was really fun to watch and refreshing to witness him doing something different, that no-one else has been done before. Even Johannes Høsflot Kæbo said after the Sprint in Val Di Fiemme that it was not the final that was the most exhausting heat, but the quarter final when Ogden tried to smash the whole heat with his early push. The American man had several top 10 races through the season and could therefore claim the green bib, as the winner of the U23 shooting stars. For the women's U23 we also had

a great newcomer, Patrīcija Eiduka (LAT). She is a real allrounder and you could see her doing some great races during the whole season. She races on a team that is collaborating with different nations and athletes. She is a young woman who really has developed very well and taken big steps this season. That resulted in winning the green bib, and she got her big price on the stage in Lahti with well deserved greetings from her team with a lot of Champagne.

RETIREMENTS

Men

Snorri Einarsson (ISL)
Roman Furger (SUI)
Jonas Dobler (GER)
Cedric Steiner (CH)
Russel Kennedy (CAN)
Hans Christer Holund (NOR)

Women

Anna Dyvik (SWE)
Hailey Swirburl (USA)
Ragnhild Gløersen Haga (NOR)
Greta Laurent (ITA)
Kathrine Harsem (NOR)
Dahria Bealy (CAN)

A WONDERFUL WINTER FOR SKI JUMPERS



VISSMANN FIS

SKI

JUMPING

WORLD CUP 2022/23

BY HORST NILGEN



The
winter of 2022/23
was a season to look back on for a long
time for the best ski jumpers in the world.
For the men and women it was the longest
season in history, for the women it was the

season in which the very best were able to demonstrate their skills in ski flying for the first time, it was the first winter after the Covid pandemic in which spectators could finally be present in the stadiums again, over 400,000 spectators took advantage of this opportunity in the men's

competition alone and cheered the athletes on the hills.

And it was the season in which the athletes once again gave a very special meaning to the term ski jumping family.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

- 26 individual and 3 team competitions were on the women's season calendar. Poland, Norway, Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Japan, Romania and Finland were the host countries for the Women's World Cup 2022/23.
- Silje Opseth, Eva Pinkelnig, Katharina Althaus, Anna Odile Stroem, Alexandria Loutitt, Yuki Ito, Chiara Kreuzer

and Ema Klinec were the 8 athletes from 6 nations who won one or more World Cups during the season.

- The overall World Cup went to Eva Pinkelnig and the team from Austria.
- The 34-year-old Austrian, who only started ski jumping at the age of 24, crowned an outstanding season by winning the overall World Cup.



EMA KLINEC (SLO)



YUKI ITO (JPN)

EVA PINKELNIG (AUT)



Thanks to her consistency and strength - especially on the normal hills - Pinkelnig collected 1662 points, which meant that she was already the overall World Cup winner two competitions before the end of the season.

Pinkelnig stood on the podium 18 times last winter: Six World Cup victories, six second and six third places were achieved by the Vorarlberg athlete in a total of 26 individual World Cups, a very strong balance.

Katharina Althaus from Germany came second with 1497 points, Ema Klinec from Slovenia was third with 1281 points.

The Nations Cup was won - led by Eva Pinkelnig - by the Austrians with 4154 points ahead of the teams from Germany (3904 points) and Norway (3720 points).

SEASON HIGHLIGHT: WOMEN'S SKI FLYING FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER

18 March 2023 is a historic day for women's ski jumping. After patiently waiting, the dream of flying finally came true for the women ski jumpers.

Already the training on Saturday was broadcast live by some TV stations, the competition on Sunday, in which then the 15 best placed in the RAW AIR overall

ranking were entitled to start, became an outstanding triumph.

The women impressively demonstrated their flying skills, at the end of the day the ski flying world record of Slovenia's Ema Klinec was 226 metres.

EMOTIONS AND FAIR PLAY

Yuki Ito and her historic start in ski flying. The WOMEN RAW AIR is a competition series consisting of the four World Cup jumps in Oslo and Lillehammer (NOR). The four women's jumps took place from 11 - 15 March.

This year, the overall ranking of the RAW AIR also served as a selection for the starting field of the historic ski flying competition, which was limited to 15 women.

So only the first 15 of the RAW AIR overall ranking automatically received their eligibility for the ski flying event in Vikersund (NOR) two days later, no exceptions.

This ensured that only those athletes who jumped in the best shape at the right time could start at the ski flying event.

Among the best 15 was undoubtedly Japan's Yuki Ito. However, Ito suffered a fateful mishap in the last of the four competitions. Due to a false start, Ito was disqualified and thus slipped from 5th to 20th place in the RAW Air overall ranking - no eligibility for the historic ski

Winners at the end of this day were all ski jumpers, without exception, absolutely impressive the flight show of the women from Monsterbakken in Vikersund (NOR).

flying event - a tearful sports drama took its course.

On the initiative of all the coaches, however, the International Ski Federation, with the agreement of all the teams and athletes, found a special arrangement overnight so that Ito could take part in the ski flying after all.

Ito was overwhelmed, infinitely grateful, and justified the trust with third place in the competition on Sunday - great.



WORLD CUP MEN

- 33 individual and 7 team competitions were on the long season calendar for the men.
- With Poland, Finland, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Japan, USA, Romania, Norway and Slovenia, the men were guests in 10 nations with the World Cup.
- A total of seven athletes managed one or more World Cup victories: Halvor Egner Granerud, Dawid Kubacki, Stefan Kraft, Anze Lanisek, Ryoyu Kobayashi, Andreas Wellinger and Timi Zajc celebrated victories.



Donat Zniszczoł (POL)

OVERALL WORLD CUP GOES TO HALVOR EGNER GRANERUD AND THE TEAM FROM AUSTRIA

From the very first competition of the season, Norway's Halvor Egnér Granerud and Poland's Dawid Kubacki fought a thrilling duel for the lead in the overall World Cup, with the strong Slovenian Anže Lanisek also in the fight for the lead at the beginning of the season. Kubacki was in the lead for a long time until Granerud was able to take over the lead with his two victories in ski flying in Bad Mitterndorf (AUT).

Granerud did not give up the lead after that and won the overall World Cup with 2128 points clearly ahead of Stefan Kraft

from Austria and Anže Lanisek from Slovenia. For Granerud it was already the second overall World Cup victory after his success in the 2020/21 season. Granerud also won the Four Hills Tournament as the outstanding athlete of the winter and - as the first Norwegian - also the RAW AIR.

The Austrian team won the Nations Cup with 7093 points ahead of Norway (5631 points) and Slovenia (5573 points).

HIGHLIGHTS: HYBRID IN WISLA AND BACK IN THE USA

The winter began with a novelty that would have been unthinkable just a few years ago. Because some matches of the Football World Cup would have taken place at the same time as the traditional World Cup opener of the ski jumpers, the season opener was moved forward by two weeks. The organisers in Wisla (POL) and the athletes themselves demonstrated that this was possible without any problems with two top-class competitions at the start of the season, unimpressed by the mild autumn temperatures. Due to the fact that the inrun consists of an ice track, as usual in winter, but the take-off slope is not covered with snow but with plastic mats, such competitions are possible practically independent of the snow conditions and

the temperatures. The same mats have already been used for many years in the Grand Prix competitions (and of course also in training). The so-called Hybrid World Cup was born.

After a long break, the Ski Jumping World Cup returned to the USA. 2004 was the last time a Ski Jumping World Cup was held in Park City, so after 19 years the return of the ski jumpers. The World Cup took place in Lake Placid, excellent conditions and a committed and strong OC made the three competitions in Lake Placid a real highlight of the winter. Everyone involved praised the event as a complete success and Lake Placid is again on the FIS calendar for the coming season with three competitions.



SKI JUMPING FAMILY - EMOTIONS AND FAIR PLAY: DAWID KUBACKI AND THE PRIORITIES OF LIFE

Poland's Dawid Kubacki was one of the outstanding athletes of the past season. Kubacki led the overall World Cup standings for a long time and then had a neck-and-neck race with Halvor Egner Granerud. The season was decided the moment Kubacki left Vikersund before the second competition to take care of his wife Marta, who was seriously ill at home. Kubacki subsequently slipped from second to fourth place in the overall World Cup standings and received countless get-well greetings from his colleagues. The nicest of all was from the Slovenian Anze



Anze Lanisek (SLO) with Kubacki's cardboard figure

Lanisek, who took a cardboard figure of Kubacki onto the podium at the award ceremony for the overall World Cup.



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POLSKA

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PLANICA

PLANICA
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WHEN A
KING
LEFT

AND

A QUEEN
TRIUMPHED

BY SOPHIE HARGESHEIMER



Johannes Lamparter (AUT)

After the difficult years during the Covid-19 pandemic, the competitions of the 2022/23 season took place again for

NEW THIS SEASON

For the first time the women were part of the season highlight in Seefeld this year. With two Individual Gundersen competitions, the women competed alongside their male colleagues for the first time in the legendary TRIPLE and convinced organizers and fans with their performances.

In the coming season, three competitions and thus their own TRIPLE should take place for the women.

Another first was the women's season finale in Oslo. The female athletes ended their season at the birthplace of Nordic winter sports with a Ski Jumping competition on Midtstubakken and a subsequent

BIGGEST WINNERS

On the women's side, Gyda Westvold Hansen, the unbeatable queen of Nordic Combined, delivered the perfect season and triumphed once again. With 10 victories in 10 competitions, she collected a full 1000 points and defended her overall World Cup title. Hansen also won the Best Jumper ranking, while Ida Marie Haugen scooped the Best Skier Trophy.

Among the men, Johannes Lamparter, who came second in the Overall World

the first time without travel restrictions and testing protocols.

cross-country in the Holmenkollen stadium. With her day victory, Gyda Westvold Hansen was the first woman to also receive the coveted "King's Cup" from King Harald of Norway.

The German Trophy for the Nordic Combined men was held for the first time this winter. After six individual competitions in three venues (Klingenthal, Oberstdorf and Schonach), overall winner Johannes Lamparter was presented with the first German Trophy in history.

In the coming year, the special classification, which also includes additional prize money, will also be held for women.

Cup last year, won the crystal globe with seven individual victories.

Top favorite and overall winner 2021/22 Jarl Magnus Riiber was held up by a persistent infection at the beginning of the year and missed several competitions, leaving him with no chance of defending his title.

The Best Jumper Trophy went to Ryota Yamamoto, while Jens Luraas Oftedal was crowned Best Skier.

Gyda Westvold Hansen (NOR)



Ida Marie Hagen (NOR)



Julian Schmid (GER)



Ryota Yamamoto (JPN)



Jens Luraas Oftebro (NOR)

BEST NEWCOMERS

With her first World Cup podium in Lillehammer (NOR), 16-year-old Nathalie Armbruster (GER) kicked off her first World Cup season in which she made the podium a total of seven times.

Her season was crowned by two silver medals at the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Planica (SLO) and the second place in the overall World Cup ranking.

Joanna Kil (POL) competed in her first World Cup event in Ramsau and won

the bronze medal at the Universiade in Lake Placid (USA). The 22-year-old also placed third in the overall Continental Cup ranking.

On the men's side, Julian Schmid (GER) convinced with his maiden World Cup victory in Ruka (FIN), taking over the yellow bib for the first time. While Iacopo Bortolas (ITA) secured the Junior World Ski Championship title in Whistler (CAN).

GREATEST MOMENT

Since his first World Cup start on January 13, 2007 in Lago di Tesero (ITA), Eric Frenzel (GER) has been a staple amongst the FIS Nordic Combined World Cup.

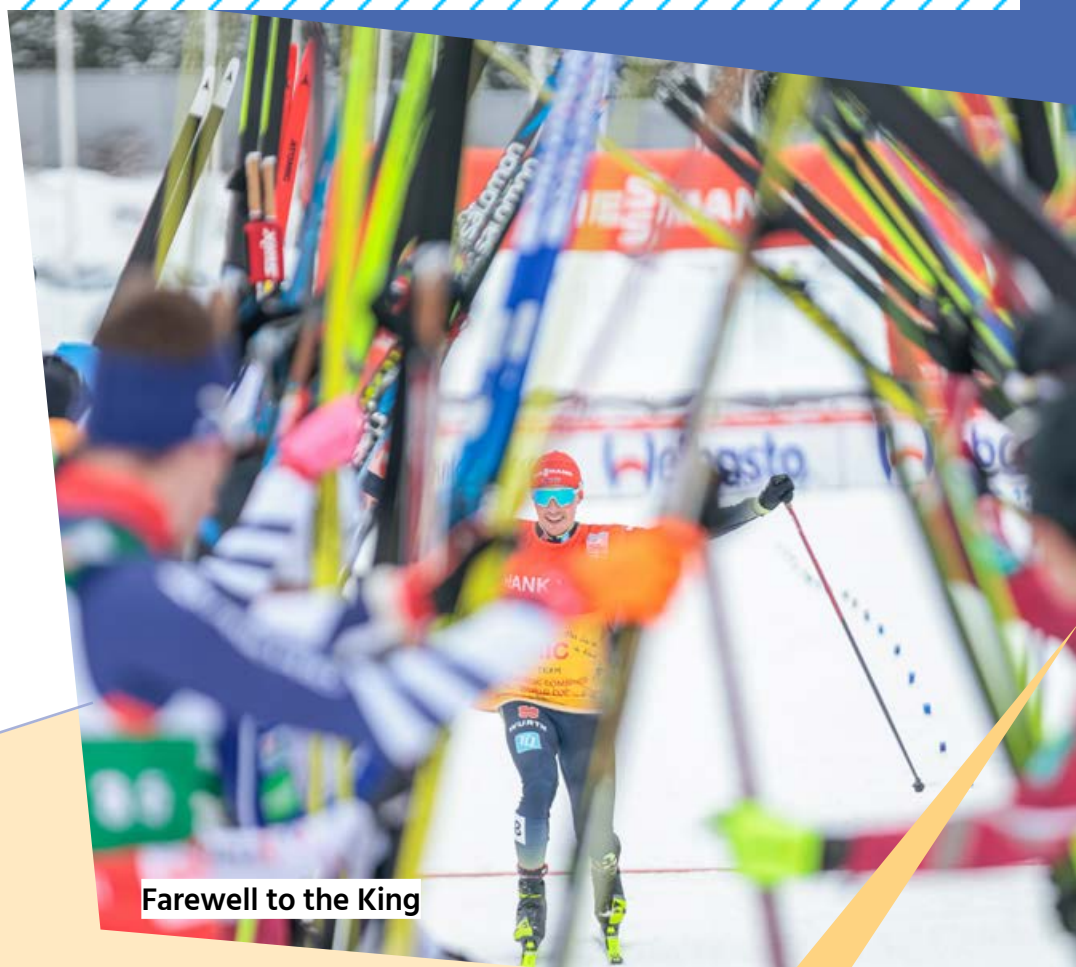
43 World Cup victories, 83 World Cup podiums, 7 World Ski Championship titles and 7 Olympic medals later, the King of Nordic Combined said goodbye on March 26, 2023.

Frenzel, who became the most successful Nordic World Ski Championship athlete of all time in Planica (SLO) with 18 medals, ran his last race in Lahti (FIN) and was warmly welcomed by fans and competitors in the stadium.

He crossed the finish line for the last time through a trellis of companions and

competitors, who had all looked up to and learned from him more than once in the course of their careers. An emotional moment, full of respect for all Frenzel had achieved, that caused goosebumps in everyone who was allowed to be a witness and proved how great the influence of the exceptional athlete really was.

Right in the middle stood a radiant, emotionally shaken Eric Frenzel, without whom Nordic Combined wouldn't be what it is now. An era came to an end that day and there is just one thing left to say: Thank you, Eric. For everything.



Farewell to the King

RETIREMENTS

Eric Frenzel (GER)
Jasper Good (USA)
Philipp Orther (AUT)

AUDI FIS **SKI**

WORLD CUP 2022/23

BY GIULIA CANDIAGO

A RECORD- BREAKING SEASON

The season of records there is no other way to define the last alpine skiing season. Records that were thought to be unbeatable but, once again, records are made to be broken, and Mikaela Shiffrin (USA) and Marco Odermatt (SUI) proved it.



SKIING LEGENDS

The 2023 Audi FIS Ski World Cup season was exceptional by any metric. Packed with thrilling races, dramatic finishes and dominant performances, two athletes stood out most of all: American's Mikaela Shiffrin, who broke all records and wrote another piece of skiing history, and Switzerland's Marco Odermatt broke the men's points record for a single World Cup season.

Let's start with the one that will forever mark the history of alpine skiing. On 11 March 2023, at the age of 27, Mikaela Shiffrin became the most successful Alpine World Cup skier ever. 87 World Cup victories from 246 starts in precisely 12 years. That meant she had won more than one in every three World Cup races she had started – even the great Ingemar Stenmark could not keep up those numbers.

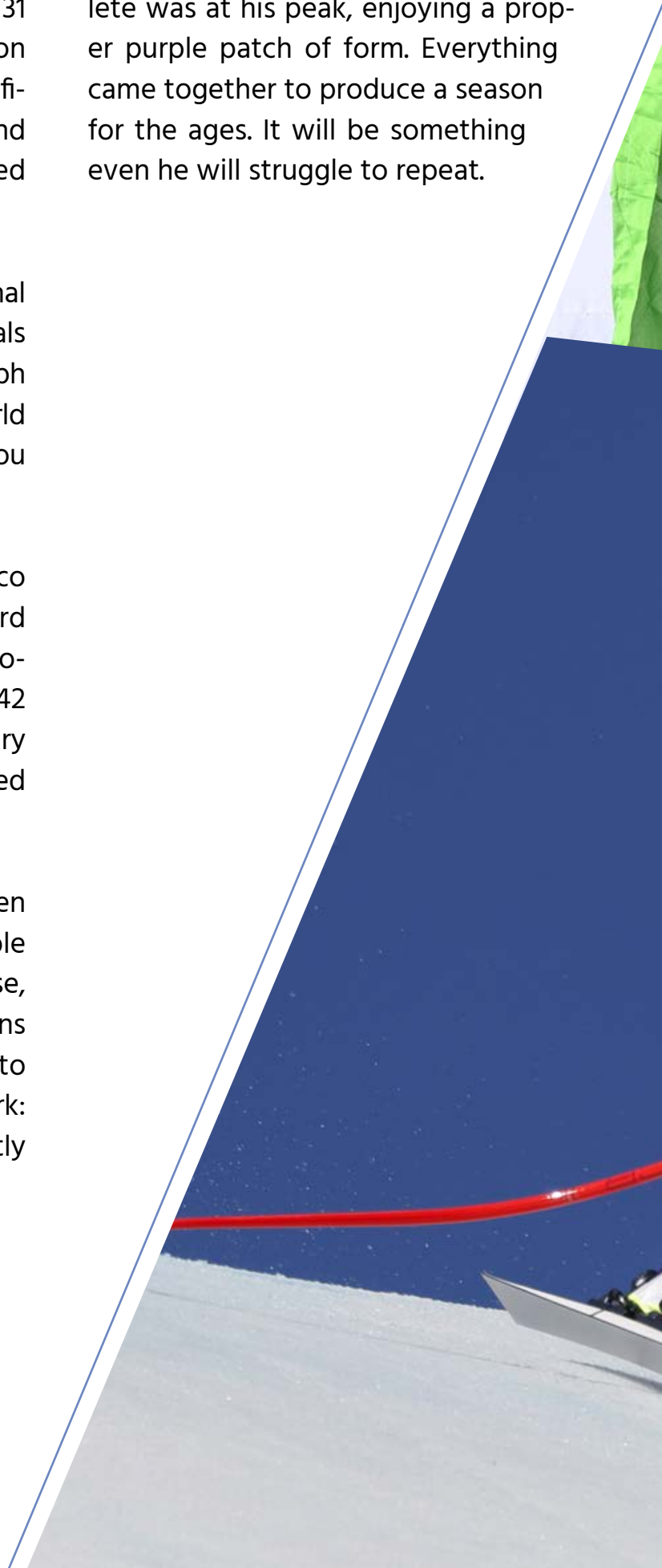
A super-G win – from one of just five starts in the discipline – took her World Cup season tally to 14 victories from 31 starts. Only Shiffrin herself has ever won more times in a single campaign. Her final score of 2,206 points stands behind only Tina Maze’s miracle of 2,414 garnered from 35 starts in 2013.

It is tempting to go on and on Shiffrin’s final win of the season, in the GS at the Finals in Soldeu, was her 21st World Cup triumph in the discipline and took her to 138 World Cup podiums – both are records. But you have to stop somewhere.

The second athlete, Switzerland’s Marco Odermatt, broke the men’s points record for a single World Cup season with 22 podiums, winning 13 times for a total of 2,042 points, placing him above the legendary Hermann Maier of Austria, who gathered 2,000 points in the 1999/2000 season.

How has he done it? Versatility has been key. Odermatt is at his most comfortable on a fast, icy, straight giant slalom course, so rival coaches would try to make runs that are as slow and twisty as possible to try to catch him out. But it didn’t work: Odi’s technique has held up perfectly throughout.

Mentally bulletproof and somehow fighting off the season-long fatigue, this athlete was at his peak, enjoying a proper purple patch of form. Everything came together to produce a season for the ages. It will be something even he will struggle to repeat.





THE KINGS OF DOWNHILL SKIING

Shiffrin and Odermatt are not the only Titans in skiing right now. Sofia Goggia (ITA) continued to push her claim to be one of the greatest downhillers of all time, together with Aleksander Aamodt Kilde (NOR).

Sofia Goggia (ITA) took on a World Cup downhill nine times, emerged victorious five times, finished second three times and crashed once.

One of those second places and one win came during 24 gasp-inducing hours in St Moritz. First, Goggia broke the hand during the opening Swiss downhill and still managed to grab the runners-up spot. Then, after a swift operation, she returned the next day bandaged and bloodied to jump up a step on the podium.

It all meant three downhill crystal globes in a row for Goggia, although Slovenia's 2017 and 2019 downhill world champion Ilka Stuhec showed a brilliant return to form, winning twice to finish behind Goggia and perhaps signal a sustained challenge in 2024. Aleksander Aamodt Kilde (NOR) remained the No.1-ranked man in skiing's fastest discipline.

Kilde produced the best season of his career: 13 podiums and eight World Cup wins, surpassing his record of nine podiums and seven wins from the term before. The Norwegian speed king is im-

proving with age, evolving into a heady mixture of raw speed, gutsy instinct and precise calculations of how to take risks and ski at the very limit in every race. Braathen puts name on the map and Gut-Behrami pips to super-G glory.

The breakthrough name of the year was Braathen: a Norwegian skier with a Brazilian mum and brimming with verve and style on the slalom slopes.

The Norwegian athlete known as 'Pinheiro' (pine tree) found the consistency to win the globe. Strong, fearless, and always skiing on edge, he has been a breath of fresh air on the World Cup circuit. With his best years ahead of him, it's thrilling to think what this young Viking can still achieve.

Lara Gut-Behrami stamped her status as one of the very best super-G skiers of all time as she produced a breathtaking final run in Soldeu to grab her fourth season-long Crystal Globe title.

With the top five skiers in the standings separated by just 44 points heading into the deciding race, this was billed as one of the highlights of the Audi FIS World Cup Finals. Lara Gut -Behrami did not disappoint and was no surprise that one of the greatest discipline practitioners in history, emerged from the pack.

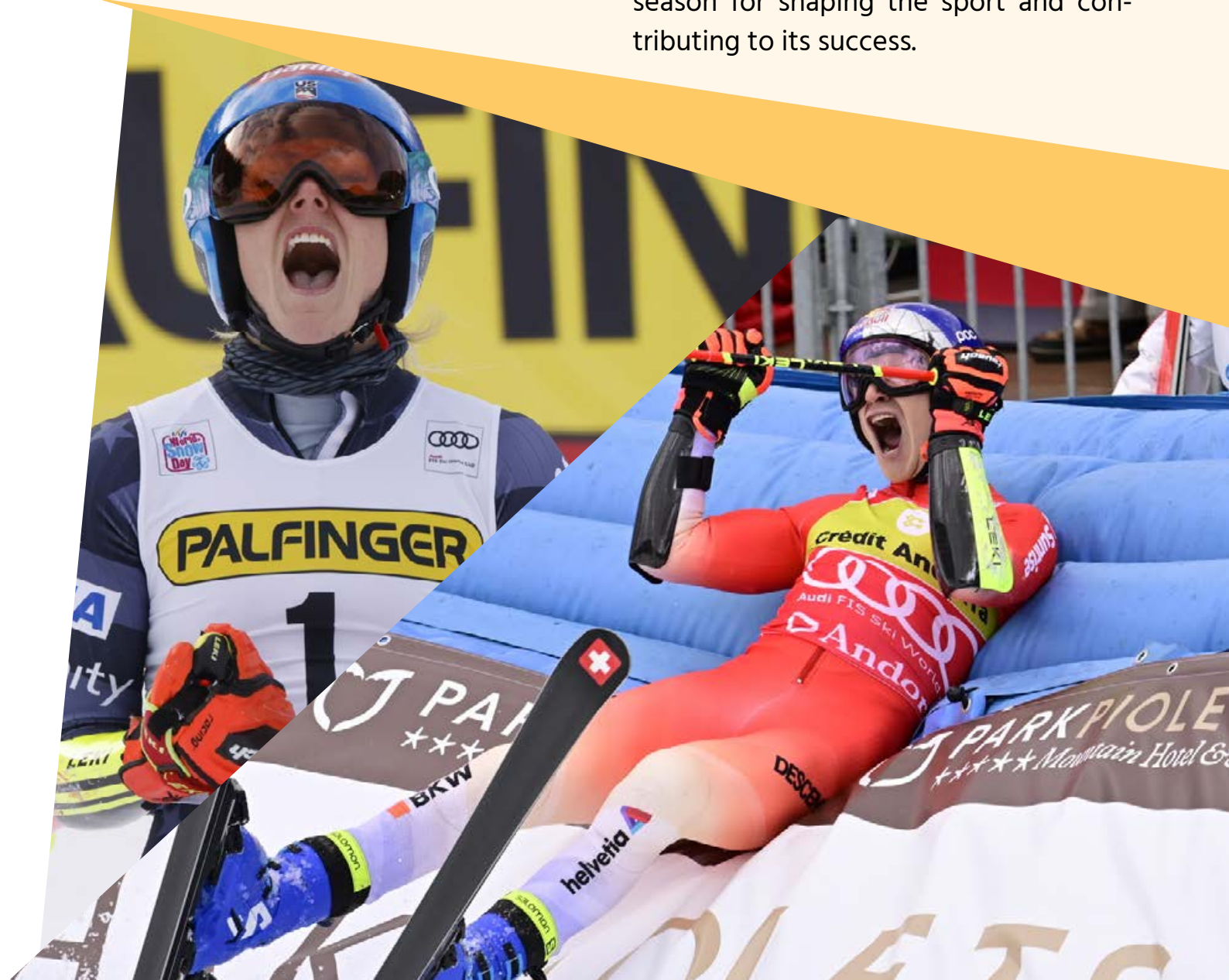
GOODBYE CHAMPIONS

What does retirement from ski sport really mean? When is the right time to stop the career? What will happen in the future? Will you be happy? A thousand questions arise when it's time to close a crucial chapter in an athlete's life.

Everyone experiences it differently, announces it at a different time and projects themselves into their new life differently and like every year, several skiers have decided to end their careers.

After two decades on the World Cup circuit, the French downhiller Johan Clarey opened the starting gate for the last time during the finals in Andorra as Tessa Worley, Travis Ganong, Nicole Schmidhofer and Coralie Frasse-Sombet. Throughout the winter, some other athletes decided to end their careers, such as Beat Feuz, Matthias Mayer, Steven Nyman, Marie-Michèle Gagnon, Nastasia Noens, Matteo Marsaglia, Mauro Caviezel and Tina Robnik.

Thank you to all the retired athletes this season for shaping the sport and contributing to its success.



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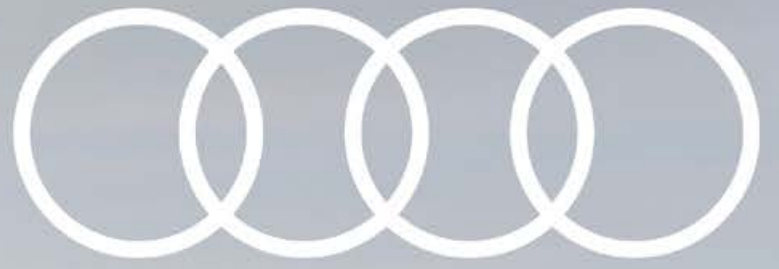
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*Power consumption (combined) in kWh/100 km: 22.1–19.8 | CO₂ emissions (combined) in g/km: 0. Consumption and emission figures for this vehicle are only available according to WLTP and not according to NEDC.

**The vehicle shown on the right is a concept vehicle that is not available as a production vehicle.



FIS
FREESTYLE AND
FREESKI
WORLD CUP 2022/23



BY MATEUSZ KIELPINSKI



2022/23 FIS FREESKI SEASON RECAP

Starting off in front a massive festival crowd at the Big Air Chur and wrapping up five months later on the storied slopes of Silvaplana, the 2022/23 FIS Freeski season saw 11 World Cup competitions take place, including six slopestyle, three halfpipe and two big air events.

With Freeski slopestyle making its debut at the Laax Open in 2022/23, the first successful slopestyle at one of the world's OG freestyle venues in Tignes, and visits to always awesome classics like Stubai, Calgary and Mammoth Mountain, this past season's World Cup tour saw highlights from beginning to end of the calendar.

It was a huge season for the Norwegians, with Johanne Killi and Birk Ruud both

making a bit of history for themselves on their way to each earning slopestyle and Freeski overall crystal globes in the process. Killi set new benchmarks with the most slopestyle podiums and the most slopestyle points in one season for the women, while Ruud was nearly unstoppable, hitting the podium in every single FIS competition of the season and setting a new FIS Freeski World Cup record with 560 points in a single campaign.

While Killi and Ruud were the biggest stories of the season, there was of course so much more to what was an exceptional 2022/23 season, and we've collected all the key FIS Freeski facts and figures for you below...



Tess Ledeux (FRA)



Birk Ruud (NOR) and Johanne Killi (NOR)



Birk Irving (USA)

CRYSTAL GLOBE WINNERS - WOMEN

Johanne Killi (NOR) - slopestyle + overall

Rachael Karker (CAN) - halfpipe

CRYSTAL GLOBE WINNERS - MEN

Birk Ruud (NOR) - slopestyle + overall

Birk Irving (USA) - halfpipe

FREESKI NATIONS CUP WINNER

Canada Freeski Team

THE SEASON

World Cup competitions (men + women): 22

World Championships competitions (men + women): 6

Host venues: 9

Host nations: 6

Total number of FIS Freeski World Cup competitors earning at least 1 World Cup point in 2022/23: 174 (59 women, 115 men)

Largest crowd: Big Air Chur - ~12,000

STANDOUT INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES

BIRK RUUD (NOR)

Total World Cup points: 560 - 360 slopestyle, 200 big air

World Cup + World Championships starts: 9

Podiums: 9 - five victories, two 3rd-place World Cup; Bakuriani 2023 slopestyle gold medal + big air bronze medal

Crystal globes: 2 - slopestyle, Freeski overall

Finals runs completed: 21

Qualification runs completed: 19

Training runs completed (estimate*): 306

Total time spent in the air at FIS competitions: 2412 seconds/40.2 minutes

*Based off calculation of 12 runs/day training days, plus 5 runs/day training qualification & finals days, plus qualification & finals runs

**Based off calculation of 9s/run in slopestyle x 229, 3s/run big air x 117

JOHANNE KILLI (NOR)

Total World Cup points: 440

World Cup + World Championships starts: 7

Podiums: 6 - three victories, one 2nd place, one 3rd place World Cup + Bakuriani 2023 slopestyle silver medal

Crystal globes: 2 - slopestyle, Freeski overall

RECORDS & MILESTONES

BIRK RUUD: Most FIS Freeski World Cup podiums in one season (7); most FIS Freeski World Cup points earned in one season (560); most consecutive FIS Freeski World Cup podiums (9, dating back to 2021/22 season); most total FIS Freeski World Cup wins (13); first back-to-back Freeski overall crystal globe winner

JOHANNE KILLI (NOR): most slopestyle World Cup podiums in a single season (5); most slopestyle World Cup points in a single season (440); second skier in World Cup history with three straight slopestyle wins in one season; most women's FIS Freeski World Cup podiums (19)

TESS LEDEUX (FRA): most women's FIS Freeski World Cup victories (11)

ANDRI RAGETTLI (SUI): most FIS Freeski World Cup podiums (27)

JESPER TJADER (SWE): Longest ever gap between World Cup wins - 9 years, 3 days (Silvaplana slopestyle WC 22/03/2014 to Silvaplana slopestyle WC 25/03/2023)

TROY PODMILSAK (USA): World's first landed forward triple cork 2160 (Bakuriani 2023 big air); youngest men's big air World Champion - 18 years, 6 months, 12 days

EILEEN GU (CHN): 10th World Cup victory - Calgary Snow Rodeo halfpipe; most total wins by any athlete at a single FIS Freeski venue - Calgary (6)

MATHILDE GREMAUD (SUI): 15th World Cup podium - 1st place Tignes Mountain Shaker slopestyle

SARAH HOEFFLIN (SUI): 15th World Cup podium & 40th World Cup start - 3rd place Silvaplana slopestyle

ALEX FERREIRA (USA): 10th World Cup podium - Calgary Snow Rodeo halfpipe

FIRST WORLD CUP WIN

Jon Sallinen (FIN) - Copper Mountain U.S. Grand Prix halfpipe (USA);

FIRST WORLD CUP PODIUMS

Sandra Eie (NOR) - Big Air Chur (SUI); Noah Porter-Maclennen (CAN) - Big Air Chur (SUI); Troy Podmilsak (USA) - Big Air Chur (SUI); Grace Henderson (USA) - Stubai slopestyle (AUT); Timothee Sivignon (FRA) - Copper Mountain VISA Big Air (USA); Sebastian Schjerve (NOR) - Copper Mountain VISA Big Air (USA); Olivia Asselin (CAN) - Copper Mountain VISA Big Air (USA); Amy Fraser (CAN) - Copper Mountain U.S. Grand Prix halfpipe (USA); Jon Sallinen (FIN) - Copper Mountain U.S. Grand Prix halfpipe (USA); Ruby Star Andrews (NZL) - Mammoth Mountain U.S. Grand Prix slopestyle (USA)



FIS FREESTYLE MOGULS & AERIALS SEASON RECAP

SEASON OVERVIEW

The 2022/23 moguls World Cup campaign saw 12 competition across moguls and dual moguls events, while the aeri-als World Cup tour consisted of six indi-

vidual events, with those competitions spread across nine different venues in Europe, North America and Asia.

BIGGEST WINNERS

Among all moguls & aeri-als champions this season, it's Perrine Laffont and Mikael Kingsbury who we can consider the biggest winners of this past World Cup campaign.

With back-to-back wins in the final event of the season in Almaty, Laffont bagged her sixth straight win and her fourth at the World Cup in 2022/23, and with a total of 11 podiums in 12 competitions to go along with her two World Championships gold medal, Laffont capped off another season of excellence by winning

her career's eight and ninth World Cup titles.

On the men's side it was once again the peerless Mikael Kingsbury who took it all, claiming his career's 80th victory in the final competition of the season while also completing his second moguls hat trick - winning all three of the moguls, dual moguls and moguls overall crystal globes. For those one counting at home, that's now 24 career crystal globes for the King, putting him in first place for the most titles in FIS history.

MOGULS & AERIALS WINNERS

AERIALS

Danielle Scott (AUS) and Noe Roth (SUI)

MOGULS

Jakara Anthony (AUS) and Mikael Kingsbury (CAN)

DUAL MOGULS

Perrine Laffont (FRA) and Mikael Kingsbury (CAN)

OVERALL MOGULS

Perrine Laffont (FRA) and Mikael Kingsbury (CAN)



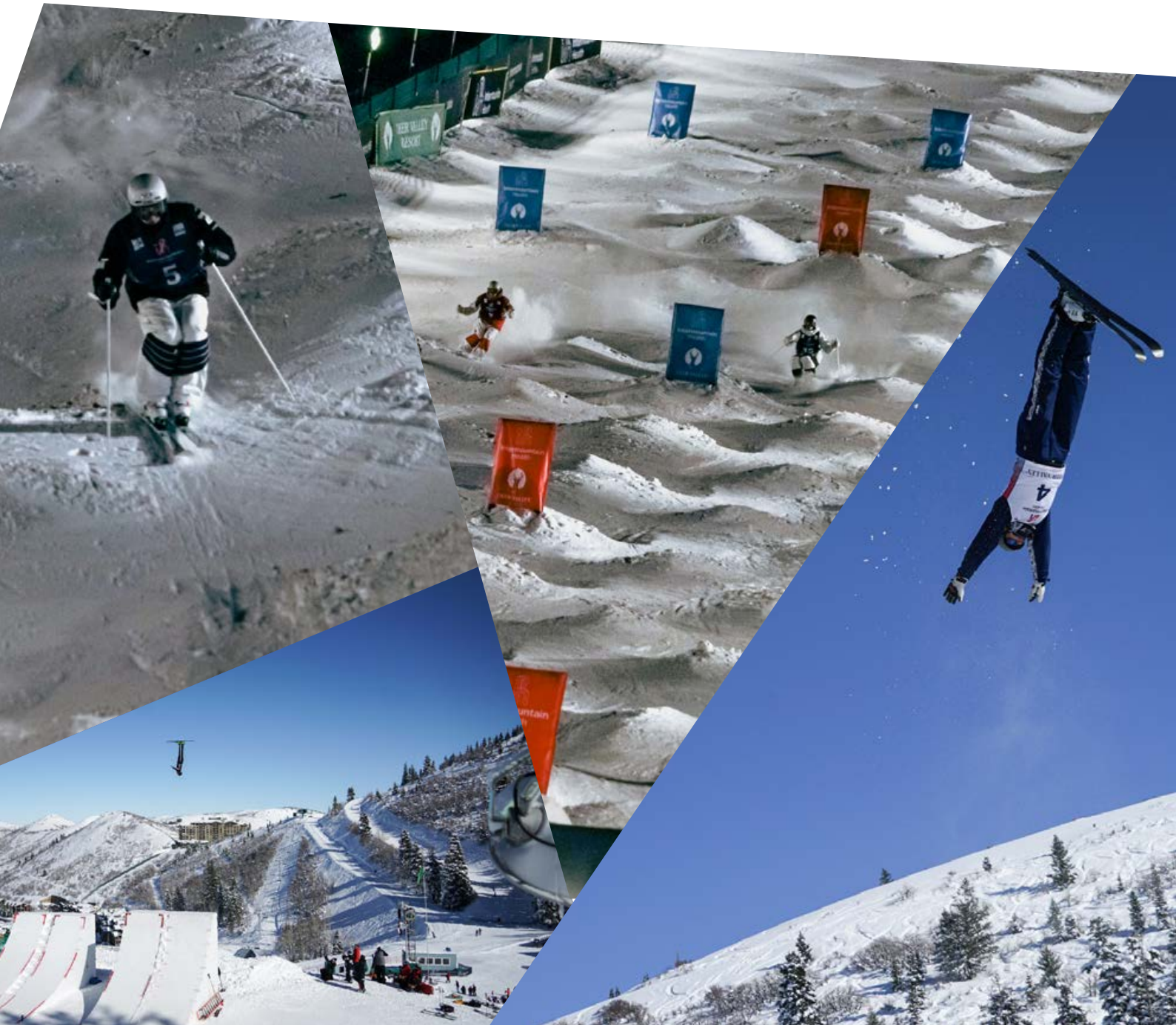
HONOURABLE MENTIONS

Staying with the World Cup winners of 2022/23 season, the first athlete that deserves a special mention this season is Jakara Anthony, who topped the women's single moguls ranking on the strength of her four victories and one second place finish.

Moving over to the aerials side of things it was Danielle Scott who kept the good times rolling for the Australians, as she managed to outpace the competition and finish the season in first place on the

final rankings. After ending up third overall in 2014/15 and then runner-up in both 2015/16 and 2016/17, the Aussie skier finally claimed her first crystal globe with a standout 2022/23 campaign.

In the men's competition it was Noe Roth who came through with a clutch performance at the final event of the season in Almaty to snatch the title from Dmytro Kotovskyi (UKR). With a runner-up result at the World Cup season finale in Almaty,



three more second places and one win throughout the 2022/23 season, Roth clinched the aerials crystal globe and his career's second World Cup title.

Obviously a special shoutout goes to the

BEST STORYLINE

With the 2022/23 season was once again full of remarkable moments, one of our favourite storylines came at Deer Valley's aerials competition. First it was Danielle Scott, who reclaimed the World Cup leader's yellow bib with her personal best score of 115.20 points for her extraordinary Lay-Full-Full.

Scott's performance was followed just minutes later by Dmytro Kotvskyi send-

ing the crowd into a frenzy with what has to be one of the best jumps of history of aerials skiing. In the super final Kotovskiyi threw down a near-perfect Full-triple Full-Full - aka "the Hurricane" - for which he claimed a mind-blowing score of 138.32 points and a well-deserved career's first World Cup victory. Watching it all live under the lights and with a huge and enthusiastic crowd of Deer Valley was truly a remarkable experience.





BEST NEWCOMERS

In the world of moguls and aerials youth was on a rise yet for another season with a handful of young and promising athletes trying to prove that the future of freestyle skiing is bright. Starting with aerials it's worth mentioning are efforts from the Chinese duo of Chen Meiting and Chen Shuo, who won the respective women's and men's Rookie of the Year awards, with their highlight results in 2022/23 being the career's first World Cup podium in Deer Valley for Shuo and the Junior World Championships gold medal for Meiting.

Also the moguls tours saw some impressive showings from the young guns with the likes of Rookies of the Year Alli Macuga of the USA and Sweden's Filip Gravenfors leading the way. In her first full year on tour Macuga made 10 finals appearances while taking two JWSC golds in Chiesa in Valmalenco. Gravenfors meanwhile scored two top-3 World Cup finishes, wrapped up the dual moguls tour in impressive fourth place overall, and capped off his season with two Junior World Championships gold medals.

2022/23 FIS SKI CROSS SEASON RECAP

SEASON OVERVIEW

From the first event of the season in Val Thorens in early December until the season finals in Craigleith in late March, the 2022/23 FIS Ski Cross World Cup saw a total 12 competitions taking place at seven

different locations in Europe and North America and was filled with many outstanding performances and a couple of highlights we summarised for you below.

BIGGEST WINNERS

The biggest winners in the 2022/23 FIS Ski Cross World Cup season are Reece Howden and Sandra Naeslund.

World Cup victories in ski cross with 37 and with her fourth consecutive crystal globe, she now sits only behind Ophelie David (7) in second place for most ski cross World Cup titles.

Starting on the women's side of things Naeslund continued the most remarkable run in the history of ski cross, winning the first nine races of the season while setting a couple of historic milestones along the way. First she moved atop the all-time ranking for most consecutive World Cup victories in skiing, in any discipline, ending up with 17 straight wins to best the mark set in 1980 by Swedish alpine legend Ingemar Stenmark, who had 15. Naeslund also holds the record for most

On the men's side Howden had an explosive campaign, snagging 3 victories and a total of seven World Cup podiums while missing top-10 only once in 2022/23. Howden put an exclamation mark on his season in front of the home crowd at the final event of the season, winning first of back-to-back races in Craigleith for clutch 100 points to secure his career's second World Cup title.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

With Naeslund and Howden taking season's World Cup crystal globes we think it's worthwhile to mention Fanny Smith and Marielle Thompson as well as David Mobaerg and Florian Wilmsmann, who

put up the fight throughout the entire 2022/23 and finished the season in the overall top-3, with each of the aforementioned athletes also snagging Bakuriani 2023 World Championship medals.

BEST STORYLINE

Our favourite moment of the 2022/23 FIS Ski Cross World Cup season came at the final race of the season in Craigleith, where

one of the best to ever do it, Brady Leman of Canada, concluded the 14th and final year of his highly successful World Cup career



Craigleigh (CAN)



Arosa (SUI)

Nations Cup Winner Canada



Innichen/San Candido (ITA)

Reiteralalm (AUT)



in fairytale fashion, going out in a blaze of glory and scoring an emotional win in his very last ski cross World Cup race before retirement. On top of that, Canada capped off the season by winning the ski cross Nations Cup, and with all their families, friends and Alpine Canada staff on site to

celebrate what was not only an extraordinary weekend, but a highly fruitful season for the Canadian ski cross community, the 2022/23 ski cross World Cup season ended in truly epic, and heartwarming, fashion.

BEST NEWCOMERS

The awards for the best rookies on tour in 2022/23 went to Austria's Sonja Gigler and Mathias Graf, who showcased some impressive skiing throughout the season and proved that they have all the ingredients to become top ski cross ath-

letes in the near future. In 2022/23 Gigler snagged two World Cup podiums, while Graf stepped things up a notch to take two World Cup victories and a strong seventh place in the overall ski cross ranking.

SX SEASON AWARDS

WOMEN'S CRYSTAL GLOBE

Sandra Naeslund (SWE)

MEN'S CRYSTAL GLOBE

Reece Howden (CAN)

ROOKIES OF THE YEAR

Sonja Gigler (AUT) and Mathias Graf (AUT)

NATIONS CUP

Canada



Wo Begeisterung zu Partnerschaft wird

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FIS

SNOWBOARD

WORLD CUP 2022/23

BY CHAD BUCHHOLZ



Tiarn Collins (NZL)



2022/23 FIS SNOWBOARD PARK & PIPE SEASON RECAP

The 2022/23 World Cup season saw 12 competitions go down on the Park & Pipe side of things - including four events each in big air, slopestyle and halfpipe - with each and every stop on this past season's tour offering up something unique and exciting for the world's finest freestyle snowboarders.

From the festival vibes of Chur to the spring-y sun of Silvaplana, a brand new big air stadium stop in Edmonton (CAN), the return of big air to Copper Mountain (USA), a cancelled night halfpipe finals in Laax turning into a foggy jam session that resulted in some of the season's most epic images, and so many other moments along the way, the 2022/23 season was a remarkable ride.

And then of course there were the snowboarders - and the snowboarding - with Valentino Guseli's history-making, triple threat season leading the way, Julia Marino and Mitsuki Ono both knocking down three straight victory streaks, Dusty Henricksen showing that high scores and high style can most certainly mix, and the Japan Snowboard Team asserting themselves as the world's best with four individual crystal globes and the Nations Cup trophy at season's end.

Read on for all the most important facts and figures from the 2022/23 FIS Snowboard Park & Pipe World Cup season...

CRYSTAL GLOBE WINNERS - WOMEN

Mitsuki Ono (JPN) - halfpipe + overall

Julia Marino (USA) - slopestyle

Reira Iwabuchi (JPN) - big air

CRYSTAL GLOBE WINNERS - MEN

Valentino Guseli (AUS) - big air + overall

Dusty Henricksen (USA) - slopestyle

Ruka Hirano (JPN) - halfpipe

PARK & PIPE NATIONS CUP WINNER

Japan Snowboard Team

THE SEASON

World Cup competitions (men + women): 24

World Cup competitions shortened due to weather (qualification results = final results): 2

World Championships competitions (men + women): 6

STANDOUT INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES

VALENTINO GUSELI (AUS)

Total World Cup points: 625 - 246 halfpipe, 214 big air, 165 slopestyle

World Cup + World Championships starts: 13

Top 10s: 11

Podiums: 5 - 1 big air, 1 slopestyle, 3 halfpipe (2 World Cup + Bakuriani 2023 silver)

Finals runs completed: 20

Qualification runs completed: 28

Training runs completed (estimate*): 422

Total time spent in the air at FIS competitions (estimate**): 3,282 seconds/54.7 minutes

*Based off calculation of 12 runs/day training [including WSCs slopestyle before he withdrew due to injury], plus 5 runs/day qualification and finals

**Based off calculation of 9s/run in halfpipe & slopestyle x 312, 3s/run big air x 158

MITSUKE ONO (JPN)

Total World Cup points: 360 (halfpipe)

World Cup + World Championships starts: 5

World Cup + World Championships podiums: 5 (three wins + 3rd place World Cup, Bakuriani 2023 bronze medal)

Highest score: 90.75

RECORDS & MILESTONES

VALENTINO GUSELI (AUS): Most FIS Snowboard Park & Pipe starts in one season (13); first rider to podium in all three of big air, slopestyle & halfpipe World Cup events in one season; first rider to finish top-3 on all four FIS Snowboard Park & Pipe World Cup season rankings (big air, halfpipe, slopestyle and overall); most FIS Snowboard Park & Pipe points earned in one season (625 points*); first Australian to win big air crystal globe

MIA BROOKES (GBR): Youngest ever FIS World Champion - 16 years, 1 month, 8 days (Bakuriani 2023 slopestyle); women's first ever flatspin 1260 in competition (Kreischberg big air World Cup finals); women's first ever 1440 in competition (Bakuriani 2023 World Championships slopestyle finals)

CHAEUN LEE (KOR): Youngest ever men's FIS Snowboard World Champion - 16 years, 10 months, 22 days - Bakuriani 2023 halfpipe



CAI XUETONG (CHN): 30th career World Cup podium - Mammoth Mountain U.S. Grand Prix (2nd place); most total podiums in FIS Snowboard Park & Pipe World Cup history

MITSUKI ONO (JPN): First woman to win 3 straight halfpipe World Cup competitions in 22 years; first Japanese woman to win halfpipe crystal globe since 2004/2005

TAIGA HASEGAWA, RYOMA KIMATA, KIRA KIMURA (JPN): First Japanese sweep of a World Cup big air podium (Kreischberg)

JULIA MARINO (USA): Second woman in World Cup history to win three-straight slopestyle competitions

QUERALT CASTELLET (ESP): 60th career World Cup start - 21 Jan 2023 Laax Open (4th place)

SEPPE SMITHS (BEL): 60th career World Cup start - 4 Feb 2023 Mammoth Man U.S. Grand Prix (14th place)

MARI FUKADA (JPN): Youngest ever big air World Cup winner - 15 years, 11 months, 2 days - Copper Mountain VISA Big Air (USA)

ANNA GASSER (AUT): Oldest ever big air World Cup winner - 31 years, 4 months, 29 days - Kreischberg big air (AUT); 25th career World Cup podium - Silvaplana slopestyle (3rd place)

*Adjusted for all previous FIS Snowboard point-scoring systems



FIRST WORLD CUP WINS: Jasmine Baird (CAN) - Edmonton Style Experience Big Air (CAN), Valentino Guseli (AUS) - Edmonton Style Experience Big Air (CAN); Mari Fukada (JPN) - Copper Mountain VISA Big Air (USA); Taiga Hasegawa (JPN) - Kreischberg big air (AUT)

FIRST WORLD CUP PODIUMS:

First World Cup podiums: Nick Puentner (SUI) - 3rd place, Big Air Chur (SUI); Evy Poppe (BEL) - 2nd place, Edmonton Style Experience Big Air (CAN); Kaishu Hirano (JPN) - Copper Mountain U.S. Grand Prix halfpipe (USA); Ian Matteoli (ITA) - 3rd place, Copper Mountain VISA Big Air (USA); Mari Fukada (JPN) - 1st place, Copper Mountain VISA Big Air (USA); Taiga Hasegawa (JPN) - 1st place, Kreischberg big air (AUT); Kira Kimura (JPN) - 3rd place, Kreischberg big air (AUT); Wu Shaotong (CHN) - 2nd place, Laax Open halfpipe (SUI); Mia Brookes (GBR) - 2nd place, Laax Open slopestyle (SUI); Chase Blackwell (USA) - 3rd place, Mammoth Mountain U.S. Grand Prix halfpipe (USA); Shuichiro Shigeno (JPN) - 3rd place, Calgary Snow Rodeo halfpipe (CAN); Berenice Wicki (SUI) - 3rd place, Calgary Snow Rodeo halfpipe (CAN); Cameron Spalding (CAN) - 3rd place, Calgary Snow Rodeo slopestyle (CAN)

FIS SNOWBOARD ALPINE SEASON RECAP

SEASON OVERVIEW

The 2022/23 FIS Snowboard Alpine World Cup season saw 14 competitions across the parallel giant slalom, parallel slalom, and parallel team events, visiting nine venues located in seven different countries. Four exciting months of head-to-head snowboard racing kicked

off in December with back-to-back competitions in Winterberg (GER), followed by the season-highlight Bakuriani 2023 World Championships in February, and with the 2022/23 campaign then coming to a close in Berchtesgaden (GER) at the end of March.

BIGGEST WINNERS

The biggest winners on tour this season were without a doubt the overall parallel champions Julie Zogg (SUI) and Fabian Obmann (GER).

On the women's side Zogg wrapped up

the season in top spot on the parallel slalom rankings for the fifth consecutive time, while also securing first place in the overall parallel standing with a huge effort in the final race of the season. Zogg racked up two victories and a total of five podi-

um finishes in 2022/23, while also claiming PSL World Championships gold in Bakuriani. Throw in her two crystal globes and it all adds up to a 2022/23 season that Zogg will remember for a long time.

It was a deeply dramatic conclusion of the 2022/23 season over on the men's side of the alpine snowboard World Cup season, with Fabian Obmann snapping up all the hardware that was up for grabs at the final PSL race in Berchtesgaden. There,

BEST STORYLINE

Among many memorable stories throughout this past World Cup campaign, including the afore-mentioned race for two crystal globes by Fabian Obmann, there is one that needs a special mention here. At the drama-filled final PGS race of the season in Rogla, 42-year-old Roland Fischnaller not only bagged the top spot but, more unexpectedly, the season's small globe by virtue of a series of results that saw him make up a 90-point deficit

Obmann shocked everyone (not least of all himself) by winning the season finale race to leap to the top of the PSL and parallel overall standings - a result that Obmann himself didn't know was possible at the day's start. With his clutch performance in Germany, Obmann was able to upset Maurizio Bormolini (ITA) in the race for crystal globes by the slightest of margins, besting the Italian by two points on the PSL rankings and and four points on the overall.

on the leader, Oskar Kwiatkowski (POL). In a must-win big final, against compatriot Mirko Felicetti, the veteran Fischnaller earned 100 points for the win and leaped up two places in the standings to take the 2022/23 PGS title at the last gasp, doing so while part of a 1-2-3 Italian sweep of the podium with Edwin Coratti placing third.

SNOWBOARD ALPINE WORLD CUP RESULTS

PARALLEL OVERALL WINNERS:

Julie Zogg (SUI) and Fabian Obmann (AUT)

PARALLEL GIANT SLALOM WINNERS

Ramona Theresia Hofmeister (GER) and Roland Fischnaller (ITA)

PARALLEL SLALOM WINNERS

Julie Zogg (SUI) and Fabian Obmann (AUT)

PARALLEL MIXED TEAM WINNERS

Daniela Ulbing and Andreas Prommegger (AUT)



HONOURABLE MENTIONS

Despite losing the final PGS World Cup title battle to both veterans Fischnaller and Prommegger, Kwiatkowski had one heck of a season, taking his career's first World Cup win in Scuol, then backing it up with another W in Blue Mountain and wearing the World Cup leader yellow bib until the final race of parallel giant tour in Rogla. He finished the season in third place in PGS, fifth overall and put the cherry on top of the cake at World Champs, where he stormed to Poland's

historic first gold medal in snowboarding - no doubt an outstanding performance for the 27-year-old.

Same goes with Maurizio Bormolini, who came in as a runner-up in both the PSL and overall rankings on the strength of his first two World Cup wins of the career in Bad Gastein and Bansko. Despite a bitter-sweet conclusion of the season for Bormolini, there is no doubt that the Italian rider recorded the most successful



campaign since he joined the World Cup back in 2014, giving plenty of hopes for the Italian fans looking into next Olympic cycle, where the home Olympic Winter Games will take place on the slopes of Livigno.

Then of course we have Romona Theresia Hofmeister, who despite a season plagued by a back injury, managed to win an extraordinary fourth consecutive globe in PGS, putting her in a sole first place in an all-time ranking.

Let's also not forget about Ester Ledec-

ka, who missed almost entire season suffering from an early-season injury and then delivered her trademark top-notch performance in the only two races she entered this season - finishing in first and second place.

Last but not least, the entire Austrian Snowboard Team deserves a shoutout here after dominating the 2022/23 Nations Cup for the second straight season, scoring four World Championships medals and taking the parallel team globe after strong showings of Daniela Ulbing and Andreas Prommegger.

2022/23 FIS SNOWBOARD CROSS SEASON RECAP

SEASON OVERVIEW

The 2022/23 FIS Snowboard Cross World Cup season saw nine races take place at six venues over the four months of the winter, beginning at a new venue in Les Deux Alpes (FRA) and wrapping up at another new venue in Mt. St. Anne (CAN), with classic stops at Cervinia (ITA), Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA) for night racing, Sier-

ra Nevada (ESP) and Veysonnaz (SUI) in between.

With the battles for both the women's and the men's crystal globes coming down to the final race of the season in Mt. St. Anne, there was certainly no shortage of drama in the 2022/23 FIS Snowboard Cross campaign.

SBX SEASON AWARDS

WOMEN'S CRYSTAL GLOBE

Charlotte Bankes (GBR)

MEN'S CRYSTAL GLOBE

Martin Nörl (GER)

ROOKIES OF THE YEAR

Lea Casta (FRA), Aidan Chollet (FRA)

NATIONS CUP

France

BIGGEST WINNERS

Coming out on top and claiming the crystal globe for the women for the second straight season was Great Britain's Charlotte Bankes who, despite putting together a record-setting six-straight wins through the middle of the 2022/23 campaign, needed one more strong performance at the season finale in Mt. St. Anne to defend her title.

While Bankes put together

a truly peerless season with her six victories and seven total podiums in nine starts, she was hounded every step of the way by France's Chloe Trespeuch, who landed on the podium in eight out of nine 2022/23 races, including one victory, four second place finishes, and three thirds.

At the end of the day, though, a fifth place finish at the final competition in Mt. St. Anne would be enough to give Bankes the globe,



Racing into the sunset in Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)



and now with 15 career victories, the 27-year-old has moved herself into fourth place on the women's all-time SBX World Cup wins rankings.

Meanwhile, with the 35 career podiums she had racked up by season's end, Trespeuch finished 2022/23 ranked fourth on the women's all-time SBX World Cup podiums list.

Over on the men's side of things it was just as tight at the top when the dust was all settled on the season, as just like the women's globe battle it all came down to the final competition of the campaign with Germany's Martin Nörl and Spain's Lucas Eguibar duking it out through the winter.

After Nörl faltered somewhat in the first of the Mt. St. Anne back-to-backs with a



seventh place finish, and Eguibar made up ground by landing on the podium in third, Nörl came back with a vengeance the next day to take the final win of the season and match Bankes in earning a second straight crystal globe.

BEST STORYLINE

This one has to go to battle between Bankes and Trespeuch, as rarely in SBX World Cup history have we seen the two athletes performing at such a consistently exceptional level, week in and week out. While Bankes record-setting six win streak received the most headlines, Tres-

HONOURABLE MENTION

This one goes to 20-year-old Australian ripper Josie Baff, who opened the season in Les Deux Alpes with her first career victory, and closed 2022/23 out with her second career victory at the season finale

BEST NEWCOMERS

The youth movement is looking strong for the Nations Cup-winning French team, as 17-year-old Lea Casta and 18-year-old Aidan Chollet were crowned the Rookies of the Year at season's end.

Casta had a start to her career that most riders will only dream of, storming to a third place finish at her very first World Cup on home soil in Les Deux Alpes. Casta would go on to log two more top-10s

Nörl would finish his 2022/23 campaign with three victories and five total podiums for 510 points, with Eguibar ending up 74 points back with 436 and left still searching for second career crystal globe title.

peuch's incredible eight podiums in nine races made for one of the most successful seasons in snowboard cross history, as well. In the end, Bankes would finish 2022/23 with 723 points - 73 points above Trespeuch and her final tally of 650.

in Mt. St. Anne. Throw in a Bakuriani 2023 silver medal along the way and you've got a truly remarkable season for the rider who is shaping up to be the next great SBX star in the coming seasons.

on the season and finish ranked 11th overall in her inaugural campaign. Chollet, meanwhile, finished the season ranked 25th overall, earning a top finish of 6th place at the second race of his World Cup career in Cortina d'Ampezzo, as well as a ninth place finish at the second of the Sierra Nevada back-to-backs.

TELEMARK

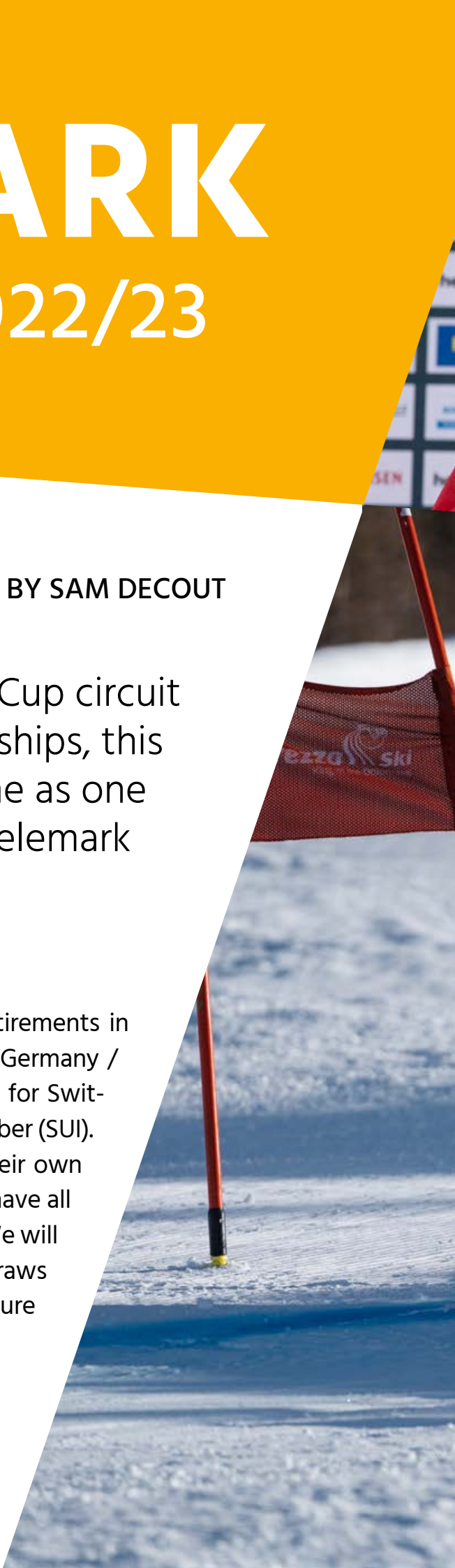
WORLD CUP 2022/23

BY SAM DECOUT

With both a tremendous World Cup circuit and emotional World Championships, this season will remain for a long time as one of the most thrilling chapter in telemark racing history.

First of all, this season was marked by several retirements in April and not the least: Frank and Reschmann for Germany / Dayer, Procureur, Wenger-Reymond, Zimmermann for Switzerland / coaches Olav Tangen (NOR) and Ruedi Weber (SUI). For these newly retired in their own way, with their own means and above all their own personalities, they have all left their marks on the Telemark skiing landscape. We will continue to perpetuate their heritage. Telemark draws its DNA from the past but always looks to the future with unforgettable memories for sure.

Jasmin Taylor (GBR) said: « The return of racing in Italy was particularly special last season. The





Distance Winner Kerttu Niskanen (FIN)

first World Cup was held in Carezza (plus FIS races in Bardonecchia) where both resorts had great snow, beautiful scenery and excellent organisation. We were also lucky to return to our more regular known resorts, who have a lot of experience now organising telemark World Cup events: Krvavec (Slovenia), Aal (Norway), Melchsee Frutt (Switzerland) and the next World Championship host; Les

Contamines (France). The World Cup Finals were held in Oberjoch, Germany, where a new world record was also hosted for "ringing a cow bell", there were over 2,000 cow bells ringing at the bottom of the slope! The World Championships were held in Murren, Switzerland. We had great conditions and all finished the season in style. A huge thank you to everyone making this happen! »

WORLD CUP: WITHOUT ANY CHALLENGERS AND PERSONAL CHALLENGES A GLOBE IS NOT A GLOBE

All the athletes on the World Cup circuit make the Globe dream alive and we can congratulate all of them for that.

In Telemark, one of the most important rule may be this one: anything can happen during a turn even if you feel in to-

tal control. At the start in Oberjoch (GER) for the WC finals all Globes were up for grabs, notably between Amélie Wenger Reymond (SUI) and Martina Wyss (SUI) or between Bastien Dayer (SUI) and Elie Nabot (FRA).



WOMEN'S SPRINT AND CLASSIC GLOBES

After 16 years of WC racing, 227 WC starts, 216 WC podiums, 164 WC victories and 47 Globes wins, Amélie Wenger-Reymond (SUI) managed to win the last Sprint Globe of her career while facing with new personal challenges and with Martina Wyss (SUI) performing all along the races for the overall Globe win.

Amélie Wenger-Reymond said: "It was such a difficult season with the serious illness of my youngest daughter which occurred during the races in Melchsee Frutt. I wanted to show myself and my daughters that I should not give up and fight until the end, and it worked for the

Sprint Globe. I can only be happy about that and accept fate for the rest."

Amélie Wenger-Reymond can be proud of what she accomplished in Oberjoch in the name of his family and the sport. When it's about the « freeheel life » dedication isn't only between the gates and nothing can beat a mother's love for her children. Amélie will remain our number one and an example for all of us. Wyss (SUI) and Taylor (GBR) finish second and third for the Sprint World Cup ranking. Wyss (SUI) won the Classic Gobe and Wenger-Reymond and Tan-Bouquet (FRA) finished respectively second and third.



MEN'S SPRINT AND CLASSIC GLOBES

For the men, it was the last World Cup races of Bastien Dayer's career who won the Sprint, Classic and Overall Globes in Oberjoch finals. After 19 years of WC racing, 268 WC starts, 111 WC podiums, 46 WC victories and 15 Globes the Swiss rock ended up with panache while being challenged by Elie Nabot (FRA). Indeed all eyes were focused on Elie Nabot (FRA) who was in position to steal the Globe

from the Swiss. But Nabot went to the fault and was unlucky in Oberjoch after great results and podiums all along the season.

Nabot and Loeken (NOR) respectively finished respectively 2nd and 3rd for the Classic World Cup overall ranking. Nabot second and Michel (SUI) third for the Sprint World Cup overall ranking.

THE PARALLEL SPRINT GLOBE: HISTORIC NORWEGIAN DOUBLE

3500 spectators came in Oberjoch for a Schellen World record. 2357 bells resonated before the start of the Parallel Sprint WC final creating an electric and dramaturgical atmosphere around the arena. Double Parallel Globe karma for the Vikings. Eriksen (NOR) and Loeken (NOR) did it and that was probably unexpected before the last races in Oberjoch. The Norwegian grown in strength since the World Cup in Aal and finished the season in an outstanding way. The Parallel Sprint races were tight and delivered something epic illustrating perfectly the meaning of a Globe win and the frustrations behind when you don't succeed. For Women, Wenger-Reyond and Wyss finished respectively second and third for the women Parallel World Cup overall ranking, Nabot sec-

ond and Dayer third for the men. Dayer and Nabot, the unlucky eternal second in Oberjoch, pictured well that without any challengers a Globe is not a Globe. All the athletes on the World Cup circuit made the Globe dream alive and we can congratulate all of them for that. The Swiss team was amazing all along the season and deserved to win the team Globe. Wyss and Dayer won the general Globe.



WORLD CHAMPS: GO BIG OR GO HOME

The battle for the Telemark World Champion medals took place in Mürren (SUI). Titans Races of one day arbitrated by rock titans as Eiger (3967m) and Jungfrau (4158m). All the athletes were at the pinnacle of emotions during the week and

performances were at the rendez-vous. « Go big or go home » was certainly the motto of many teams. Especially when it was about the jump section. It was the most demanding and technical « big air » jump of the season.

WYSS AND NABOT WORLD CHAMPIONS FOR THE CLASSIC

Martina Wyss, the women's Classic Globe winner in Oberjoch, won the Gold at home and were crowned World Champion in front of her fan club. Wenger-Reynond (SUI) and Jasmin Taylor (GBR) won respectively Silver and Bronze. Taylor did her first Classic podium of the season after having failed most of the Classic races of the season. Looks like the British lady was back at her expected level of skiing here in Mürren. For men Nabot

(FRA, Gold) took his revenge on Bastien Dayer (SUI, Silver). Dayer, the almost retired Swiss Rock, probably signed the smallest timed gap in Classic history this day (+0,09 from Nabot). Loeken (NOR) won Bronze. Nabot, the eternal second for the Globe fight in Oberjoch, deserved his World Champion title for what he accomplished all along the season and for having pushed Dayer to its limits.

WENGER-REYMOND AND LOEKEN WORLD CHAMPIONS FOR THE SPRINT

For women, Amélie Wenger-Reymond (SUI) won the Sprint and therefore won her 17th World Champion Gold medal of her career. Martina Wyss (SUI) took Silver and Goril Strom Eriksen (NOR) the Bronze medal.

Argeline Tan-Bouquet (FRA), one of the favorite for a top 3 podium, crashed hard after the jump landing and broke her ACL and already announced that she will

be back next year and maybe for her last season. The jump was very selective for many athletes. They had to push their limits to reach the line.

When it's about ACL injury Trym Nygaard Loeken (NOR) knows what it costs. Indeed, Loeken broke his ACL in Mürren one year ago at the jump landing in Mürren during a Sprint World Cup. The viking, who awakened in Krvavec with his first Sprint World Cup win of the season,

was the fastest and did any mistakes while facing with the the spectre of injury. Mental and legs of steel for our new

Sprint World Champion. Nicolas Michel (SUI) took the Silver medal and Alexis Page (FRA) the Bronze one.

ZIMMERMANN AND LOEKEN WORLD CHAMPIONS FOR THE PARALLEL SPRINT

The race of every possible scenarii and the unexpected delivered an apotheosis to the Parallel Sprint season. For the win it was still necessary to play the fine strategists for the jump and the nordic section.

For women, Béatrice Zimmermann (SUI) who has been discreet but always smiling all along the season won the Gold medal for her last race of her career with a tough final battle with Jasmin Taylor (Silver). Emma Araldsen (NOR) won the Bronze.

But the disappointment was also there for the Swiss. Wyss was almost expected to reach the Parallel Sprint podium at home but did a huge mistake in the nordic section by taking the wrong corridor and consequently being disqualified. Same for our veteran Dayer...the Swiss rock was hit by a huge pain in his back which forced him to fall to the ground during his first battle. It was sad to see him leaving the arena in this way but



Action in Oberjoch

the verdict was clear after examination: rupture of one vertebra disc envelope. When it's about ending your career you want to do it till the end for you, your team and family. It was not the farewell race that Dayer would have expected. But sometimes the end can be a little bit more rough in its way as for Dayer or for the Alpine skiing legend Ted Ligety (USA) affected by a sciatica and forced to end his career six days before his planned farewell giant slalom at the

FRANCE, TEAM PARALLEL SPRINT WORLD CHAMPION

A lot of emotions for this last dance because it was the last one of manies as for the coaches Ruedi Weber (SUI) and Per Olav Tangen (NOR) who drew the last track of his career in the morning. When it's about to select athletes for a team parallel sprint it can sometimes be difficult to accept to be only substitute as for the homie Martina Wyss for the Swiss Team A (Béatrice Zimmermann, Alexi Mosset and Nicolas Michel). Coaches' choice are always done with reasons and substitutes are as important than the rest of the team. With two almost retired women racing in the Swiss Teams A and B (Zimmermann and Wenger-Reymond) the Swiss coach Ruedi Weber had probably in mind to be able to offer a memorable last podium to one of these two ladies. Team B (Wenger-Reymond, Mosset, Beney and Procureur as substitute) took the Silver medal offering a last podium to Wenger-Reymond. Gaëtan Procureur

world championships in Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA, 2021). Common points between these two happy and proud fathers...their unexpected farewell does not detract from their outstanding career.

For men, Loeken imposed himself as the Parallel Sprint boss just one week after the Globe win. Alexi Mosset (SUI) reached for the first time of the season the podium and got Silver medal, Noé Claye (FRA) Silver.

who also retires from racing was also proud to be on the podium. For Weber it rewards Procureur's regularity between all along its career between the top 10 and top15 with a World Cup podium last year in Krvavec (3rd). And when it's about the team Globes nothing is possible without all the athletes. A way for Weber to end his career by acknowledging the importance of his entire team.

Team Norway took the Bronze medal (Eriksen, Berge, Bjoernstad Konow, Alverberg, Loeken). Gold went to the French team (Carliez, Claye, Nabot and Chaucheprat). Augustine Carliez who started telemark racing three years ago can be proud to have been the last women racing against the legend Amélie Wenger-Reymond. 17 years of difference between them...a last symbol about the marks Wenger-Reymond but also Zimmermann, Dayer and Procureur will let behind them.

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This last chapter of the season was just incredible and unforgettable in many ways. Switzerland, Norway and France were the winners throughout the week. But all teams and athletes are winners in the end for what they have accomplished with elegance and with the most beautiful state of mind as for Canada, Germany, Great Britain, Italia, Japan, USA, Slovenia, Sweden....

Sam Garber (USA) said: « My first FIS Telemark World Championships was an unbelievable experience, and it's no question that being in Mürren - the most beautiful place I have ever been - played a significant role in that. It was great to be able to reconnect with many old friends and meet new ones. I feel honored to have raced this week with my longtime American teammate Jeffrey Gay in his last World Championships, along with Amélie Wenger-Reymond, Béatrice Zimmermann, Kathrin Reischmann, Bastien Dayer, Gaëtan Procureur, and Christoph Frank. All of these remarkable athletes were present for my first World Cup starts back in 2018. It was even more special to be there with Per Olav and Ruedi for their last races as well. The competition and community that the best telemark athletes in the world brought to Mürren is exactly the motivation all of us need, in order to put

in the hard work that is required of us to come back stronger next season! Thanks to GB coach Seb for bringing this international team together! »

Teardrops of joy or deception in a box of speed, tight challenges and suspenses till the finish line. It's the way we could describe this season especially for the Parallel Sprint races which delivered epic shows.

Mikael André Dansereau from Canada said, "As an athlete arriving from the other side of the Atlantic, I was just amazed to see how tight were the heats during telemark parallel World Cup. It's unbelievable to see how tight the top 20 athletes are standing from each other in terms of level and skills. I think this adds a lot of value to our niche sport as parallel races was the best ski show I've seen in my racing career."

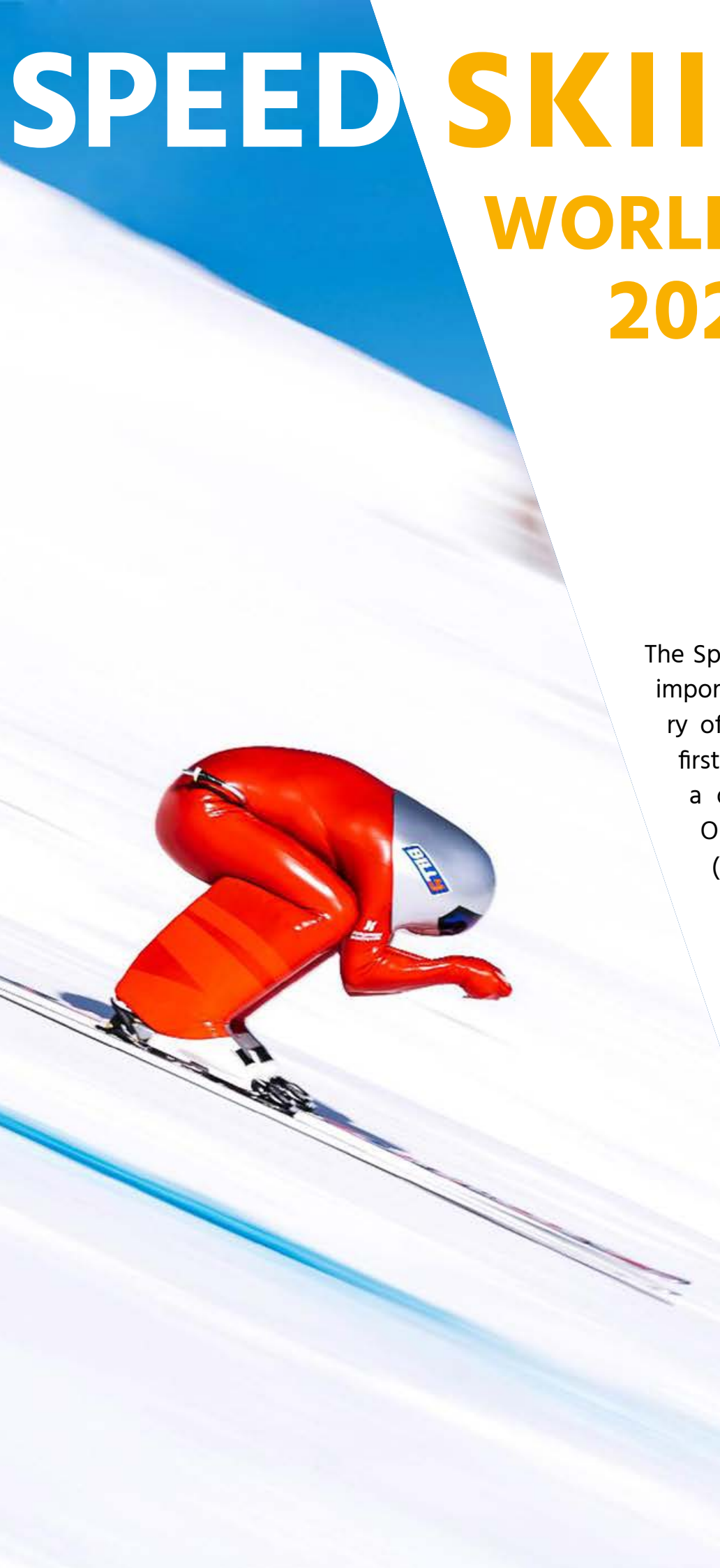
We salute the involvement of our racers for what they have accomplished all along this season and the Parallel Sprint show paid tribute to them. We want to thank all the organizers and volunteers for the success of the World Cup stages and World Champs.

See you next season for the love of the turn.

SPEED SKIING

WORLD CUP 2022/23

BY RICARDO ADARRAGA



The Speed ski season 2022/23 is an important milestone in the history of the sport and FIS. For the first time since Speed ski was a demonstration sport at the Olympics 1992 in Albertville (France), the World Record was established during the FIS World Championships hosted in Vars (France) on March 22nd 2023 with a new impressive speed record of 255.50 km/h.

For too long, the past 30 years, Speed ski races were separated into 2 race series: the FIS races with a 200 km/h limit and the Pro Series where World

Records were achieved. Acknowledging the increased safety standards of the discipline during the last 10 years the committee accepted exceptions to the 200 km/h limit for specific races and finally in September 2022 decided to drop the anachronistic limitation. With that, the committee followed the desire of FIS to bring back high-speed races and make the FIS Speed ski races the world's fastest ski races. The excellent snow conditions in Vars this season allowed us to host several amazing races. Therefore, in almost all World Cup races and World Championships races athletes' achieved runs passed the 200 km/h, or even 230 km/h. Furthermore, one of the most successful athletes, Simone Origone from Italy won his 14th World Cup Season, increasing his impressive record of crystal globes in a single FIS discipline.

Nevertheless, the absolute highlight of the season was Simon Billy from France, who established the fastest speed ever achieved by a skier with 255.50 km/h.

With those achievements, my first year as chairman of the committee had an excellent start. I have the privilege to lead a team with the worldwide best experts in speedski. Together we sum more than 200 years of experience in high-speed racing and organizing speed competitions. The committee set 4 main goals for FIS speedski: incentive high-speed competitions with more than 180 km/h, ideally more than 200 km/h, increase

already high safety standards, increase presence in media leveraging the paradigm shift in the way sports content is being consumed in a strong digitalized media world and develop the discipline.

The cooperation with the FIS marketing experts could not have started better: Speed ski is now in the media and started to leverage the new strategy of FIS in social media achieving the most views of a single video on the FIS TikTok account. This shows the big impact of the discipline on the new generations. We take a good start in 2023 of the new digital eras in sports media consumption as the basis for intensifying the excellent cooperation with FIS Marketing and Media.

As in Formula 1, the Speed ski teams are already working on improving their race material for next season, always searching for that little detail in the aerodynamic equipment that will give an extra km/h.

Let's chase the next World Record in 2024. Ski fast and safely!





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Josef Kagerbauer
Geschäftsführer JOSKA KRISTALL

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