
FIS COMPETITION FACTS

WC Lahti FIS World Cup Nordic Combined

FIS World Cup Nordic Combined in Lahti (FIN) on March, 9th 2007

Demong wins, Haseney 2nd, Manninen 3rd

Bill Demong (USA, 120,5m, 121m), the Silver medallist from the Individual Gundersen Competition at the World Championships in Sapporo, could gain his second ever World Cup victory. He won in front of the German Sebastian Haseney (114,5m, 113,5m; +6.6s) and Hannu Manninen (114m, 115,5m; +15.6s) from Finland.

Leading after the jumping, Espen Rian (127,5m, 132,5m; +1:43min) from Norway could not hold on to his lead and finished 12th in the end. Demong was tenth after the jumping, Haseney 30th and Manninen 26th.

Hannu Manninen is now leading the overall World Cup with 745 points in front of Magnus Moann (NOR, 638 points) and Christoph Bieler (AUT, 593 points).

Austria is still leading the Nations Cup with now 2124 points, Finland is second with 2044 points and Germany third with 1719 points.

The next competition (compact Hurricane Sprint) will be tomorrow, 10th of March at the same place.

DNF: Braud (FRA)

Number of participants/ participating nations: 43/10

Spectators: 5000

Number of Media/TV on site and HBC: 5, HBC: Yle

Weather: cloudy, 4°C (SJ, XC)

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Snow Conditions: wet

Special Remarks: -

Pictures:

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

Quotes:

Bill Demong (USA): "I am just so happy. It's an unbelievable feeling to win again after such a long time, especially because the last victory back in 2002 have always had a bad taste. In Liberec, it was a strange competition, for example with the difficult weather situation. I was quite confident after the silver medal in Sapporo that I can also show a good competition here, but that I could win it, is incredible. My jumps were stable and so I had a good starting position after the jumping. I wanted to start the race quite easy but already after I left the stadium I knew that I had to push hard, because the others were coming fast. I was lucky that I was placed in front of the other strong skiers, so I was already some seconds ahead of them. "

Sebastian Haseney (GER): "I didn't have a good second jump today and so I started as the first in the wave into the cross country race. But I had really really good skis and I just went on and on and suddenly I ended up in the top group. In the last round, I still felt very good, so I attacked and when I saw that Hannu could not follow I knew that I had my second place. Maybe, if the track would have been some 100m longer, I could have gotten Billy, too. But anyhow, I am very satisfied with my second place today."

Hannu Manninen (FIN): "I am happy with my third place today. I know that I can jump better than how I jumped today. The two jumps were not as long as I hoped that they would be, because the jumps themselves felt not too bad. However, I was 2minutes 20s behind the first which was quite a bit of time, but still better than in Sapporo. I started my race with the goal

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to catch Felix and Magnus and when I got them I skied first behind them to relax and recover a bit. Then I went in front again. Unfortunately I didn't have as much energy as Sebastian which was why I could not follow him when he attacked at the last uphill. But in total I am satisfied with the third place today."

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

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