
FIS COMPETITION FACTS

WC Liberec FIS World Cup Nordic Combined

FIS World Cup Nordic Combined in Liberec (CZE), February, 16th 2008

Tande wins, Koivuranta 2nd, Ackermann 3rd

Petter Tande from Norway could win the Mass Start event in Liberec in front of Anssi Koivuranta from Finland and Ronny Ackermann from Germany. Originally planned as an Individual Gundersen, the competition format had to change due to too much wind on the hill this morning. As there was no possibility to jump, the competition format changed to a Mass Start.

Leading after the Mass Start, Bill Demong from the USA could not hold on to his lead and finished sixth in the end. Tande was fourth after the race, Koivuranta tenth and Ackermann fifth.

Ronny Ackermann is now leading the overall World Cup with 1016 points in front of Bill Demong (USA, 781 points) and Jason Lamy Chappuis (FRA, 728 points).

The Nations Cup is still lead by Germany with now 2830 points in front of Austria (2113 points) and Norway (1744 points).

The next competition (Sprint) will be at the same place tomorrow.

Number of participants/ participating nations: 49/13

Spectators: 300 (SJ), 4.200 (XC)

Number of Media/TV on site and HBC: 115 media (print (70) and photo (45)), 4TV, HBC: Czech TV

Weather: slight wind, clear sky -6°C (SJ), some clouds, -4°C

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Snow Conditions: compact

Special Remarks:

DNF (XC): Tallus (FIN), Michielli (ITA)

Statements of the best three:

Petter Tande: It was a long day for us all but I am very happy that we could have the competition. I had a good feeling the whole day. My skiing went really well, although the race was pretty tough. I also had very good skis. When we came back to the jumping and had to postpone the competition again, I wasn't sure if we would have the race. But then I had two good jumps and won...that's fantastic! I am really happy and hope that we will have a good and normal competition tomorrow. I will definitely give my best again and hope that another good places comes out of it.

Anssi Koivuranta: I am very satisfied with my competition. I tried to keep cool and relaxed and just do what I know I can do. It worked for me very well today. I tried not to bother about the change to a Mass Start too much. I had good skis for the race but still it was a hard race. After the cross country, I just had to try to get relaxed again and focus on the jumping. The changes didn't disturb me much; it was not the first time that we had something like this. Now I hope we will have a good competition again tomorrow.

Ronny Ackermann: The race went pretty well for me and in the first round I was lucky with the wind and jumped far, however the jump was not that good. In the second round it was the other way round. Therefore I am really satisfied with my third place today. I tried not to get too disturbed by the changes. I had a competition to focus on and that worked for me. Now I hope the best for tomorrow.

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If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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.nordicfocus.com.

For more information please visit www.fis-ski.com

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