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## **FIS COMPETITION FACTS**

### **WC Val di Fiemme FIS World Cup Nordic Combined**

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FIS World Cup Nordic Combined in Val di Fiemme (ITA), January, 12th 2008

#### **Ackermann wins, Demong 2<sup>nd</sup>, Haseney 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Ronny Ackermann from Germany could gain his second victory of the season by winning the Individual Gundersen competition in Val di Fiemme, Italy. Behind him, Bill Demong from the USA and Ackermann's team mate Sebastian Haseney became second and third.

Leading after the jumping, David Zauner from Austria finished 25<sup>th</sup> in the end. Ackermann was second after the jumping, Demong 18<sup>th</sup> and Haseney 19<sup>th</sup>. Demong and Haseney, who worked together most of the race, raced the first and second cross country skiing time.

Ronny Ackermann, in absence of his strongest contestant in the overall World Cup Björn Kircheisen (GER), is now leading the overall World Cup with 626 points in front of Bill Demong (557 points) and Kircheisen (514 points).

The Nation Cup ranking is still lead by Germany with now 1776 points in front of Austria (1243 points) and Norway (1081 points).

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

Number of participants/ participating nations: 41/10

Spectators: 100 (SJ), 150 (XC)

Number of Media/TV on site and HBC: 20 media (print (5) and photo (15)), 4TV, HBC: ARD

Weather: rain showers, 4°C

Snow Conditions: wet

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Special Remarks:

DNS (SJ): Thompson (CAN)

DNS (XC): Frenzel (USA)

#### **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](http://www.nordicfocus.com).

#### **Quotes:**

**Ronny Ackermann (GER):** "I am really happy. I surely hoped for the victory a bit after the really good jumping competition. To start as second athlete into the cross country race gives you of course quite a lot of confidence. However, I had to ski alone basically the whole race. But I felt pretty good although it was a tough race. The rain didn't disturb that much, although it is never nice to compete under such conditions. It's nice to wear the yellow bib, but we are still not half way through the season, therefore I don't want to give any prognosis if I will also wear it at the end of the season. Now I hope we will have another good competition tomorrow."

**Bill Demong (USA):** "We were here for about a week for some training, but could not jump until the official training. I still don't know what to think about the hill and what I should do in order to jump well on it. So I was not very happy as 18<sup>th</sup> after the jumping. But with a look into the result list I saw that a place under the top 5 would still be possible so I went for it. First I hoped to be able to stay with Sebastian but the longer the race got the more powerful I felt and so I went for it during the fifth lap. I could go very hard but was still able to recover in between. To be second in the WC is of course great, but the season is still long and we'll see in the end where I will stand."

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**Sebastian Haseney (GER):** “To be back on the podium just feels so good. Jumping was ok, the first jump was pretty good but the second then put me a couple of places back. When I read the result list and saw that Bill was just a few second in front of me, I thought that we could go together. Bill was racing a very good race and it was not that easy to follow him all the time. In the end he was a little bit stronger than me in the finish sprint. However, the third place is a great result for me and I am very happy! ”

For complete results please visit [www.fis-ski.com](http://www.fis-ski.com)

#### **Contact for further information:**

Christina Fritz  
PR and Media Coordinator FIS World Cup Nordic Combined  
Mobile: + 49-179-2156756  
E-Mail: [fritz@fisski.ch](mailto:fritz@fisski.ch), [nkpresse@gmx.net](mailto:nkpresse@gmx.net)