
FIS COMPETITION FACTS

WC Lahti FIS World Cup Nordic Combined

FIS World Cup Nordic Combined in Lahti (FIN), February, 29th 2008

Tande wins, Frenzel 2nd, Ackermann 3rd

Petter Tande from Norway won the Individual Gundersen competition in Lahti, Finland. He finished first in front of Erik Frenzel (GER), who had a crash just before the finish (he put a pole in front of his skis and fell over it), and Ronny Ackermann, also from Germany.

Leading after the jumping, David Zauner (AUT) could not hold on to his lead and finished 19th in the end. Tande was fifth after jumping, Frenzel second and Ackermann eighth. Hannu Manninen (FIN) had a come back with the best racing time which brought him from the 30th place after jumping almost onto the podium – he finished fourth.

Ronny Ackermann is now leading the overall World Cup with 1100 points in front of Bill Demong (USA, 863 points) and Petter Tande (NOR, 833 points).

The Nation Cup ranking is still lead by Germany with now 3138 points in front of Austria (2423 points) and Norway (2003 points).

The next competition (Hurricane Compact Sprint) will be tomorrow at the same place (14:45 jumping, 25min after the last jumper XC race).

Number of participants/ participating nations: 46/11

Spectators: 5.000

Number of Media/TV on site and HBC: 129 media (print (71) and photo (68)), 5TV, HBC: Yle

Weather: partly sunny, 1°C

Snow Conditions: compact

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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:

Petter Tande (NOR): "When I woke up this morning I wouldn't have thought that I might be winning today. I had really good jumps, especially after I didn't jump that well in the training. Therefore I am really satisfied. I skied from the beginning my own race and tried to figure out what to do while skiing. However, it basically took me until the finish to figure it out. I tried to get away from Eric, but he stayed with me and so I thought it might be better to relax a bit and save energy for the finish sprint. I just had to ski the same speed as Ronny in order not to let him come to close. That worked well and I could also win the finish sprint. Although I don't like the Compact Sprint, I hope I will have a good competition again tomorrow despite the stress you have in a competition as compact as this one."

Eric Frenzel (GER): "I had a great race today. In the first and second round I tried to ski as usual. I also waited a bit for better in order to ski with him after he caught me. My coach told me to ski my own race. Unfortunately I put one of my poles right in front of my skis and fell over it and therefore missed the finish sprint. But I am still satisfied with my race. My first jump was amazing. I knew it would go far, but I didn't think it would go that far. It's a great feeling to fly like that. Now I hope I will have enough energy for tomorrow's Sprint."

Ronny Ackermann (GER): "After the jumping I didn't really expect to be on the podium today, especially I have been a bit sick the last weekend. But I felt very good in the race from the beginning on. I had enough power to ski this pace and maybe, if there would have been somebody else skiing with me, we could have caught the other two in front. My first jump was really good but the second one was a bit late from the table. I like Individual Gundersen competitions much better than Sprints because you can show much more that you are also a

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great skier. Tomorrow will be a busy competition and you basically don't have any time to warm up before the race. That's pretty hard, especially for the last and best athletes. However, I hope to have a good competition again tomorrow!"

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

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