
FIS COMPETITION FACTS

WC Oslo FIS World Cup Nordic Combined

FIS World Cup Nordic Combined in Oslo (NOR), March, 9th 2008

Tande wins, Stecher 2nd, Gruber 3rd

Petter Tande from Norway could win the Sprint event at the traditional Holmenkollen which was also the last race of the season. Behind the Norwegian, Mario Stecher from Austria, who won the Holmenkollen World Cup for the first time when he was 16 (with this he is still the youngest winner of a Holkemkollen World Cup), became second and Stecher's team mate Bernhard Gruber, the winner of yesterday's IG competition, placed third.

Leading after the jumping, David Zauner from Austria could once again not hold on to his lead and finished 19th in the end. Tande was fifth after the jumping, which had already taken place yesterday, due to an unfavourable weather forecast, Stecher sixth and Gruber second. Bill Demong from the USA gained the best racing time.

Ronny Ackermann (GER) won now the overall World Cup with finally 1174 points in front of Petter Tande (NOR, 978 points) who could overtake Bill Demong (USA, 3., 902 points) with his victory today.

Ronny Ackermann could also take over the Sprint World Cup trophy. He won the Cup (508 points) only four points ahead of the Frenchman Jason Lamy Chappuis (504 points). Ackermann finished the Sprint race today as 17th, Lamy Chappuis as 22nd. Before the race, Lamy Chappuis has lead the Cup with only one point in front of Ackermann. Bernhard Gruber (AUT, 497 points) became third.

The Nation Cup ranking was won by Germany, who led the ranking from the beginning of the season. The Germans won with 3341 points in front of Austria (2911 points) and Norway (2329 points).

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As the winter season 2007 / 08 is finished, the next competition will be the Summer Grand Prix at the end of August this year.

Number of participants/ participating nations: 45/11

Spectators: 4000

Number of Media/TV on site and HBC: 130 media (print (70) and photo (60)), 4TV, HBC: NRK

Weather: cloudy, 2°C

Snow Conditions: wet

Special Remarks:

DNS (SJ): Martinez (FRA), Manninen (FIN)

DNS (XC): Koivuranta (FIN), Kobayashi (JPN), Rynnänen (FIN)

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.

Quotes:

Petter Tande (NOR): "It's a wonderful finish of the season for me to win here today. I didn't really expect that victory therefore I am even happier. It was a really hard race. I tried to stay behind Bernhard and to let him lead the pack because I was pretty tired. To win at Holmenkollen is always something special and I am very happy that I could realize it now for a second time. I had a good starting position after the jumping so I hoped to stay with the

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group first and then make a move. That worked and I am very satisfied. Now it's time for holidays and a lot of relaxation!"

Mario Stecher (AUT): "This second place is a really nice finish of the season for me although I have to say that I would have liked to win it. Petter was just a tiny bit better than me today and on top of it, I struggled once during the finish sprint, so that was it then for me. I also had to close the gap of three seconds, which does not seem to be a lot but somehow I missed these three seconds in the end of the race. Anyway, I am very satisfied with the jumping yesterday and my skiing today. I think I got pretty well in shape again towards the end of the season and I hope I can keep this for next season!"

Bernhard Gruber (AUT): "After my victory yesterday, I am very happy to have been able to gain another podium place today. It was a great finish for me. I had a very good jump yesterday and also a great race today. But when Mario made a move during the last round and Petter followed I couldn't go with them because I didn't have enough power left. However, I am very happy with my third place! I have never dreamed of being fourth in the overall World Cup and third in the Sprint World Cup before the season. It was an amazing season for me!"

For complete results please visit 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@fis-ski.ch, nkpresse@gmx.net