



ALBERTA SKI JUMPING
& NORDIC COMBINED



Update – Feb 26, 2009

World Ski Championships – Liberec – Men’s Large Hill HS134

- Mackenzie Boyd-Clowes jumped well enough to qualify today in the final individual ski jumping competition at the World Championships in Liberec. One of only two seventeen-year olds, the youngest athletes in the competition, he finished in 46th place out of 63 jumpers.
- See results at: <http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/604/610.html?sector=JP&raceid=2653>
- The story behind the results is complex, as you will read in Ron Read’s messages below:
- “I do not know how to describe today’s comp. Andreas Kuettle is the new Large Hill Champion but he did it on a one-round competition. After the jury spending so much time trying to make things fair they just ran out of time and weather and had to settle for a one round comp. They tried to pull off the second round twice, the first time they came within 7 skiers of completing the round but it did not look like they were going to get the winner they wanted so they pulled the plug and restarted. It was not fair conditions but this is an outdoor sport and they have to let things go sometimes. The second restart was a joke and thankfully they called it after about 15 skiers.
- “Mackenzie did really well in Qualifying in the second Quali Round they held because of the conditions last night. Stefan was in the area of the start order where no one qualified. There was a 5-minute hold after Stef went and the conditions got better, but hey it is an outdoor sport and you have to make the best of your conditions, Stef did not jump well enough to have a chance of qualifying anyway. They spent so much time pulling jumpers off the bar and putting them back on you really had to wonder if we would be there until midnight.
- “Mackenzie did not have as good a jump in the first round and ended up in 46th position; it was great to see him get past the Quali so that is a victory for him.
- From yesterday’s scheduled Qualification: “They were not able to complete the Quali because a tail wind picked up with 10 jumpers to go. Stef was in and Mac was out; Nick Ferrall, USA was in and Anders Johnson, USA was out so it is 50/50 news for CAN & USA. It was too bad they could not finish the Quali but the conditions did change quite a bit so it was the fair thing to do. I am still waiting for the first time that a Jury changes things when the first ten do not get fair conditions; it will never happen!”

Athletes Read This!

- “Big news of the day was the Bib-gate the USA NC team went through. Billy Demong their first jumper could not find his bib when it was his turn to go. They turned the start house upside down, there were even rumours of someone stealing it. Billy knew he had his bib when he got to the start but without a bib they did not let him jump so the USA team was over 3 minutes behind after the first jumper from each nation went, too much to catch up.
- “It turns out that Bill found the bib shortly after he missed the start (I have heard as soon as 10 seconds). It had fallen down the leg of his suit and was stuck between his boot and bottom of the suit leg. Lesson for all SJ and NC athletes, always know where your bib is because you are not allowed to jump without it!” Ron Read

Photo of Inrun on February 24:



- “Today I thought I would send a picture because no matter how well I described the conditions today you would not understand unless you saw what it was like.
- “When Ted (National Team Coach Ted Bafia) came down from the Coaching Stand after training he could not believe how much we could see. He saw much less than what we could see from the bottom.
- “Canadian Results since I last reported:

22nd 30 km Pursuit - Alex Harvey
27th 30 km Pursuit - Devon Kershaw
28th 1.6 km F - Alex Harvey
29th 1.3 km F - Daria Gaiazova
30th 1.6 km F - Phil Widmer
40th 30 km Pursuit - Ivan Babikov
42nd NH Gundersen - Jason Myslicki
43rd NH Gundersen - Wes Savill
44th 30 km Pursuit - Chris Butler
48th 1.6 km F - Sean Crooks
55th 1.3 km F - Perianne Jones
63rd 1.3 km F - Shayla Swanson

- “We are still matching Cross Country's results and they receive much more funding.” Ron Read
- Ski Jumping Team comp tomorrow (Saturday) - As we only have two ski jumping athletes in Liberec, we don't have a team but you can watch results of the team event Live on Saturday morning 8:00 am at <http://live.fiscki.com/live3033.htm>
- Beautiful Facilities - Want to see the hills and courses at Liberec? Check out the virtual tours at: <http://virtualtravel.cz/360/liberec2009/>

American Lindsey Van is first women's ski jump world champion

- See the Canadian Press article on Lindsey Van's win:
<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5hC9UWMwKbzzkrE8yNkkOLidanDFA>

Canadian Winter Nationals

“Please make a note that next Saturday, March 07 is our Canadian Winter Nationals competition. It would be great if you could all come out and support our athletes and if there are any positions any of you would like to volunteer or train for, I'd be happy to slot you in. If you could let me know I'd appreciate it.” Pat Callaghan

As mentioned in a previous Update, the small hills competition will be held at COP and the large hills will be held in Whistler during March training.

Contact Pat at pjj@shaw.ca .