



## Asian site trip prepares Cross Country and Nordic Combined World Cup competitions

There is still much work to be done but preparations are steadily progressing for the FIS Cross Country and Nordic Combined events which will take place in Changchun (CHN) and Sapporo (JPN) during March next year. Establishing a local organizing committee represents the current key issue for Changchun. The committee is set to feature a mix between Chinese officials supported by some experienced Europeans in order for local organizers to benefit from their greater know-how in terms of preparing slopes, time keeping, administrating affairs, etc.

In Sapporo the work was primarily based around a confirmation of the profile and layout of the tracks. The format for the Nordic Combined competitions at the 2007 FIS Nordic World Championships will be finalized based on the technical demands and the TV broadcasting advice given by representatives of the EBU (European Broadcasting Union) as well as through the experiences gained during various World Cup competitions leading up to the event.

## FIS signs agreement with "Right to Play"

After the FIS Council approved the proposal for a collaboration between FIS and "Right to Play" at the FIS Council Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> May in Munich (GER) an agreement was signed on 12<sup>th</sup> July at the FIS headquarters to confirm the partnership by FIS President Gian-Franco Kasper and President of Right to Play (RTP) – former Olympic Speed Skating Champion - Johann Olav Koss.

Right to Play is a humanitarian organization

using sport and play programs to encourage the healthy physical, social and emotional development of the world's most disadvantaged children. During the partnership, set to last until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007, FIS and RTP will cooperate to encourage the use of sport to support mutual goals of child and community development and health. RTP and FIS will work together to promote sport for development among the public at large and, more particularly, within the sporting world.

As part of the agreement RTP and FIS will each communicate their relationship to all members or stakeholders through general communications, websites, and printed materials. During the collaboration FIS will exercise its best efforts to promote RTP and its Red Ball campaign and also among other things permit RTP to educate FIS's athletes and teams about RTP's mission, values and programs. In addition RTP will promote FIS as a valued strategic ally in all relevant communications. (Further information can be obtained on [www.righttoplay.com](http://www.righttoplay.com))

## Five athletes nominated for ESPY Awards

Five athletes have been nominated in various categories at the 2005 ESPY Awards (organized by American TV broadcaster ESPN) which will take place Sunday, July 17 at 9 p.m. ET from Hollywood's Kodak Theatre. FIS Men's Alpine World Cup overall winner, Bode Miller, has been nominated in the prestigious Best Male Athlete category alongside other sporting icons like Lance Armstrong, Peyton Manning, Michael Phelps and Vijay Singh. Also featuring are Janna Meyen (USA), 2002 FIS Junior Snowboard World Champion in Halfpipe, Hannah Teter (USA) as well as 2005 FIS Freestyle World Champion in Skicross, Karin Huttary, (AUT)

has been nominated in the Best Female Action Sports Athlete category.

The ESPY Awards, which will be hosted by American actor, Matthew Perry, will gather top celebrities from sports and entertainment to commemorate the past year in sports by recognizing major sports achievements, reliving unforgettable moments and saluting the leading performers and performances. And for the second year in the event's 13-year history, fans will determine the winners in all categories.

FIS Doping Panel confirms suspension of 1 year for Justyna Kowalczyk (POL)

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2005 the FIS Doping Panel adjudicated that Cross-Country skier Justyna Kowalczyk (POL) had committed a doping violation in accordance with Article 2.1 of the FIS Anti-Doping Rules and consequently sanctioned her to suspension from all international competitions for 2 years until 22nd January 2007.

Subsequent to the decision of the FIS Doping Panel it was brought to the attention of the International Ski Federation (FIS) by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) that since the substance Dexamethason is a Glucocorticosteroid, it is classified as a Specified Substance on the WADA List of Prohibited Substances and Methods and therefore the period of Ineligibility for the first violation shall be at a minimum, a warning and reprimand and no Period of Ineligibility from future Events, and at a maximum, one (1) year's Ineligibility.

The FIS Doping Panel decided that based on the facts submitted and the testimony of the athlete and Polish Ski Association at the hearing on 21st May 2005, the sanction for the doping offence will be one (1) year beginning from 13th June 2005. The athlete is disqualified as from (and including) the U23 OPA Intercontinental Cup competition held on 23rd January 2005. The period from 23rd January 2005 - 13th June 2005 shall be calculated within the Period of Ineligibility, meaning that she is ineligible to participate until 22nd January 2006.

Former World Champion Miriam Vogt elected President of Bavarian Ski Association

In the FIS Newsflash 29 we congratulated Alfons Hörmann on his election as new President of the German Ski Association. After serving as President of the Bavarian Ski Association since 2002 Hörmann succeeded Fritz Wagnerberger who retired after leading Germany's skiers for a total of 19 years (1970-1978 and 1994-2005).

Former World Champion in Alpine Skiing Miriam Vogt (GER) succeeds Hörmann as President of the Bavarian Ski Association. Vogt celebrated her greatest triumph when she won the Alpine Combined competition at the 1993 FIS Alpine World Championships in Morioka Shizukuishi (JPN). Vogt also added a single downhill win in the FIS Alpine World Cup to her name when she captured the top podium spot in Vail (USA) during the 1992/1993 season. Vogt brought down the curtain on her career in 1997/1998 and has since 2002 acted as Vice-President of the BSV.

Dear Friends of FIS,  
Should you have any feedback, comments, you are most welcome to send them to me at: [frandsen@fisski.ch](mailto:frandsen@fisski.ch). "FIS Newsflash" will not only be distributed via e-mail but also be published in the News section of the FIS Website.

Best regards  
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