
FIS COMPETITION FACTS

WC Klingenthal FIS World Cup Nordic Combined

FIS World Cup Nordic Combined in Klingenthal (GER), January, 20th 2008

Frenzel wins, Ackermann 2nd, Koivuranta 3rd in the Mass Start competition

Ackermann wins, Frenzel 2nd, Kreiner 3rd in the Sprint competition

Eric Frenzel, the young talent from Germany, could gain his first World Cup victory by winning the Mass Start competition in Klingenthal. He won in front of his team mate Ronny Ackermann and Anssi Koivuranta from Finland. Just a short time later, the Sprint competition was started which in the end had almost the same three on the podium. This time, Ronny Ackermann gained the victory in front of his team mate Frenzel and the Austrian David Kreiner.

Leading after the cross country race, which was already held yesterday, Hannu Manninen (FIN) could not hold on to his lead and finished 12 in the end. Frenzel was seventh after the race, Ackermann eighth and Koivuranta twelfth.

In the Sprint event, Eric Frenzel was leading after the jumping in front of Ronny Ackermann. David Kreiner was eighth. Magnus Moan from Norway was the fastest in the track today.

Ronny Ackermann (GER) is now leading the overall World Cup with 851 points in front of Bill Demong (661 points) and Jason Lamy Chappuis (FRA, 568 points).

With his victory in the Sprint competition, Ronny Ackermann is now also leading the Sprint World Cup with 365 points in front of Jason Lamy Chappuis (350 points) and Björn Kircheisen (GER, 264 points).

The Nation Cup ranking is still led by Germany with now 2450 points in front of Austria (1604 points) and Norway (1317 points).

The next competition (Sprint) will be on the 26th of January in Seefeld, Austria.

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Number of participants/ participating nations: 40/10 / 39/10

Spectators: 8.500 (XC Sat MS), 6.500 (Sun, SJ & XC)

Number of Media/TV on site and HBC: 64 media (print (24) and photo (40)), 1TV, HBC: ARD

Weather: cloudy, 6°C

Snow Conditions: packed

Special Remarks:

DNS (XC MS): Tallus (FIN), Thompson (CAN)

DNF (XC MS): Menz (GER)

DNS (XC Sprint): Heer (SUI), Hollenstein (SUI), Braud (FRA), Denifl (AUT)

DNF (XC Sprint): Manninen (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:

Eric Frenzel (GER): "It's unbelievable. I am speechless. Of course I have hoped to be on the podium here in Klingenthal, so close to home with all my family and friends here, but that I would be able to celebrate my first World Cup victory, I wouldn't have dreamed of. I had two good jumps and was also a little bit lucky with the wind in both competitions. It was not easy today on the hill, but you need that bit of luck sometimes. I felt very good in both races. The Mass Start already gave me a good starting position for the jump and in the Sprint I had a

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very good starting position, too. I talked with my coach before the race and also Ronny and me knew both that it would be the best for us to work together in order to keep the others behind us. In the last round everyone was just racing for himself again and if I would have had more power left I would have tried to pass Ronny, was this time he was stronger. I have to go back to school tomorrow and I think it will still take some days until I can really realize what has happened here!"

Ronny Ackermann (GER): "This was the most successful World Cup weekend for me this winter and I am very happy and satisfied. It was very difficult today at the hill. However, I think I had two good jumps. It was a good decision yesterday to postpone the jumping to today. Of course it was quite a stressful weekend, but it was basically the same for everyone. The weather forecast had already showed that we would have to expect bad weather so we knew in advance that it won't be easy. The race was very hard at both days and I have to thank Sebastian (Haseney) that I could use his ski which helped me a lot. For a victory, everything has to be perfect, not only the body but also the material. Not it's half time in the World Cup and I am just enjoying every World Cup in which I can show a good performance and of course wearing the yellow bib. However, we will see in the end, if I was successful enough getting consistent on a high level. The great crowd here in Klingenthal of course helped a lot too to give the very last you had."

Anssi Koivuranta (FIN): "It was a very long and hard day today but I am very happy that I could be on the podium at least one time. I almost thought we wouldn't be able to jump again today, so I am happy that we could. It was not too difficult for me to have the programme changed from a Individual Gundersen competition to a Mass Start. I struggled quite a bit in jumping this season so far but I don't know what really the problem is. Therefore I am very satisfied with my Mass Start jump. I show good jumps during training but not during a competition which is really annoying. So I hope that from now on it will be better. I really like Mass Starts and if I can be on the podium I like them even better."

David Kreiner (AUT): "I am satisfied with my personal performance in the Mass Start competition, however I think the whole jumping part was handled a little bit strangely. The

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wind was changing quite a bit so it was not easy to be totally fair, but I cannot understand what the criteria were who was allowed to jump again and who was not. Anyway, my Sprint jump was good again in the still difficult wind conditions. I was not unlucky with the wind this time and therefore got a good starting position for the race. I really like the track here because it has many uphill. I tried to be very fast in the first lap without losing too much power, which worked pretty well. I felt very good in the last lap and when I heard that it was still possible to get onto the podium I made the move. That was not too hard as the crowd cheered so loud which helped a lot. The next competitions are now back home in Austria and I am looking forward to them.”

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

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