
FIS COMPETITION FACTS

e.on Ruhrgas FIS World Cup Ski Jumping

Outstanding Morgenstern close to the big crystall ball / Bystoel wins in Zakopane Feb, 3rd 2008/hn

After his win yesterday Austrian Thomas Morgenstern won the second of two e.on Ruhrgas FIS World Cup Ski Jumping competitions in Sapporo (JPN) today. Outstanding Morgenstern received 288.7 points for jumps up to 135 and 139 meters.

On the second place finished Janne Happonen from Finland again (272.5 points / 128.5 and 134 meters) ahead of Anders Bardal from Norway (264.3 points / 127 and 131.5 meters).

Statements

Thomas Morgenstern (AUT):

"The hill in Sapporo is always very friendly to me. It was a hard competition due to changing winds and waiting times. After the first jump I knew, that again I am in a good shape and I was confident to win also the 2nd competition here in Sapporo. Now I am looking forward with fun to the next world cup competition."

Janne Happonen (FIN):

"Thomas Morgenstern was too strong to be beaten. I am very happy with the 2nd place and the Manner Man of the day. My jumps are improving from the beginning of the season, like last year and I hope to win a World Cup until the end of the season."

Anders Bardal (NOR):

"The feeling was very good and it was one of my best competitions this winter. The wind was a little changing but it was a good competition. Thomas Morgenstern is flying well in the moment but he can be beaten in one of the next world cups."

With today's win Thomas Morgenstern made the next big step to win the e.on Ruhrgas FIS World Cup Ski Jumping overall this season.

The Austrian has now 1455 points, this are 610 points ahead of the second placed finman Janne Ahonen who did not compete in Sapporo.

Janne Ahonen has now a total of 845 points. On the third overall place is Gregor Schlierenzauer from Austria (839 points).

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

All results in detail can be found on <http://www.fis-ski.com/>

COC in Zakopane

Norwegian Lars Bystoel won the first of two COC competitions in Zakopane (POL) today. 29 year old Bystoel made 266.0 points with his jumps to 128.5 and 134 meters. Bystoel's team mate Kim Rene Elverum Sorsell finished second (264.7 points / 135 and 124 meters) ahead of Austrian Stefan Thurnbichler (263.2 / 129 and 127.5 meters).

Lars Bystöl: "I am really happy that I won today. It was a long time ago that I was on the top of the podium. My plan is to go back to the World Cup, but first when I am really ready for it. The norwegian team is a really strong team, so you have to jump really good to get a place in the team".

Kim René Elverum Sorsell: "I am really happy about my second place. Only once before I finished so That good in a COC competition, that was in Kranj. The Atmosphere here is absolutely great and it is a very special feeling to jump here in Zakopane".

Stefan Thurnbichler: „You have this spectacular atmosphere to jump in Poland and Germany only. The audience is one of a kind which motivates every jumper. This hill fits me perfectly and I'm always happy when I

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get the opportunity to jump here”.

Stefan Thurnbichler (550 points) is still in the lead in the COC overall ranking ahead of Bastian Kaltenboeck (477 points). Balthasar Schneider (AUT) is on the third place (472 points).

Next COC Competition will be held in Zakopane (POL) today, 03.02.2008.

Yesterdays Result in detail can be found on:

<http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/604/610.html?sector=JP&raceid=2420>

Pictures from yesterday for free use (indication of source is essential: <http://www.fis-ski.com>) can be downloaded on

ftp://ftp.fis-ski.ch/Jumping/Photos/COC_2007-2008/Zakopane/

Kind regards

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