



17 - 19
MARS
MARCH 2017

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

FIS Cross-Country World Cup Finals Cross-country skiing steals the show this weekend in Quebec City

Quebec City, Sunday, March 19, 2017 – All eyes in Quebec City were on the Plains of Abraham this weekend as the world’s elite cross-country skiers battled it out at the FIS Cross-Country World Cup Finals. Needless to say, it was “mission accomplished” for event organizer Gestev—presenting the finals in line with International Ski Federation (FIS) standards and preparing such a big event with less than two months’ notice. “We’re over the moon that Quebec City was up to the challenge of hosting the finals at such short notice,” said FIS Race Director Pierre Mignerey. “Once again, the organizing committee and spectators have proven what a fantastic destination Quebec City is for cross-country skiers.”

Ideal scenario for Alex Harvey

After winning gold on Friday in the Freestyle Sprint presented by Québecor, home favourite Alex Harvey gave it his all in the distance races this weekend, finishing just short of the podium with a 4th-place finish in yesterday’s Classic Mass Start presented by RBC and LL Bean, and placing 2nd in this afternoon’s Freestyle Pursuit presented by Québecor. Alex was also able to carve out 3rd place in the overall World Cup, a second time in his career (3rd place in 2014). Unsurprisingly, Norway dominated the podium again all weekend, winning 10 of the 18 medals up for grabs.

As Quebec City feasted on its third Cross-Country World Cup event since 2012, Alex Harvey lapped up the cheers of the roaring home crowd along the course. “The spectators were really out in force, more so than ever, and they gave all of us the energy to ski our best in all three races,” Harvey said. “Having front-row seats to see the world’s elite cross-country skiers do their thing is a privilege for the people of Quebec City,” said mayor Régis Labeaume. “This prestigious competition puts Quebec City on the world stage, showcasing what a spectacular destination our city is and proving we have what it takes to organize high-calibre sporting events.” The three-day weekend will have been one to remember for the thousands of spectators and for Canadians everywhere—as well as nearly 450 international team members from 17 other nations. Major event partner Cascades took the opportunity to present a \$10,000 donation to Skibec and the Mont Sainte-Anne Cross-Country Ski Club to support grassroots development of the sport.

The results at a glance

Freestyle Sprint – Ladies (Friday, March 17)

Presented by Québecor

- 1 – Stina Nilsson (SWE)
- 2 – Maiken Caspersen Falla (NOR)
- 3 – Hanna Falk (SWE)

10K Mass Start – Ladies (Saturday, March 18)

Presented by LL Bean

- 1 – Marit Bjoergen (NOR)
- 2 – Heidi Weng (NOR)
- 3 – Ingvild Flugstad Oestberg (FIN)

Freestyle Sprint – Men (Friday, March 17)

Presented by Québecor

- 1 – Alex Harvey (CAN)
- 2 – Finn Haagen Krogh (NOR)
- 3 – Richard Jouve (FRA)

15K Mass Start – Men (Saturday, March 18)

Presented by RBC

- 1 – Johannes Hoesflot Klaebot (NOR)
- 2 – Niklas Dyrhaug (NOR)
- 3 – Alexander Bessmertnykh (RUS)

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10K Pursuit – Ladies (Sunday, March 19)

Presented by Gruyère

- 1 - Marit Bjoergen (NOR)
- 2 - Heidi Weng (NOR)
- 3 - Stina Nilsson (SWE)

15K Pursuit – Men (Sunday, March 19)

Presented by Québecor

- 1 - Johannes Hoesflot Klaebo (NOR)
- 2 - Alex Harvey (CAN)
- 3 - Niklas Dyrhaug (NOR)

Overall World Cup Standings – Ladies

- 1 – Heidi Weng (NOR)
- 2- Krista Parmakoski (FIN)
- 3- Ingvild Flugstad Oestberg (NOR)

Overall World Cup Standings - Men

- 1- Martin Johnsrud Sundby (NOR)
- 2 – Sergey Ustiugov (RUS)
- 3 – Alex Harvey (CAN)

Experience the event in photos and see the full results table at worldcupccquebec.com

About FIS

FIS, founded in 1924, is the governing body for international skiing and snowboarding. Recognized by the International Olympic Committee, FIS manages the Olympic disciplines of Alpine Skiing, Cross Country Skiing, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Freestyle Skiing, and Snowboarding, and sets the international competition rules. Through its 119 national federations, more than 7,000 FIS ski and snowboard competitions are staged annually. Specific initiatives are undertaken by FIS to promote winter sports, particularly for young people.

About Cross Country Ski De Fond Canada

Cross Country Ski De Fond Canada is the governing body of cross-country skiing in Canada—the nation’s optimal winter sport and recreational activity with more than one million Canadians participating annually. Its 58,000 members include athletes, coaches, officials and skiers of all ages and abilities, including those on Canada’s National Ski Teams and Para-Nordic Ski Teams. With the support of its valued corporate partners—Haywood Securities Inc., AltaGas, and Mackenzie—along with the Government of Canada, Canadian Olympic Committee, Canadian Paralympic Committee, Own the Podium and B2dix, Cross Country Canada develops Olympic, Paralympic, and world champions.

About Quebec Winter Events Corporation

The mission of Quebec Winter Events Corporation (QWEC) is to promote winter sports on home soil through international events such as the Sprint Quebec FIS Cross-Country World Cup and the Jamboree FIS Freestyle Ski and Snowboard World Cups. In addition to attracting the world’s top winter sport athletes, QWEC works hard to support the development of amateur sport through each of its events.

About GesteV

Founded in 1992, GesteV is a dynamic event management company specialized in sports and cultural events. Over the years, GesteV has raised event management standards by adding a party twist to high-calibre competitions, including music shows and live entertainment, while making competitions accessible to all. Jamboree, Red Bull Crashed Ice, Transat Québec Saint-Malo, Sprint Québec, and Vélirium are just a few GesteV events. GesteV also manages Baie de Beauport and is a certified responsible event manager (BNQ 9700-253).



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