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## **FIS COMPETITION FACTS**

### **WC Oberstdorf FIS World Cup Nordic Combined**

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FIS World Cup Nordic Combined in Oberstdorf (GER) on January, 6th 2007

**Gottwald wins, Manninen 2<sup>nd</sup>, Haseney 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Felix Gottwald (AUT) could gain his first victory of the season by winning the last competition of the annual Warsteiner Grand Prix Germany. He won in front of Hannu Manninen (FIN; +4.6s) and Sebastian Haseney (GER; 4.8s).

Leading after the jumping, Bernhard Gruber (133,5m, 133,5m; +51.3s) could not hold on to his lead and finished fifth at the end. Gottwald (124m, 118,5m) was twelfth after jumping, Manninen (118,5m, 121m) 15<sup>th</sup>, and Haseney (121m, 121m) 13<sup>th</sup>.

With his second place today, Hannu Manninen could overtake the yellow bib from Christoph Bieler and is now leading the overall World Cup with 415 points in front of the Austrian Bieler (396 points) and Magnus Moan (383 points) from Norway.

With a very good team result, Austria could overtake the lead in the Nations Cup and leads it now with 1209 points in front of Finland (1155 points) and Germany (1043 points).

Hannu Manninen could also win the overall Warsteiner Grand Prix ranking with 230 points in front of Sebastian Haseney (180 points) and Felix Gottwald (165 points).

The Warsteiner Young Talent Award went today to the Norwegian Petter Tande (131,5m, 127,5m; +1:20.7min) who placed seventh in today`s race. He was the best young Nordic Combined racer born 1985 or later.

Number of participants/ participating nations: 44/10

Spectators: 2000 ski jumping, 6500 cross country

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Number of Media/TV on site and HBC: 2, HBC: ZDF

Weather: slightly cloudy, sunshine, 3°C (Cross Country & Ski Jumping)

Snow Conditions: wet

Special Remarks: -

#### **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.menzipics.ch/info/indexfisevents.html](http://www.menzipics.ch/info/indexfisevents.html)

#### **Quotes:**

**Felix Gottwald (AUT):** "Every victory feels good, but I have to say that I am very very happy that I could gain my first victory after the Olympics in Turin today. I had a bad start into the season but I was convinced that I would be back again soon because I knew that I have worked very well during the summer. And my victory shows now that I was right. I am satisfied with my jumps today. Luck was on my side, especially during the first round. The gap between me and the leading ones was quite big after jumping, but I knew that a lot would be possible if we could go fast as a group. I tried to find out during the race in what shape the others were and when I realized at the last uphill that they Hannu and Sebastian had more difficulties than me, I started my attack. I was quite convinced that I would win when I came down over the bridge and straight to the finish. It was a great feeling."

**Hannu Manninen (FIN):** "After all, it was a really hard race for me today. I am really satisfied with my jumps; I think the last four jumps I did here in Oberstdorf were the best ones of the whole Warsteiner Grand Prix. However, I had bad luck with the wind in the first round, so I lost a couple of meters. The gap after jumping was quite big to the Berni, who was leading, but I knew that, if I would race as fast as I did in the last competitions, that I could gain a good place. But first, I had to catch Felix and Sebastian and that cost quite a bit of power

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which I didn't have for the last uphill. Therefore I am really happy with my second place today. ”

**Sebastian Haseney (GER):** “First, I have to congratulate the organizers here in Oberstdorf. With the cooling system for the inrun and all the helpers, they created perfect conditions under these complicated weather circumstances. During the jumping today, one needed a bit of luck with the wind, however, I am satisfied with my jumps. The race went also quite well, although it was very hard. I don't like soft snow because I am someone who runs out of the legs which is really hard in these conditions. During the last round, especially at the last uphill, I gave everything I had left of power. Hannu was a little bit faster, but I am happy that I could win the foto finish against Bill! I am now going back to training and don't start in Val di Fiemme next weekend. But I hope that I can attack once again in Seefeld in two weeks. ”

For complete results please visit [www.fis-ski.com](http://www.fis-ski.com)

#### **Contact for further information:**

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