



WORLD MASTERS ASSOCIATION

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

AUSTRALIAN ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

June-September 2024: Winter in Oz

- For the many northern hemisphere Masters XC skiers who ask, yes, we do have lots of snow in winter, and mountain ranges up to 2,228m in Australia! Our main XC (and downhill) ski resorts are at Falls Creek, Victoria (1,500m to 1,780m) and Perisher Valley, New South Wales (1,720m to 2,054m). There is also lots of National Park backcountry available for XC ski touring and mountaineering.



- Australia provides great opportunities for Masters XC skiers from the northern hemisphere to get some off-season ski training 'down under'. Most winters we see European, US, Malaysian, Korean and Japanese athletes coming down to train on our trails. If any international Masters are interested in heading 'down under', please feel free to contact the Australian ND, Peter Lambert, for more information - [WMA NDs](#).
- The 2024 ski season had good snowfalls in our XC ski resorts in New South Wales (see Perisher photo below) and Victoria. Lots of events and races were successfully held through the season. Perisher XC Race Week 3-11 August was a highlight.



- **Wilderness Sports Cup (F), Perisher, 7 July 2024.** Masters skiers Rob McArthur, Adrian Blake and Peter Heely came 1st, 2nd and 3rd over the 3.3km course. Over the 6.6km course, Bolt (MU60), Wayne Pethybridge (MU70) and Kirsten Sharp (WU70) came 1st in their respective age groups. Warren Jack and Ken Moylan placed 2nd and 3rd in MU70. Complete results can be found at [Wilderness Sports Cup Results](#).
- **Kosciusko Tour (C/F) 8km, Perisher, 27 July 2024.** Podium places in the men's Classical were Wayne Pethybridge 1st, Greg Sharpe 2nd, and Peter Ward 3rd. In the women's Classic - Nicola Havranek 1st, Nicole Clark 2nd, and Bethan McDonald 3rd. In the men's Freestyle - Alberto Allen 1st, Adrian Blake 2nd, and Peter Lambert 3rd. In the women's Freestyle - Lena Spencer 1st, Sabrina Noir 2nd, and Monika Binder 3rd. Complete results can be found at [Kosciusko Tour Results](#).
- **PXC Cup (F) 8km, Perisher, 3 August 2024.** Over the Women's 4km course, Nancy Whitely (WO60) came 1st. In the Men's 4km - Martin Linsley (MO60) 1st, John Joyce (MO60) 2nd, and David Michael (MO60) 3rd. In the Women's 8km and in their respective age groups - Lena Spencer (WU40) 1st, Monika Holmwood (WU40) 2nd, Deb Purss (WU50) 1st, Taryn Dickens (WU50) 2nd, Jane Scheer (WU60) 1st, Kerryn Rim (WU60) 2nd, and Monika Binder (WU60) 3rd. In the Men's 10km, Australian Masters skiers with podium results in their respective age groups were - Robert Chamberlain (MU60) 1st, Angus Taylor (MU60) 2nd, Peter Lambert (MU60) 3rd, Garry McDougal (MO60), Greg Sharp (MO60), and Peter Ward (MO60). Complete results can be found at [PXC Cup Age Group Results](#).
- **City Tattersalls Boonoona Open (C/F), Perisher, 4 August 2024.** Complete results are at [Boonoona Open Age Group Results](#). Masters skiers podium results in their respective age groups were:
 - **Classical 2.6km** - Paul Byleveld (MU65) 1st, David Michael (MU75) 1st.

- **Classical 5.6km** - Nacy Whiteley (WO75) 1st, Martin Brady (MO75) 1st, Brendon Hyde (MO75), Taryn Dickens (WU45) 1st, Bethan McDonald (WU45) 2nd, Hugo Loneragan (MU55) 1st, Catherine Pinkas (WU65) 1st, Gale Funston (WU65) 1st, Bruce Donnan (MU65) 1st, Richard Ristwej (MU65) 2nd, John Joyce (MU65) 3rd, Juel Briggs (WU70) 1st, Wayne Pethybridge (MU70) 1st, Rick Martin (MU70) 2nd, Ian Davidson (MU70) 3rd, Helen Brady (WU75) 1st, Martin Linsley (MU75) 1st, Alex Erskine (MU75) 2nd, and Dirk Stuber (MU75) 3rd.
- **Freestyle 5.6km** - Peter Ward (MO75) 1st, John Sim (MO75) 2nd, Michael Bunce (MO75) 3rd, Megan Dunn (WU45) 1st, Peter Morgan (MU55) 1st, Taylos Bunce (MU55) 2nd, Kerry Rim (WU65) 1st, Monika Binder (WU65) 2nd, Robyn Englert (WU65) 3rd, Anthony Evans (MU65) 1st, Garry McDougall (MU65) 2nd, Warren Jack (MU65) 3rd, Greg Knight (MU70) 1st, and Adrian Blake (MU75) 1st.
- **Kosciuszko Alpine Club (KAC) XC Classic (C/F) 8km, Perisher to Charlotte Pass, 5 August 2024.** Complete results are at [KAC XC Classic Results](#). Masters skiers podium results in their respective age groups were:
 - **Classical 8km** - Bethan McDonald (WU55) 1st, Jane Purcell (WU55) 2nd, Melinda Perrottet (WU55) 3rd, Lachlan Love (MU55) 1st, Hugo Loneragan (MU55) 2nd, Matt Murtagh (MU55) 3rd, Christine Lee (WU65) 1st, Catherine Pinkas (WU65) 2nd, Nicole Clark (WU65) 3rd, Wayne Pethybridge (MU65) 1st, Bruce Donnan (MU65) 2nd, Greg Sharp (MU65) 3rd, Acacia Rose (WU75) 1st, Juel Briggs (WU75) 2nd, Helen Brady (WU75) 3rd, Richard Martin (MU75) 1st, Martin Brady (MU75) 2nd, Peter Ward (MU75) 3rd, Nancy Whiteley (WO75) 1st, Douglas Jackson (MO75) 1st, Phillip Bookallil (MO75) 2nd, and Robin Gibb (MO75) 3rd.
 - **Freestyle 8km** - Alina McMaster (WU55) 1st, Megan Dunn (WU55) 2nd, Deb Purss (WU55) 3rd, Timothy Greville (MU55) 2nd, Peter Morgan (MU55) 3rd, Jane

Scheer (WU65) 1st, Kerry Rim (WU65) 2nd, Linda Turnbull (WU65) 3rd, Garry McDougall (MU65) 1st, David Hislop (MU65) 2nd, Angus Taylor (MU65) 3rd, Peter Lambert (MU75) 1st, Adrian Blake (MU75) 2nd, Craig Robinson (MU75) 3rd, and Michael Bunce (MU75) 1st.

- **Sundeck Cup Handicap Race (F), Perisher, 8 August 2024.** Complete results are at [Sundeck Cup Handicap Results](#).
- **Snowy Mountains Classic (F) 30km/15km/7.5km/2.5km, Perisher, 10 August 2024.** Masters skiers podium results for the 30km race in their respective age groups were: John Sim (MU75) 1st, Sarah Slattery (WU40) 1st, Lena Spencer (WU40) 2nd, Tom Spencer (MU40) 2nd, Bethan McDonald (WU50) 1st, Kelsey Boreham (MU50) 2nd, Taylos Bunce (MU50) 3rd, Jane Scheer (WU60) 1st, Alina McMaster (WU60) 2nd, Deb Purss (WU60) 3rd, Anthony Evans (MU60) 1st, Alex Ziesak (MU60) 2nd, Robert Chamberlain (MU60) 3rd, Kerry Rim (WU70), Monika Binder (WU70) 2nd, Garry McDougall (MU70) 1st, David Hislop (MU70) 2nd, and Charles Taylor (MU70) 3rd. Complete results, including those for the 15km Guthrie Gallop, the 7.5km Rock Creek Rush, and the 2.5km Wombat Ramble, are at [Snowy Mountains Classic Age Group Results](#).

August 2024: Kangaroo Hoppet, Australia

- Unfortunately, it again warmed up too quickly at the end of the season and the *Worldloppet* Kangaroo Hoppet race on 24 Aug 2023 had to be cancelled for the second year in a row.

August 2024: Ushuaia Loppet, Argentina

- Masters skier Allan Hope was the only Australian to enter in the 42km Ushuaia Loppet on 18 August 2024, finishing 28th in the men's open (no age categories recorded). Race results can be found at [Ushuaia Loppet Results](#).



- Allan reported that there are two ski fields to know about. Tierra Mayor is where the race starts and finishes. There is a restaurant, car park and basics. Up the road a bit is Cerro Castor, a downhill ski resort. It is at the eastern end of the main 20km race loop, with plenty of facilities including storage lockers. It is the best part of the race loop.
- The race loop can be divided into two parts, east of the start at Tierra Mayor is mainly sheltered by forest and is good skiing. There is a steep hill (wall) going east and then a turn around when you get to the chair lifts at Cerro Castor. There are two tunnels to go through, and when you get back to the start / finish area you are out in the open
- Once in the open on the second part of the course there is no forest to protect you from the wind (there was plenty of it). This area is flat with lots of frozen ponds which made for interesting skiing, especially when the wind blew the snow off the icy ponds. He recommends that the race is worth doing while you still can.
- Unfortunately, the 2025 Ushuaia Loppet has been cancelled due to logistics and sponsorship issues. They plan to run the event again in 2026. If you are interested in entering, then Allan is happy to share travel, accommodation and other information about his 12 day trip to Argentina. If you don't have his contact details, just email me and I'll put you in touch.

August 2024: Merino Muster (F) 42/21/14/7km, New Zealand

- The *Worldloppet* Merino Muster was held "across the ditch" (between Australia and NZ) on 31 Aug 2024 at Snow Farm, above the Cardrona Valley, between Queenstown and Wanaka on the South Island of NZ. Of the 83 entrants in the 42km main event, 21 were Australians, of which 19 were in Masters categories. Of the 61 entrants in the 21km "Snow Rake" event, there were 9 Australians, all Masters. Some Australian Masters skiers also competed in the 14km Double Fleece and 7km Straggle Muster events.
- Australian Masters entrants in the 42km event were Matt Ryan (MU75), Vince Humphries (MU65), Isobel Whitaker (FU35), Andrew Roxburgh (MU55), Neil Wylie (MU50), Len Budge (MU75), Marg Hayes (FU65), Peter Macartney (MU75), Stephen McDowell (MU70), Andrew Paul (MU65), Judith Barnes (FU65), Marion Baines (FU55), Colin Addison (MU70), Alex Erskine (MU75), David Stanford (MU45), Luke Ryan (MU50), Ross Hamilton (MU40), James Finnie (MU75), and Susan Luscombe (FU70).
- Merino Muster podium results in respective age groups were achieved by Isobel Whitaker (3rd), Andrew Roxburgh (3rd), Len Budge (1st), Marg Hayes (1st), Peter Macartney (2nd), Stephen McDowell (2nd), Andrew Paul (3rd), Judith Branes (3rd), Marion Baines (2nd), David Stanford (1st), Luke Ryan (2nd), Ross Hamilton (2nd) and Susan Luscombe (2nd). Complete results can be found at [Merino Muster Results](#).
- Australian Masters entrants in the 21km "Snow Rake" event were Veronica McDowell (FU70), Marguerite Humphries (FU35), Bruce Wharrie (MU65), Sue Donoghoe (FU65), Brigid Clarke (FU65), Kirsten Sharp (FU65), Bruce Barnett (MU65), Monika Binder (FU65) and Greg Sharp (MU65).
- Snow Rake podium results in respective age groups were achieved by Veronica McDowell (1st), Marguerite Humphries (2nd), Sue Donoghoe (3rd) Kirsten Sharp (2nd), Bruce Barnett (3rd) Minika Binder (1st), and Greg Sharp (2nd). Complete results can be found at [Snow Rake Results](#). Results for the

14km Double Fleece and the 7km Straggle Muster are at [Double Fleece Results](#) and [Straggle Muster Results](#).

October 2024: World Masters Association (WMA) Annual Meeting, Sappada, Italy

- The new Australian National Director, Peter Lambert, along with a new European-based team member, Richard Middleton, attended the WMA Annual Meeting in Sappada from 6-9 Oct 24. The Organising Committee for MWC2026 in Sappada presented their proposals for the event to be held 29 Jan - 6 Feb 2026. The WMA National Directors toured the start/finish area, a few of the courses and some accommodation locations, mainly in overcast and rainy conditions. The Italian food and hospitality were excellent, and definitely worth looking forward to in Jan/Feb 2026. It cleared up at the end, showing Sappada (start/finish area in photo below) to be a magnificent location for MWC2026.



Australian Masters at Worldloppet in 2025

- **Vasaloppet China, 4 January 2025.** Andrew Paul (MU65), Andrew Hall (MU65), Mary Hall (WU65), Margaret Hayes (WU65), Sandra Paul (WU75), and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 50km CT race. Kerry Lucas (WU65) completed the 25km CT race.
- **Dachsteinlauf, Austria, 12 January 2025.** Nathan Sproule (MU60) completed the 40km CT race.
- **Dolomitenlauf, Austria, 18/19 January 2025.** Shayne Hanks (MU55), Prue Ferguson (WU40), and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 21km FT race. Cameron Morton (MU55) and Margaret Hayes (WU65) completed the 42km FT race. James Finnie (MU75) and Margaret Hayes (WU65) also completed the 42km CT race. Doris Trueman (WU75) and Nicole Clark (WU60) completed the 21km CT race.
- **Lavazeloppet, Italy, 23 January 2025.** Margaret Hayes (WU65) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 16km CT race.
- **Marcialonga, Italy, 26 January 2025.** Andrew Paul (MU65), Anthony Evans (MU60), Margaret Hayes (WU65) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 70km CT race.
- **Koenig Ludwig Lauf, Germany, 1 February 2025.** Margaret Hayes (WU65) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 25km CT race. James also completed the 12km CT race.
- **Sapporo International Ski Marathon, Japan, 2 Feb 2025.** Chris Mock (MU40), Paul Mock (MU40), Monika Binder (WU65), Bruce Barnett (MU65), Peter Lambert (MU70), Maria Walsh (WU40), Ian Russell (MU60), Ayumi Kono (U40), and Doug Hamilton (MU75) completed the 25km FT race. Zac Zaharias (MU70), Carl Trindorfer (MU55), Peter Macartney (MU75) and Sue Donoghoe (WU65) completed the 50km FT race.
- **Grand Fondo Dobbiaco-Cortina, Italy, 2 February 2025.** Doris Trueman (WU75) completed the 31km FT race.
- **La Transjurassienne, France, 8/9 February 2025.** Margaret Hayes (WU65) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 40km CT race. Margaret Hayes (WU65), Deb Purss (WU55),

Michael Walters (MU65) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 40km FT.

- **Alutaguse Maraton, Estonia, 9 February 2025.** Adrian Blake (MU75) completed the 21km CT race.
- **Tartu Maraton, Estonia, 15/16 February 2025.** Margaret Hayes (WU65) and Alan Levy (MU65) completed the 20km FT race. Margaret Hayes (WU65), Doris Trueman (WU75), James Finnie (MU75), Bruce Wharrie (MU65) and Alan Levy (MU65) completed the 20km CT race. Margaret Hayes (WU65), Doris Trueman (WU75) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 40km CT race.
- **Gsieser Tal Lauf, Italy, 15/16 February 2025.** Taryn Dickens (WU45) and Heather Bundy (WU45) completed the 30km CT race. Jane Scheer (WU60), Wayne Pethybridge (MU70), Zac Zaharias (MU70), Kinga Price (WU60), Heather Bundy (WU55), Taryn Dickens (WU45) and David Price (MU60) completed the 30km FT race.
- **International Gommerlauf, Switzerland, 22/23 February 2025.** Emma Francis (WU50) completed the 21km CT race. Maria Abulkhanova (WU45) completed the 42km FT race. Zac Zaharias (MU70), Peter Lambert (MU70), and Robyn Englert (WU60) completed the 21km FT race.
- **Finlandia-Hiihto, Finland, 22/23 February 2025.** Margaret Hayes (WU65) and James Finnie completed the 62km CT race. Alan Levy (MU65) completed the 32km CT race. Adrian Blake (MU75) and Bruce Wharrie (MU65) completed the 20km CT race. James Finnie and Alan Levy completed the 20km FT race. Adrian Blake (MU75) completed the 32km FT race. Margaret Hayes (WU65) completed the 62km FT race.
- **Vasaloppet, Sweden, 23/24/25/28 February 2025.** Jeffery Pritchard completed the 90km CT race. Margaret Hayes (WU65), Paul Barklem (MU55), Doris Trueman (WU75), and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 45km CT race. Adreil Young (U40), Timothy Max (MU55) and Margaret Hayes (WU65) completed the 90km FT race. Ian Smith (MU60) completed the 45km FT race.

- **International Ganghoferlauf, Austria, 1/2 March 2025.** Wayne Pethybridge completed the 27km CT race. Wayne Pethybridge (MU70) and Zac Zaharias (MU70) completed the 25km FT race. Jane Scheer (WU65) completed the 42km FT race and came 1st in her age group.
- **Vasaloppet, Norway, 2 March 2025.** Hannah O'Brien (WU40), Chris Idermark-Boyd (MU40), Margaret Hayes (WU65), and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 90km CT race.
- **Engadin Skimarathon, Switzerland, 6/9 March 2025.** Kathy Zimmerman (WU55), Malcolm Ramsay (MU55), Michael Walters (MU65) and Erik Haggstrom (MU55) completed the 17km FT Night Race. David Pejoski (MU45), Simon Lacey (MU55), Talia Webb (WU55) and Kylie Biddle (WU55) completed the 21km FT race. Tamara Bucher (WU45), Michael Walters (MU65), Peter Macartney (MU75), Richie Parker (MU70), Malcolm Ramsay (MU55), Erik Haggstrom (MU55), and Susan Donoghoe (WU65) completed the 42km FT race.
- **Bieg Piastow, Poland, 9 March 2025.** Margaret Hayes (WU65), James Finnie (MU75) and Bruce Wharrie (MU65) completed the 25km CT race.
- **Birkebeinerrennet, Norway, 14/15 March 2025.** Charlie Bottero (MU65) completed the 54km Turbirken CT race. Margaret Hayes (WU65) completed the 54km SkoyteBirken FT race. Mathew Pegg (MU50), Michael Semb Wever (MU50), Alasdair Mackenzie (MU55), Davud Stuart (MU70), Andrew Porch (MU45), Doris Trueman (WU75), Margaret Hayes (WU65), Richard Moore (MU45), David Maher (MU60), Christopher Wall (MU70) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 54km CT race.
- **Yllas-Levi Hiito, Finland, 4 April 2025.** Andrew Smith (MU65) and Scott Alexander (MU65) completed the 55km CT race.
- **Sovereign 2 Silver Star, Canada, 5/6 April 2025.** Peter Tonkin (MU70) completed the 21km CT race and the 21km FT race. Ian Rogers (MU65) completed the 40km CT race.

- **Fossavatnsgangan, Iceland, 9/10/11/12 April 2025.** Margaret Hayes (WU65) completed the 70km FT Night race. Margaret Hayes (WU65) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 25km FT race. Margaret Hayes (WU65) and James Finnie (MU75) completed the 50km CT race.
- **Skarverennet, Norway, 26 April 2025.** Sebastian Winter (MU35) completed the 37km FT race.
- Complete results for all Worldloppet races can be found at [Worldloppet Results](#).

March 2025 - MWC Klosters, Switzerland

- In March a team of 28 Australian Masters skiers and supporters participated in the Masters World Cup 2025, in Klosters, Switzerland. The Masters World Cup is an annual competition for skiers over the age of 30, coordinated by the World Masters Association and endorsed by FIS. Team camaraderie was fantastic and there were some great results in variable snow conditions. All the results can be found at [Masters World Cup 2025 Results](#). A special well done goes to the Masters skiers who competed in their first ever races at a Masters World Cup.
- On the first day of competition, Catherine Lambert, Bruce Donnan, Stephen Meehan, Jim Rutups, Carl Johnson, Peter Lambert, Adrian Blake and Andrew Walker competed in the 10km CT race. In the afternoon Jane Scheer, Irene Dunn, Robyn Englert, Neil Wylie, Lindsay Bridgford, Robert Dunn, Wayne Pethybridge, David Simpson, Zac Zaharias, Bob Flower and Len Budge competed in the 10km FT race in soft and wet snow conditions. Notable results in their respective age groups were Jane Scheer 6th, Wayne Pethybridge 21st and Lindsay Bridgford 31st.

- On the second day of competition, Catherine Lambert, Lindsay Bridgford, Bruce Donnan, Wayne Pethybridge competed in the 15km CT race. In the afternoon, Jane Scheer, Irene Dunn, Susan Donoghue, Stephen Meehan, David Simpson, Zac Zaharias, Bob Flower, Adrian Blake, Len Budge, Peter Macartney and Andrew Walker competed in the 15km FT event. Neil Wylie competed in the 20km FT race. Again, some great results with Jane Scheer finishing 5th, Bob Flower finishing 18th and Adrian Blake finishing 24th.



- After a rest day and some fresh snow falls, the courses were looking good for the 4 x 5km relays (2 laps CT followed by 2 laps FT). Australia had two teams, one in the Men's 07 (60-64yo) age group and the other in the Men's 09 (70-74yo), both age groups with many highly competitive national relay teams. The home team, Switzerland, won both age groups. For Australia, in the M07 age group Bruce Donnan, Lindsay Bridgford, David Simpson and Wayne Pethybridge finished 10th, and in the M09 age group Adrian Blake, Andrew Walker, Len Budge and Bob Flower finished 7th. Aussie! Aussie! Aussie!
- The final day of competition had the long distance courses. Jane Scheer and Irene Dunn competed in the 30km FT event, finishing with the great results of 5th and 11th respectively. In the 20km FT, the Australian competitors were Susan Donoghue, Robert Dunn, Wayne Pethybridge, David Simpson, Zac Zaharias, Bob Flowers, Len Budge, Adrian Blake and Peter Macartney. More excellent results with Wayne Pethybridge coming in 18th, Robert Dunn 42nd, and Bob Flower 19th. Susan Donoghue, Catherine Lambert, Bruce Donnan, Andrew Walker and Peter Macartney competed in the 20km CT race, with Andrew Walker 13th and Bruce Donnan 28th grabbing WMA points.
- A special thanks goes to Richard Middleton, who unfortunately fell and broke his wrist in Livigno. Richard stayed on to support the team in Klosters, acting as Team Coach as well as team photographer, video recorder and general booster of morale. Thanks very much Richard!
- In the "Ashes" competition between Australia and the United Kingdom, the Australian team was able to win back the trophy. Jane Scheer had the best overall results as a Masters skier and was recently awarded the 2025 Masters Skier of the Year at the AUSXC ski awards night. It was a great event, leaving everyone looking forward to the Masters World Cup 2025 in Sappada, Italy, in January/February 2026, just prior to the Winter Olympics.

April 2025 - FIS Australian Rollerski Championship

- The 2024 Australian Rollerski Championships were held at Stromlo Forest Park in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, on 12/13 Apr 24.
- In the Sprint Free Technique, Masters (over 40yo) participants were Luke Ryan, Ivar Berget, Timothy Greville, and Gleb Belov. Results can be found at [Rollerski Sprint Results](#).
- In the Criterium, Masters (over 40yo) participants were Ivar Berget, Andrew Paul, Luke Ryan, Gleb Belov, and Anthony Greville. Results can be found at [Rollerski Criterium Results](#).

Australian XC Ski Awards

- As mentioned earlier, Jane Scheer had the best overall results at the Masters World Cup and was awarded the 2025 Masters Skier of the Year at the AUSXC ski awards night.
- At the AUSXC ski awards night Warren Feakes was awarded with a special award for his contributions to Australian XC skiing. This was featured by Snow Australia in a web story [2025 National Volunteers Week - Warren Feakes](#).
- Both Jane and Warren were not able to be at the award night, so they were presented their awards in Canberra and Perisher while volunteering for the XC skiing community. Well done to both!



Freidl Bartsch and the Australia vs Great Britain 'Ashes' Competition

- Very sadly, one of our Australian Masters cross-country skiing competitors, Friedl Bartsch, passed away at the end of 2023. He was also an accomplished biathlon competitor. He was a keen follower of the sport of cricket, in which Australia and Great Britain annually compete for the "Ashes" trophy.
- In Masters cross-country skiing as well, the Australian team is highly competitive with the British team, if not the rest of Europe. In the style of a cricket tragic, Friedl Bartsch created the *Mount Kosciuszko Alpine Ashes AUS vs GBR Masters World Cup XC Skiing* trophy (pictured below).
- The Ashes were initially won by Australia at MWC 2019 in Beitostoelen, Norway, and were retained by Australia until MWC2024 in Vuokatti, Finland. GBR won the trophy by a whisker at MWC2024. Australia reclaimed the trophy at MWC2025 in Klosters, Switzerland ! We will continue with Freidl's legacy and compete for this trophy at future MWC...

