



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

NATIONALER DIREKTOR DEUTSCHLAND

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, 05.10.2020

Annual report Masters cross-country skiing in Germany 2019/2020

Last winter 2019/2020 was very bad in the German mountains. There was hardly any snow. The winter was far too warm overall, even in the foothills of the Alps there was hardly any natural snow to be found.

The athletes who had booked the early competition event of the Winter World Games 2020 in Innsbruck / Seefeld / Austria from 10th - 19th January 2020 benefited most. Sufficient snow and excellent World Cup trails in a wintry landscape satisfied the large number of 82 German participants in cross-country skiing. The German participants were able to win a total of 47 medals (19 G - 11 S - 17 B) in the respective age groups. The German contingent of starters was large, as it was very close to Seefeld for many starters. In some cases, however, journeys up to 700 km from the northern Harz were also accepted.

The national German championships on the short distance were planned in Warmensteinach / Fichtelgebirge from 14th - 16th February 2020, they fell victim to the snow-poor winter and had to be canceled at short notice.

Overall, there were very few races in the state ski associations in Germany. A relatively large number of Masters cross-country skiers took part in the international popular skiing of the Euroloppet and Wordloppet series. The European Ski Marathon Championships in Leutasch / Austria on March 1st, 2020 were very successful for the German Masters cross-country skiers and the German starters won a total of 21 medals in each age group (9 G - 7 S - 5 B).

From mid-March, the German Skimarathon Championships in Bodenmais and the German Long Distance Championships with the club relay in Oberwiesenthal fell victim to the corona virus, as events were no longer allowed to take place from March 20, 2020. There was still enough snow in the venues there.

On May 1st, 2020, I took over the position of National Director for the German Masters cross-country skiers from my predecessor Kalli Kamphenkel (now 81 years old). He has held this position without interruption since 1989 and has represented the interests of the German Masters cross-country skiers nationally and internationally for a long time. In addition, he was very successful himself by winning many medals at the Masters World Cups. But he has not yet given up his cross-country skis. He will be happy to continue to accompany us. His



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training ambition is still enormous and there is still a little space in his house-museum for further medals and trophies.

Prospect for a hopefully good preparation for the next winter season

On September 19th, 2020 the meeting of the state officers of the Masters took place in Oberhof / Thuringia as part of the central performance control of the German Ski Association.

The following training measure is planned to prepare for winter:

- Training in Italy

Walter Ziller, responsible for the Masters cross-country skiing of the Swabian Ski Association, will again be holding an 8-day training course for Masters cross-country skiers in Livigno / Italy from December 8th - 15th, 2020.

The dates of the German Masters Championships in Warmensteinach and Oberwiesenthal, together with the elite cross-country skiers, were coordinated. The venue for the German Skimarathon Championship in classic style is expected to be Oberammergau as part of the Worldloppet.

For the postponed Masters World Cup 2022 in Canmore / Canada, the interested Masters cross-country skiers hope for a feasibility and a good success if this MWC can then take place according to plan in March 2022. The query for the year 2021 was not exactly promising or meaningful. Due to the Corona problem, the German Masters cross-country skiers are currently very cautious and hope for an improvement in the overall situation.

Almost all of the national roller-ski races between May and mid-September were also not possible. But now there are still a few races on the schedule and the German Rollerski Mountain Championship will take place on October 17, 2020 in Gersfeld / Rhön on slow wheels.

Andreas DilleMuth

National Director