

2024_25 Season Report Masters Nordique France

The 2024-25 season was a near-normal year for snow conditions in the mid-mountain range, with snow above 1,000 meters, where our Nordic skiing playgrounds are located. However, the season was somewhat short in several mountain ranges, particularly the Vosges and Jura, where the lack of snow was felt as early as February.

Early season races were not affected; things became more difficult from mid-February onward. The 190 members of our association (a record) had a rich and varied experience in all the mountain ranges, both for biathlon and cross-country skiing:

1. PLAN d'HOTONNES biathlon camp (Ain): June 7-9, 2024 (23 participants): a real success
2. PREMANON mixed cross-country-biathlon camp at the CNSNMM (Centre National de Ski Nordique et de Moyenne Montagne): September 27-29, 2024 (34 participants including 15 biathletes): unpredictable and wet weather, but a great atmosphere and plenty of activities
3. RAMSAU glacier camp (Austria): October 27 to November 3, 2024 (8 participants): superb conditions with beautiful snow and sunshine, and excellent trail conditions.



4. Mixed Cross-Country-Biathlon Camp in BESSANS: December 5-8, 2024 (50 participants, including 6 biathletes). Snowfarming camp on slopes, and natural snow at the end of the camp: everyone was highly motivated by this great conditioning session!

In addition to the popular races organized throughout the winter, and notably those of « the Marathon Ski Tour », in which the Nordic Masters participated extensively (often successfully), two major events were planned this winter for our athletes:

- The MWC in Klosters (our Masters Cross-Country Skiing World Championships): March 8-15, 2025.



49 French athletes took part in the various races of this MWC (3 individual races for each category, plus one relay per category): in total, our delegation brought home 11 medals (including one gold by our M12 (86-90 years old) Georges Heinrich).

While the conditions were quite difficult, with very mild conditions and very wet and « turbulent » snow, the results were rather mixed, but expected given the absences in our team.

- The French Masters Cross-Country Skiing Championships and the National Biathlon Challenge, which took place on March 29 and 30, 2025, in Haute Maurienne Vanoise, in Bessans.



In total, 177 runners (a great score!) competed for the podiums in the different categories, including 48 biathletes, who in addition to the individual biathlon event on Saturday, participated, for a good number of them, in the 20km freestyle cross-country skiing event on Sunday: the conditions were very good in this Haute-Maurienne resort, and the fun was there for all the racers, cross-country skiers and biathletes alike.

All results and reports are available online on the association's website:
<https://masterskinordique.fr/>

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