



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, 11.06.2026

## Annual Report on Masters Cross-Country Skiing in Germany 2025/2026

Here is the season report for the German Masters cross-country skiers' past winter season. Basically, we were able to hold all the races we had planned. However, it is becoming increasingly difficult to plan ahead. Winter is showing us its limitations. There has been no consistent snowfall, and it is getting harder and harder to access trails when there is hardly any snow on the ground. As a result, skiers are unable to log training kilometers on snow, and many former racers are deciding not to compete.

In many low mountain ranges, roller ski training therefore remains essential even during the winter months to prepare for races. Our potential race weekends are also becoming fewer and fewer, and then there are the many cross-country skiing races across Europe and around the world where many still want to compete. Added to this are the two German ski marathon events in Bodenmais and Oberammergau, which also offer opportunities to compete and win medals for participants of all age groups (even without a race card or membership card from a regional ski association).

The Nordic Masters sports division offers a total of three competitions for you each year, which are described below:

### German Championship Short-Distance

This year, we got an early start on the German and Bavarian Masters Championships. From January 16-18, 2026, the short-distance races took place in Garmisch-Partenkirchen-Kaltenbrunn, featuring the 10 km individual start race in classic technique, the regional association relays over 3 x 5 km (classic, freestyle, freestyle), and the 21 km mass start race in freestyle.

In collaboration with the Skigau Werdenfels e.V. Biathlon Club, the volunteers were able to organize a wonderful German Championship for you here, thanks to excellent course and snow conditions. The races took place on a 2.5 km and 3.0 km loop, two-thirds of which was covered with artificial snow. Nevertheless, several hours of snow shoveling were required on the course. However, the event deserved more participants. In particular, there are hardly any starters left from the state ski associations outside of Bavaria. This is especially noticeable in the German Relay Championships, as there are hardly any state ski associations with three active athletes at the start. In the women's division, the situation is unfortunately even more extreme.



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Nevertheless, in addition to the DSV (German Ski Federation) and BSV (Bavarian Ski Federation) medals, the participants in all three races were honored outdoors with a wide variety of prizes at the award ceremonies. We would like to thank the many generous sponsors for providing these prizes.

The following competitors won the German championship titles in Kaltenbrunn this year:

10 km classic technique individual start:

Gold Bernhard Langer (SCMK Hirschau, BSV)  
Silver Andreas Tannert (SKG Gersfeld, HSV)  
Bronze Lorenz Fischer (SC Prien am Chiemsee, BSV)

Gold Kerstin Drexler (TSG Leutkirch, SBW)  
Silver Katrin Enders (SWV Goldlauter, TSV)  
Bronze Birgit Wagner (SC Lanzenhain, HSV)

State Ski Association Relays 3 x 5 km (CT, FT, FT):

Performance class I:

Gold BSV I (Lorenz Fischer, Frank Neumeier, Heinz Hammerschmid)  
Silver BSV II (Falko Schwabe, Markus Ulrich, Dominik Mages)  
Bronze HSV (Björn Henrich, Richard Rogge, Michael Henning)

Performance class II:

Gold BSV I (Bernhard Langer, Viktor Renner, Gerhard Bauer)  
Silver WSV (Sven Pöppel, Andreas Hachmann, Andre Müller)  
Bronze BSV II (Lars Schuster, Andreas Dillemath, Michael Grotz)

20 km Free technique mass start:

Gold Lorenz Fischer (SC Prien am Chiemsee, BSV)  
Silver Andreas Tannert (SKG Gersfeld, HSV)  
Bronze Michael Henning (SC Lanzenhain, HSV)

Gold Greta Hoppe (SC Rosenheim, BSV)  
Silver Katrin Enders (SWV Goldlauter, TSV)  
Bronze Sandra Kölbel (SC Norweger Annaberg, SVSAC)

Unfortunately, we were barely able to field any relay teams for the women's relay race in the afternoon. The relay was won by Kerstin Drexler, Monika Meyer, and Katrin Enders (TSV/SBW), ahead of Anna-Malena Reimers, Claudia Bregulla, and



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Liudmila Rettenecker (SVSAC/BSV), and ahead of Eugenia Propp, Christine Moors, and Gertrud Härer (BSV).



GCh winner 21 km FT Lorenz Fischer (SC Prien am Chiemsee)



GCh winner 21 km FT Greta Hoppe (SC Rosenheim)

---

*Andreas Dillmuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillmuth@googl email .com*

---



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

National er Direktor Deutschl and



Prizes for the award ceremonies at the BCh and GCh on Day 1



Prizes for the award ceremonies at the BCh and GCh on Day 2

A total of 54 participants registered for the first day of racing; 5 did not show up at the start and one withdrew, meaning that only 48 participants were included in the final standings.

For the men's relays, nearly all those present were able to take the start. The Bavarian relay teams are clearly dominant here. The other state ski associations need

---

*Andreas Dillmuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillmuth@googl email .com*

---



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschl and

to do more to promote the sport within their ranks and broaden their base for the future.

The second day of racing saw a slight increase in the number of entrants, with 72 registered participants; however, 6 of those registered did not show up at the start, so 66 participants were ultimately included in the results.

Overall, the German Championships served as a good opportunity for the runners who had already committed to the Master World Cup two weeks later to assess their current form, with the chance to compete in three races.

The next step is to find a host for the 2027 German Championships—and ideally for 2028 as well—and hopefully we'll find a club willing to organize a great tournament for us. It's already clear that we'll need to rely on artificial snow production or proximity to the Alps, as securing reliable venues will become even more challenging in the future due to climate conditions.

Overall, however, it doesn't make sense to hold DM races in places where there are no participants, no connection to Masters cross-country skiing, and where there has been at most two weeks of snow in recent winters—unless we're using roller skis.

However, I would like to take this opportunity to once again urge that special emphasis be placed on increasing the participation of German Masters cross-country skiers in the upcoming winter season's German Championships for both short- and long-distance events. The dates (February 12-14, 2027) are set here because, as in many previous years, the German Championships are intended to serve as a benchmark for participants in the Masters World Cup. The hope is that many strong competitors will express interest in relay teams early on and that a large number of them will take advantage of this opportunity.

The 2027 Masters World Cup will then take place from February 25 to March 5, 2027, just under two weeks after the German Short Distance Championships, which are scheduled for that time.

In 2028, the Masters World Cup will take place very early in the year, from January 14-23, 2028, in Lahti, Finland. I find it difficult to schedule a German Championship as early as December 2027, but it might not be entirely out of the question in Finsterau or Bayerisch Eisenstein. Or perhaps it should be held after the event in Finland in February.



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

## 2026 Masters World Cup Brings More Great Successes for the Small German Team

This year, the organizing committee of Sappada / Forni Avoltri in the Dolomites, Italy—led by committee president and Olympic champion Silvio Fauner, with course director Pietro Pillitter, also an Olympic champion—hosted the 2026 Masters World Cup in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region. A total of 830 participants from 24 nations turned out in large numbers from January 29 to February 6, 2026, for the unofficial World Championships of Masters cross-country skiers.

This year, the German Masters team had only 70 registered participants. Unfortunately, four participants fell ill and were unable to travel. Once we arrived, we unfortunately had one participant who fell ill, and in the first race, Josef Ilgner suffered an injury in a crash, which meant he was unable to stay with us for the rest of the race week.

We already sent him our best wishes for a speedy recovery while he was there, and I'd like to do so again here. His rehab is already underway. All the best, Josef!!



Josef Ilgner, the unlucky one who collided with his Austrian teammate—the two have been racing together for over 32 years.

It's encouraging to see, as his recent photos show, that he's back on track and was even able to get back on his narrow cross-country skis in the Black Forest by the end of the winter, following his femoral neck fracture.



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

As usual, the MWC medals were contested over five days of racing in various competitions in the classic and freestyle disciplines on the race courses covering distances of 5, 10, 15, 20, and 30 kilometers, each with a mass start.

Race days 1 and 2, featuring the first four races, were marked by excellent winter conditions and afternoon sunshine. On relay day at the biathlon facility in Forni Avoltri, in the valley adjacent to Sappada, conditions were challenging for all participants due to heavy fresh snowfall. However, the German team's medal haul in the relay was outstanding.

The final two race days, featuring the long-distance events, were again marked by fresh snow during the skating race and, until early morning, by wet fresh snow leading up to the final classic race.

Although the German Masters cross-country skiing team was smaller overall compared to the team from Klosters 2025, it secured a total of 51 medals (11 gold, 15 silver, 25 bronze) across the 7 cross-country events. In the relay races in Forni Avoltri on the biathlon course over 4 x 5 kilometers (KT, KT, FT, FT), there were seven medals: 1 gold, 2 silver, and 4 bronze.

The German Nordic Masters team finished in a solid 5th place in the medal count. Following victories in 2024 and 2025, the Finnish team once again took the top spot with 81 medals (37 gold, 27 silver, 17 bronze), and they further improved their medal tally compared to 2024 in Vuokatti on home soil!

List of achievements by DSV competitors, broken down by state ski associations based on medals won:

BSV:

Isabel Schöberl (SCMK Hirschau)

Gold 15 km Klassisch F01

Silver 4 x 5 km Staffel F01

Gold 30 km Freie Technik F01

Greta Hoppe (SC Rosenheim)

Gold 30 km Klassisch F02

Bronze 30 km Freie Technik F02

Irene Schroll (SC Vachendorf)

Bronze 15 km Freie Technik F06

Silver 10 km Freie Technik F06

Silver 4 x 5 km Staffel F03

Bronze 30 km Freie Technik F06



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Renate Forstner (SC Rosenheim)  
Gold 15 km Freie Technik F04  
Silver 10 km Klassisch F04

Barbara Vogler (SC Oberstdorf)  
Bronze 10 km Freie Technik F03

Liudmila Rettenecker (WSV Reit im Winkel)  
Silver 4 x 5 km Staffel F03

Daniel Götz (SV Bergdorf-Höhn)  
Silver 20 km Klassisch M02  
Bronze 10 km Klassisch M02  
Gold 10 km Freie Technik M02

Viktor Renner (TSV Mönchröden)  
Silver 20 km Klassisch M06  
Gold 4 x 5 km Staffel M06

Markus Meister (SCMK Hirschau)  
Bronze 20 km Klassisch M04  
Bronze 10 km Klassisch M04  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M04  
Bronze 30 km Freie Technik M04

Bernhard Langer (SCMK Hirschau)  
Bronze 20 km Klassisch M06  
Bronze 10 km Klassisch M06  
Gold 4 x 5 km Staffeln M06

Jürgen Hahn (SC Ruhpolding)  
Bronze 10 km Freie Technik M12  
Bronze 5 km Freie Technik M12  
Silver 15 km Freie Technik M12

Franz Jocham (SC Sonthofen)  
Silver 5 km Freie Technik M11

Josef Wolf (SC Ruhpolding)  
Bronze 10 km Klassisch M01  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M01  
Bronze 30 km Klassisch M01

Ludwig Höfler (Concordia Burggen)



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Bronze 4 x 2,5 km Staffel M10

Thomas Langer (TV Kempten)  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M01

Michael Vogler (SC Oberstdorf)  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M04

Gerhard Bauer (DJK Falkenberg)  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M04

Jakob Propp (WSV Oberweissenbrunn)  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M08

Erwin Haas (RC Allgäu)  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M08

Ludwig Rehm (SC Oberstdorf)  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M04

TSV:  
Lutz Trösse (SV TU Ilmenau)  
Gold 15 km KT M10  
Bronze 4 x 2,5 km Staffel M10

Bernhard Schneider (SV TU Ilmenau)  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M04

Katrin Enders (SWV Goldlauter)  
Silver 15 km KT F06  
Silver 30 km KT F06  
Silver 4 x 5 km Staffel F01

Klaus Wiesner (SWV Goldlauter)  
Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M08

VHSV:  
Reinhold Wolter (Bergedorfer Skiclub)  
Bronze 10 km KT M12  
Bronze 15 km KT M12

SVSAC:  
Ulrich Friedemann (SC Norweger Annaberg)



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Bronze 4 x 2,5 km Staffel M10

Michael Richter (Freital)

Gold 20 km KT M06

Gold 10 km KT M06

Gold 4 x 5 km Staffel M06

Gold 30 km KT M06

SSV:

Kerstin Drexler (TSG Leutkirch)

Silver 15 km KT F07

Silver 10 km KT F07

Silver 4 x 5 km Staffel F01

Bronze 30 km KT F07

SVS:

Linda Becker (SC Vöhrenbach)

Gold 15 km KT F02

Silver 10 km KT F02

Silver 4 x 5 km Staffel F01

Silver 30 km KT F02

Manuel Becker (SC Vöhrenbach)

Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M01

Herbert Dold (SZ Brend)

Bronze 15 km KT M09

Silver 10 km KT M09

Max Karle (SC Schönau)

Bronze 4 x 2,5 km Staffel M10

HSV:

Michaela Heuss (SC Lanzenhain)

Bronze 10 km KT F05

Silver 4 x 5 km Staffel F03

Bronze 30 km KT F05

Birgit Wagner (SC Lanzenhain)

Silver 4 x 5 km Staffel F03

Michael Henning (SC Lanzenhain)

Bronze 4 x 5 km Staffel M01



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Andreas Tannert (SGK Gersfeld)  
Gold 4 x 5 km Staffel M06  
Bronze 30 km KT M06

Below are the most successful multiple medalists on the German team:

Damen:

Isabel Schöberl, BSV	2 x Gold, 1 x Silver F01
Linda Becker, SVS	1 x Gold, 3 x Silver F02
Renate Forstner, BSV	1 x Gold, 1 x Silver F03
Greta Hoppe, BSV	1 x Gold, 1 x Bronze F02
Kerstin Drexler, SVS	3 x Silver, 1 x Bronze, F07
Katrin Enders, TSV	3 x Silver F06
Irene Schroll, BSV	2 x Silver, 2 x Bronze F06
Michaela Heuss, HSC	1 x Silver, 2 x Bronze, F05

Herren:

Michael Richter, SVSAC	4 x Gold M06
Bernhard Langer, BSV	1 x Gold, 2 x Bronze, M06
Daniel Götz, BSV	1 x Gold, 1 Silver, 1 x Bronze M02
Viktor Renner, BSV	1 x Gold, 1 x Silver M06
Andreas Tannert, HSV	1 x Gold, 1 x Bronze M06
Lutz Trösse, TSV	1 x Gold, 1 x Bronze M10
Jürgen Hahn, BSV	1 x Silver, 2 x Bronze M12
Herbert Dold, SVS	1 x Silver, 1 x Bronze M09
Markus Meister, BSV	4 x Bronze M04
Josef Wolf, BSV	3 x Bronze M01
Reinhold Wolter, VHSV	2 x Bronze M12

Nachfolgend alle deutschen Medaillengewinner in den 4 x 5 Kilometer Staffeln:

Isabel Schöberl, BSV	Silver F01
Kerstin Drexler, SSV	Silver F01
Katrin Enders, TSV	Silver F01
Linda Becker, SVS	Silver F01

Michaela Heuss, HSV	Silver F03
Birgit Wagner, HSV	Silver F03
Liudmila Rettenegger, BSV	Silver F03
Irene Schroll, BSV	Silver F03

Josef Wolf, BSV	Bronze M01
-----------------	------------



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Manuel Becker, SVS	Bronze M01
Michael Henning, HSV	Bronze M01
Thomas Langer, BSV	Bronze M01
Markus Meister, BSV	Bronze M04
Bernhard Schneider, TSV	Bronze M04
Michael Vogler, BSV	Bronze M04
Gerhard Bauer, BSV	Bronze M04
Michael Richter, SVSAC	Gold M06
Bernhard Langer, BSV	Gold M06
Viktor Renner, BSV	Gold M06
Andreas Tannert, HSV	Gold M06
Jakob Propp, BSV	Bronze M08
Erwin Haas, BSV	Bronze M08
Klaus Wiesner, TSV	Bronze M08
Ludwig Rehm, BSV	Bronze M08
Lutz Trösse, TSV	Bronze M10
Ulrich Friedemann, SVSAC	Bronze M10
Max Karle, SVS	Bronze M10
Ludwig Höfler, BSV	Bronze M10

Statistically speaking, the team achieved a total of 14 fourth-place finishes, 6 fifth-place finishes, and another 37 top-10 finishes. That's quite an achievement.



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Photo gallery from Sappada and Forni Avoltri at the 2026 World Cup:



---

*Andreas Dillmuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillmuth@googl email .com*

---



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



The starting area at the Sappada Ski Stadium, set against the stunning backdrop of the Dolomites

---

*Andreas Dillmuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillmuth@googl email .com*

---



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



Medal selection for the winners

Relay results at the Forni Avoltri Biathlon Stadium:



Silver medal Staffel F01 with Linda Becker, Kerstin Drexler, Isabel Schöberl, Katrin Enders



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



Silver medal Staffel F03 with Irene Schroll, Birgit Wagner, Liudmila Rettenegger, Michaela Heuss



Bronze medal Staffel M01 with Josef Wolf, Michael Henning, Thomas Langer, Manuel Becker

---

Andreas Dillmuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillmuth@googl email .com

---



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



Bronze medal Staffel M04 with Bernhard Schneider, Michael Vogler, Gerhard Bauer, Markus Meister



Gold medal Staffel M06 with Viktor Renner, Michael Richter, Bernhard Langer, Andreas Tannert

---

Andreas Dillmuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillmuth@googl email .com

---



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



Bronze medal Staffel M08 with Jakob Propp, Klaus Wiesner, Ludwig Rehm, Erwin Haas



Bronze medal Staffel M10 with Lutz Trösse, Ullrich Friedemann, Max Karl, Ludwig Höfler



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



Michael Richter with maximum yield: 4 x Gold medals in M06



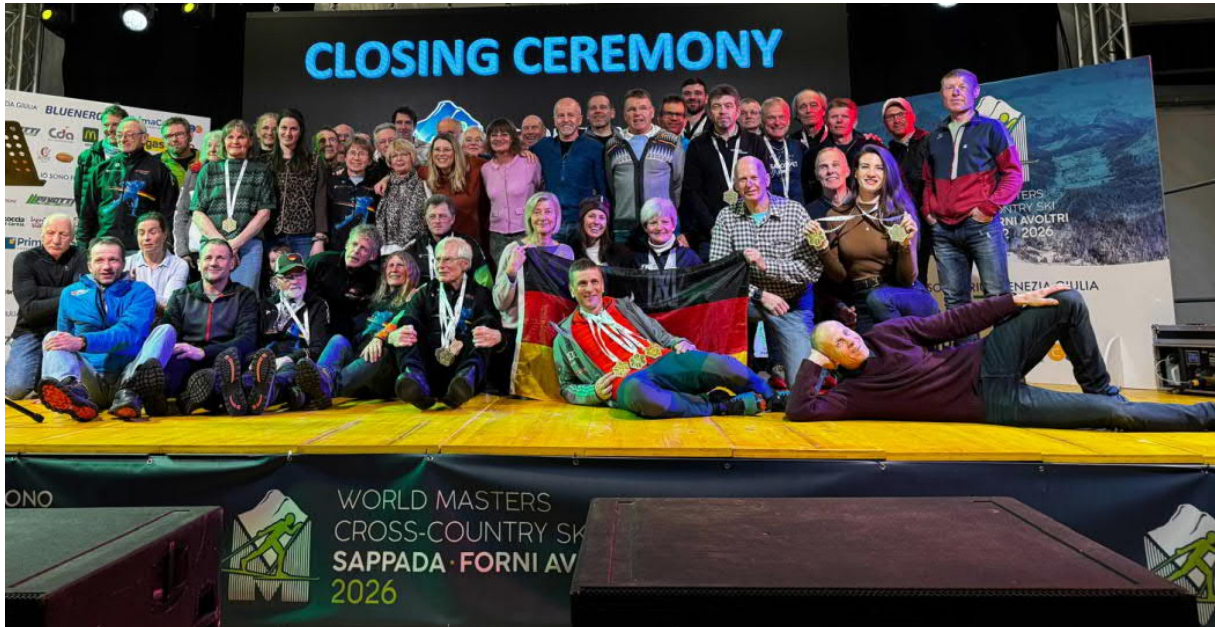
A very pleased team coach, Andreas Dillemuth, on the sidelines of the relay races, which featured incredible snowfall and a great medal haul—much to the delight of the classic-style skiers

*Andreas Dillemuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillemuth@googl email .com*



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



The successful DSV Masters Nordic Team at the banquet following the final awards ceremony



Italian Olympic legends on stage in Sappada

Andreas Dill emuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dill emuth@googl email .com



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



The Olympic champion legends relay team, featuring Fulvio Valbusa, Pietro Piller Cottrer, Marco Albarello, and Silvio Fauner, will be at the starting line in Forni Avoltri



Handover from Pietro Piller Cottrer to Silvio Fauner

Olympic champions Silvio Fauner and Pietro Piller Cottrer, along with other stars of Italian cross-country skiing, organized and hosted a fantastic race week for us in Sappada—the hometown of biathlete Lisa Vitozzi—featuring the three individual



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschl and

events on the Masters World Cup schedule; some of the Italian Olympic champions even competed in the relay.

The Masters event concluded with great success for the German team in terms of medals. The cheerful participants were given a warm send-off with a lovely closing banquet, music, and dancing, and the WMA flag was ceremoniously handed over to the Norwegian organizers.

The next Masters World Cup will take place from February 25 to March 5, 2027, in Tromsø, Northern Norway, above the Arctic Circle.

I'm already looking forward to a very special event set in a unique landscape, and I hope to see a good turnout at the upcoming Masters Cross-Country Skiing World Championships / Masters World Cup in Norway. The list of hotels and further information have already been sent to all Masters athletes on the Masters mailing list. Here is the organizer's link again for your reference: [msm.no/en/masters-world-cup/](http://msm.no/en/masters-world-cup/)

Hopefully, we'll see you in Tromsø in 2027.

In this report, I would also like to highlight athletes from the Masters division, particularly in recognition of their exceptional achievements:

In the women's division, I would like to mention once again the highly successful age-group competitor Kerstin Drexler (Women's Age Group 61) from the TSG-Skiläuferzunft Leutkirch (Swabian Ski Association), who, on Day 1 of the German Short-Distance Championships in Kaltenbrunn, secured the day's victory in the 10 km race—albeit by a narrow margin—as well as the fastest relay time in the classic technique, once again leaving the entire young competition behind. In Sappada, she won three silver medals and one bronze medal and played a major role in the “young” women's relay team's silver medal victory.

She has now increased her own impressive international medal tally at the Masters World Cups to 39 medals (8 gold, 12 silver, 19 bronze).

I'd also like to highlight Linda Becker (SV Vöhrenbach), a young age-group athlete from the Black Forest who, as a mother of three, manages to balance her career, family, and sports. As she did at the MWC in 2023 and 2025, Linda once again secured four medals (1 gold, 3 silver) in Sappada, this time in the F02 age group, and also contributed to the silver medal in the first women's relay. Her husband Manuel was hampered by health issues this year and was able to win “only” the bronze medal in the M01 category with the first men's relay team. Overall, it's impressive and remarkable how the two manage to balance sports, family, and participating in the MWC.



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Another standout performer in the women's division is Katrin Enders (SWV Goldlauter) in the 56-and-over age group, who won medals at the German Championships in Kaltenbrunn and took home three silver medals at the World Masters Championships in Sappada. Katrin played a major role in the women's relay team's silver medal.

Another young Masters athlete worth mentioning is Isabel Schöberl (SCMK Hirschau), who won two gold medals in the F01 age group and contributed to the silver medal in the women's relay at the MWC in Sappada, as well as a silver medal at the classic German Long-Distance Championships at the end of the season on Lake Arbersee.

Another standout is Greta Hoppe (SC Rosenheim), an up-and-coming "young athlete" in the 36-and-over age group with a young daughter, who won a gold and a bronze medal at the MWC in Sappada, as well as the gold medal at the German Championships in Kaltenbrunn on race day 2 in the 21 km FT. She also won the gold medal at the German Championships in Seefeld in 2025, where she set the fastest time of the day.

Other outstanding medalists at this year's MWC event include Renate Forstner, Irene Schroll, Michaela Heuss, Birgit Wagner, and Liudmila Rettenegger in the women's division.

Thank you for your hard work, your time, and your enthusiasm for competing in cross-country skiing races in the Masters category at the Masters World Cups and German Championships.



Isabel Schöberl und Linda Becker looking happy in the finish area in Sappada



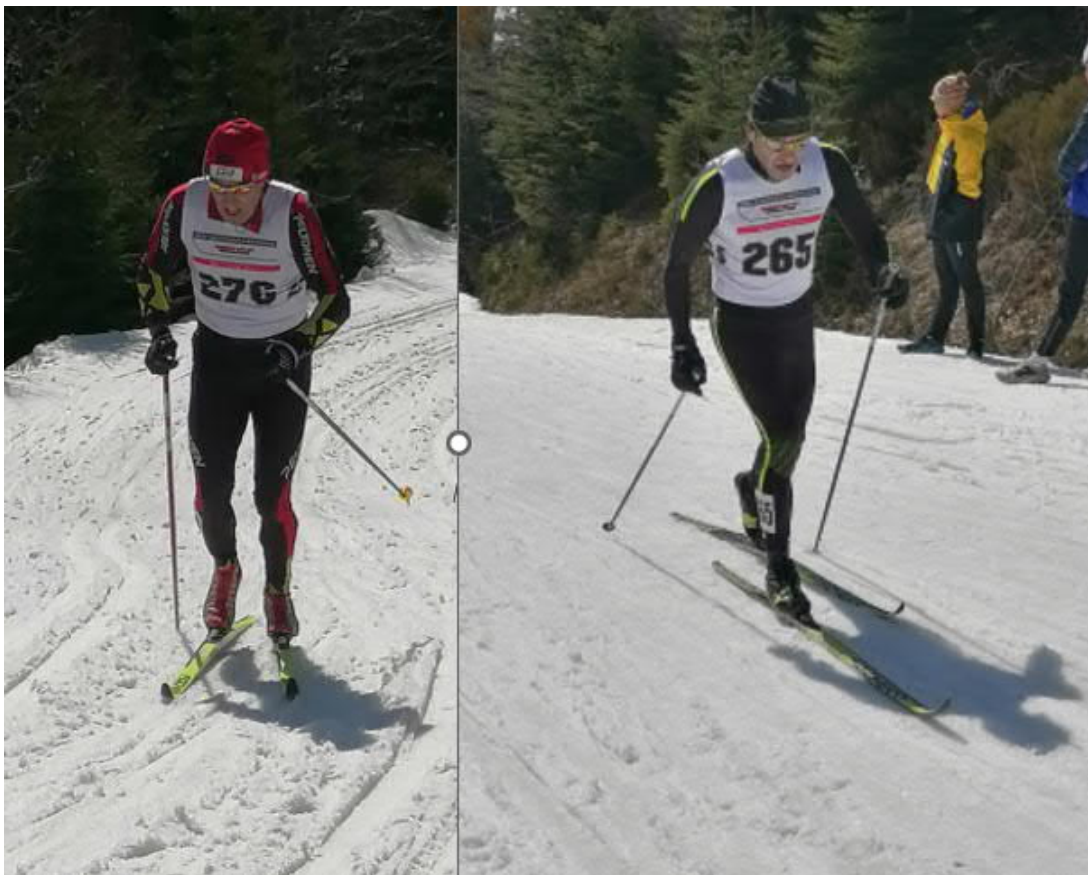
THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

In the men's division, two athletes in the age-group categories consistently stand out, as they have been extremely successful in their respective age groups (now in the M06 and M07 categories) for many years and have been driving up each other's impressive medal tallies at the Masters World Cups. Bernhard Langer (59) of SCMK Hirschau, a former participant in Junior World Championships, now has a total of 49 World Championship medals (8 gold, 19 silver, 22 bronze) to his credit following his medal wins (1 gold, 2 bronze) in Sappada.

He is closely followed by Bernhard Schneider (64) from Thuringia, representing SV TU Ilmenau, who now has a total of 45 World Championship medals (13 gold, 14 silver, 18 bronze).

During the 2026 MWC, Bernhard Langer laid the groundwork for the gold medal in the M06 relay with his classic time, and Bernhard Schneider laid the groundwork for the bronze medal in the M04 relay in Forni Avoltri with his classic round.



Medal winners Bernhard Langer and Bernhard Schneider, pictured here at the German Championships at Arbersee



Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Particularly noteworthy this year is Michael Richter from Saxony in the M06 age group, who won a total of four gold medals and, with his leg of the relay, laid the groundwork for the M06 relay team's gold medal victory at the MWC.

In addition, Daniel Götz (SV Bergdorf-Höhn) in the M02 age group is an up-and-coming Bavarian athlete who has already won numerous medals over the past few years and also shone at the MWC in Sappada with 1 gold, 1 silver, and 1 bronze. To cap off the season, he won the silver medal at the German Long-Distance Championships at Arbersee.

Another strong runner in the M04 age group is Markus Meister of SCMK Hirschau, who continues to add to his medal tally and returned from Sappada just as successful, with four bronze medals. He then secured another bronze medal at the German Championships at Arbersee to round out the winter season.

Also worth mentioning are this year's multiple winners from the MWC in Sappada:

Viktor Renner, Andreas Tannert, Lutz Trösse, Jürgen Hahn, Herbert Dold, Josef Wolf, and Reinhold Wolter.

We would also like to thank these gentlemen for their tremendous dedication to training, as well as for the time and enthusiasm they have shown in competing in the Masters World Cup and the German Championships.

And now, for inspiration and further motivation to follow in these athletes' footsteps, in keeping with the old slogan "Cross-country skiers live longer" !!!

Below is the all-time list of the most successful German medalists at Masters World Cups, but here we present only the Top Ten:

Ser.No.	First name, Last name	Year	Entries	Period	Individual and Relay			
					Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Sigrid Klinge (†)	42	20	1992 bis 2011	24	20	9	53
2	Manfred Häusler	50	18	1985 bis 2006	21	17	14	52
3	Elke Bolsinger	40	15	1985 bis 2003	21	19	9	49
4	Bernhard Langer	67	19	1998 bis heute	8	19	22	49
5	Walter Hierlmeier	41	27	1985 bis 2017	6	28	14	48
6	Bernhard Schneider	62	18	1996 bis heute	13	14	18	45
7	Kerstin Drexler	65	15	1999 bis heute	8	12	19	39
8	Klaus Weiss	44	20	1984 bis 2017	10	15	11	36
9	Ferdl Kraller	51	23	1994 bis heute	16	12	5	33
10	Sepp Rederer (†)	37	20	1986 bis 2006	10	7	12	29

Table of Germany's top medalists at the Senior World Championships / MWC from 1982 to 2026



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschl and

## German Cross-Country Skiing Championships long-distance

From March 26-29, 2026, the German Cross-Country Skiing Championships, organized by the German Ski Association, took place at the Hohenzollern Biathlon Stadium on Lake Arber to mark the end of the cross-country skiing season. SV Bayer. Eisenstein and SC Zwiesel e.V. organized these races exceptionally well for all participants, whether junior athletes from the German Cup, elite athletes, or Masters competitors. The 2.5 km race course was grueling and demanded a lot from the Masters participants. The best German cross-country skiers and several Olympians, such as Friedrich Moch and Katharina Dotzler-Hennig, lined up alongside the Masters athletes at the starting line for the mass start races on March 28 and 29, 2026.

In the women's division, Sigrid Mutscheller of WSV Isny won the Masters title in the 20 km classic technique race, finishing ahead of Isabel Schöberl (SCMK Hirschau) and Birgit Wagner (SC Lanzenhain). In the men's division, Christoph Friedl of WSV Skadi Bodenmais, as he did in 2025 in Seefeld, won the 20 km race and the Masters title ahead of Daniel Götz (SV Bergdorf-Höhn) and Markus Meister (SCMK Hirschau).

Unfortunately, there were only 36 entries by the end of the season; 5 participants did not start and 6 did not finish, leaving 25 participants in the final standings.

The awards ceremony for the Masters cross-country skiers took place in the ski stadium immediately following the races. With yet another array of prizes, the season came to a close with German Championship medals for the Masters cross-country skiers. Some Masters athletes were then able to compete once more in their club relays at the German Championships on March 29, 2026.

The combined long-distance championship had 264 participants, and squad athlete Luggi Bögl noted positively during the competitive sports awards ceremony that the large cross-country skiing family—from students to youth and the general class—can compete alongside the Masters athletes.



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

Scenes from the trail at Arbersee—there was still plenty of snow:



Women's Masters with Sigrid Mutscheller, Isabel Schöberl, and Birgit Wagner



Men's Masters with Christoph Friedl, Daniel Götz, Markus Meister



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



The winners crossing the finish line in the men's race



Awards Ceremony for the Men's and Women's Masters Overall Standings

The German Championship was seen as a successful event following the club relay races. The goal should be for the Masters athletes to continue participating, even though the season is very long and the courses aren't exactly the easiest. But even at the Masters World Cup, we often face challenging courses and tough climbs.

Looking ahead, I would like to see the representatives of the state ski associations and all Masters athletes in their respective ski clubs actively work to increase the number of participants for the upcoming winter season; otherwise, we run the risk of no longer being able to hold short-distance events with host clubs, which are



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

becoming increasingly difficult to find. Support, particularly from the Bavarian and German Ski Associations, remains strong. There are German and Bavarian championship medals and DSV and BSV certificates to recognize this. Unfortunately, other state associations have some catching up to do, and it would be great if we could compete again in the Black Forest, Hesse, Thuringia, or Saxony.

It's up to all of us to bring more energy and higher participation rates to the races on offer. Not everyone can win, but simply participating is a success in itself. Unfortunately, many age groups are barely filled, which means that in many of them, athletes can easily win medals. However, it's a shame and not a pretty sight when almost every podium isn't fully occupied.

To wrap up the next season, there will again be an opportunity to participate in the German Long-Distance Championships, which are still planned to take place alongside the DSV elite athletes and the junior team as part of the German Cup, likely in Oberstdorf at the end of March 2027, and hopefully will then be able to count on more Masters participants.

### Future Masters World Cup



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

The next World Masters Cross-Country Ski Championships (MWCs) are scheduled for 2027 in Tromsø, 2028 in Lahti, and 2029 in Canmore. Lillehammer is already expressing interest for 2030, and Sapporo possibly for 2032. The World Masters Cross-Country Ski Association (WMA) is therefore very confident about the international Nordic Masters races, which have been held since 1982.

For 2031, I briefly held out hope of possibly securing an organizer in Thuringia, but that prospect has now fallen through. Unfortunately, there are no other candidates in Germany either.

A Masters World Cup week is estimated to cost approximately €500,000, making it very difficult to find host clubs or organizing committees.

This means that long-distance flights will be necessary for the next few years.

However, this isn't a problem for the next event in Tromsø, since the city has an airport and it only takes 15 minutes to get to the city center.



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland



Tromsø, Norway, host city for 2027



Collaboration with the German Ski Association (DSV)

Since October 2022, I have served as the Nordic Masters Representative for the German Ski Association (DSV), holding a volunteer position in the area of competitive sports and sports development.

Over the past season, I have participated several times in the evening digital consultation hours for DSV Sports Development & Education and the Sustainability Network Meeting. Digital consultation hours are held approximately every three months with the state ski association representatives for the Masters, in cooperation with the DSV office.

---

*Andreas Dillmuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillmuth@googlemail.com*

---



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

I am in constant communication with the DSV office regarding matters pertaining to national Masters cross-country skiing. This includes preparing the German Championship announcements, insuring our events, ordering and picking up certificates and medals, assisting with exemption applications for the Masters World Cups, handling press and media relations on the DSV website, managing social media posts on Instagram, and other planning efforts related to Nordic Masters sports.

The DSV office offered a selection of winter sports apparel, including a cold-weather winter parka from Ziener and other items, which were sent to you this winter. Unfortunately, not as many people as expected took advantage of this offer. The parka has been ordered and will be shipped directly to those who ordered it at the start of winter.

In the Nordic Masters division, you can still order the latest summer and winter sports collections from the manufacturer "Bioracer." We now have 40 different clothing items to choose from. Production can begin with an order of 5 items or more. Following our MWC event in Sappada, we made it possible once again for new team members in particular to place orders through the online store.

I'd like to thank everyone who has already purchased the team apparel. As the German Masters Nordic Team, we're easily recognizable at our international races and make a positive impression. A uniform look really makes a difference.

For next winter, the earliest opportunity to place an order will be in October. However, please let me know so that we can set up the online store again and you can place new orders or reorders there as before. If you'd like cycling or running gear from the Masters collection, please let me know as well. Thank you very much.



For example: the current corporate jacket

---

*Andreas Dillmuth, Burgstraße 73, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Tel.: 0172-6612941, E-Mail: andreas.dillmuth@googl email .com*

---



THE WORLD MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION

Nationaler Direktor Deutschland

And as always:

If you know of any sponsors who would like to financially support our wonderful sport of cross-country skiing and the German Masters Team, please feel free to put them in touch with me.

That concludes the 2025/2026 annual report. It's comprehensive, lengthy, but important—and hopefully informative and a source of continued motivation for you to pursue the right outdoor sport. Thank you for your support, your kind words, and your encouraging encouragement throughout the season. Without you, our Masters cross-country skiing wouldn't be possible, and somehow, we'll keep moving forward.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, which currently includes over 450 individuals and organizations, please let me know. If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please let me know as well. We encourage you to share this season report.



Cheers and best regards

Andreas Dilleluth

WMA National Director for Nordic Masters in Germany  
DSV Representative for Nordic Masters