



ANNUAL REPORT

Activities of Latvian Masters Cross-Country Ski of winter season 2019

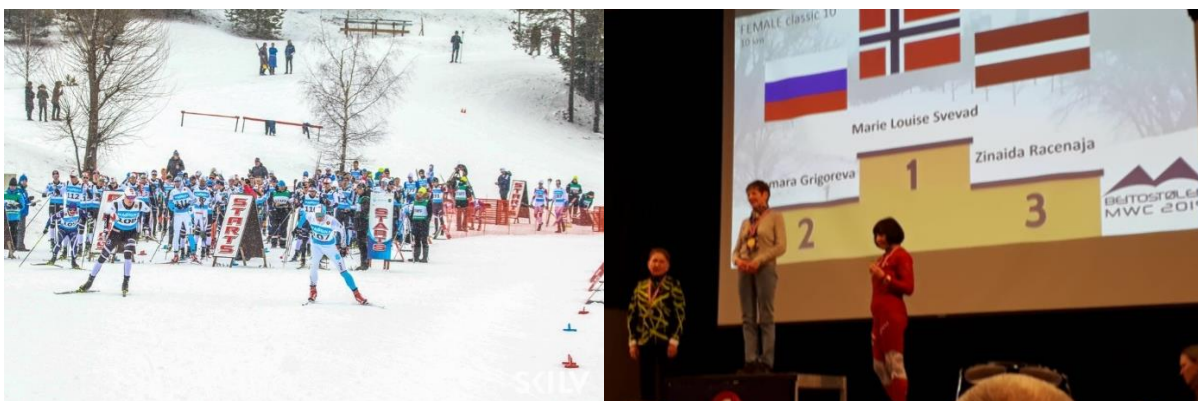
And yet again it might be a global warming that impacts the snow layer in Latvia, as well as the rest of the world. Most stable snow layer was during February, what created good preconditions to have few well-visited races every weekend, as well as during the week.

As usually most of the master skiers were gathering in cross country skiing competition organized by the Union of Master Sports of Latvia. As nowadays, most of the races are organized in skating (free style), it was really nice to see a lot of skiers in popular races of three Latloppet skiing stages, which were organized in classical style. From the organizers it is a great initiative to popularize classical technique as the best skiing style for athlete's body and health.

Another positive thing to see is that our major skiing center grows even bigger. Skiing center "Smeceris Sils" in Madona were under construction during the winter season and for the next season they have built completely new stadium with modern biathlon shooting range and very spacious field for start and finish area. It is completely asphalted, plus they have 2,5km very demanding roller skiing loop. Not only Scandinavian Cup they are hosting, also this summer Municipality of Madona organized FIS Rollerski World Championship, which was the most attended Championship so far, plus our talented young skier Raimo Vigants took bronze medal in 20km Mass start race, beating Russian beasts Alexander Bolshunov, Aleksei Chervotkin, Yevgeny Dementyev and all the Norwegians, who were there.

By letting our athletes prepare themselves decently, we felt very positive effect from the snowy February also in MWC2018 in Beitostølen, where on our 7 participants, we got 3 medals in W10 group – 2 bronzes and 1 silver.

Hoping to see our athletes also in MWC 2020 in Cogne, I am wishing everyone a successful autumn and winter period!



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DATE	EVENTS <i>(includes masters category)</i>	LOCATION	GROUPS, DISTANCE	PARTICIPANTS <i>(in masters category)</i>
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January

05.01.2019	Sprint race "Sprints of Riga" (artificial snow)	Riga SC „Victory park”	(M04+)-3km F (W04+)- 3km F	20 5
27.01.2019	Latloppet 2019 – 1st stage (natural snow)	Jaunpiebalga “Vanagkalns”	W(02;04;06) 20km C M(02;04;06) – 20 km C	15 57

February

02.02.2019	Popular Skiing "Madona" (natural snow)	Madona SC "Smeceres sils"	W(01;03;05) 16,5km F M(01;03;05;07) 16,5km F	21 99
03.02.2019	Popular Skiing "Āriņi 2019" (natural snow)	Gulbene	W(02;04;07) 3 km F M(02;04;07) - 5kmF	9 13
09.02.2019	Popular Skiing "The festival of Vanagkalns" (natural snow)	Jaunpiebalga "	W(03;05;07) 18km F M(03;05;07) 18km F	25 64
09.02.2019	Latvian masters championship	Madona SC "Smeceres sils" LSVS	W(01-11) 2-10km F M(01-11) 2-10km F	54 110
10.02.2019	Popular skiing "Ogre 2019" (natural snow)	Ogre SC "Zilie kalni"	W(01;03;05) 15km F M(01;03;05;07) 15km F	11 44
17.02.2019	Championship of Latvia (natural snow)	Sigulda SC „Fischer”	(W03+) 5km C (M03+) 10 km C	0 4
23.02.2019	Popular Skiing "Around Lake Alauksts"	Vecpiebalga	W(02;03;04;05;06)- 22km F M(02;03;04;05;06) 22km F	22 85
24.02.2019.	Latloppet 2019 – 2nd stage (natural snow)	Ērgļi	W(02;04;06)-20km C M(02;04;06)-20km C	12 25

March

02.03.2019	Popular skiing "Winter of Aluksne 2019" (natural snow)	Aluksne SC "Mežinieki"	W(02;04) 9km F M(02;04;06) 15km F	5- 34
6. -15.03.2019	WMC2019	Beitostolen	W 1 silver,2 bronze medals M	2 5
09.03.2019	Latloppet 2019 – 3rd stage (mixed snow)	Madona SC "Smeces sils"	W(02;04;06)-18km C M(02;04;06)-18km C	7 28

Explanation: SC – Skiing Centre; LSVS- Latvian Sport Masters Union

Andis Puida, WMA National Director of Latvia 12.09.2019