

Annual Report from Sweden

The season 2023-2024

The ski season 2023-2024 was a very good season for cross-country skiing in Sweden. There was snow and prepared tracks from November to April. There were some beautiful weeks in January and February with lots of natural snow and long prepared trails in the area around Stockholm, where many active skiers live.

The "Vasaloppet Skiweek" was celebrating Vasaloppet 100 years. It was a huge success with around 50.0000 participants from 66 countries. It was the first time ever that over 20 percent of Vasaloppet's participants were women.

MWC in Vuokatti

There were 21 Swedes who participated in the nicely arranged competitions in beautiful Vuokatti in northern Finland. There are endless ski trails, in a beautiful environment with lakes, mountains and forests, and they are incredibly well-groomed trails. The first two days the competitions had to be cancelled because it was too cold.

When the competitions could start everything went well and it was professionally arranged.

Sweden was successful with 16 medals, divided into 4 gold, 8 silver and 4 bronze. This meant that we ended up in 3rd place in the medal league, which was very good. A highlight for the Swedish team was the relay, where the two women's teams both took the silver medal in their respective age group.

The Master Champion Ship in Sweden

This year was the Master Champion Ship in Högbo, held at the same time as the well-known ski race "Bessemmerloppet".

Our competition was included in the main long-distance race. Unfortunately, the race was held when several active master skiers were still at the MWC in Vuokatti. We hope that will be better planned in the future, and that there also will be shorter distances for the Swedish Master Champion Ship.

Next season

Masters in Sweden still have problem to get the Swedish Ski Association to be more involved. We all think that they must take more responsibility for the Masters in Sweden and a good thing is that a dialogue is started with them to make this happen.

Both the previous chairman of the board, Kjell Carlgren, and Rolf Hammar ended their terms of office. They were replaced by Ingela Gahne as chairman and Eleonor Öström as secretary. Magnus Lagerquist is also a new member of the board.

With best regards and hopes for a good skiing season to come,
Ingela Gahne