



(PRESSEMITTEILUNG 05_2007)

16th Sandboarding World Championships

from Friday, July 13 to Sunday, July 15

Conditions were almost ideal for the 16th Sandboarding World Championships held at Monte Kaolino near Hirschau, Germany. Saturday saw temperatures rise above 30 degrees centigrade as well as some especially spectacular sandboarding action with many exciting finals. Almost 130 riders from 7 nations took part in an exciting competition.

The first couple of 2007 sandboarding world champions were crowned around 10:45 pm on Friday, July 13th: Angela Ganster (Germany) won the women's ENERGY Sandwaterslide competition, which had had its approach slope remodelled, while Nils Tremel (Germany) clinched the men's title. He was the only finalist who managed to get to the other side of the 18-m-long water basin without sinking in.

At 1 pm on Saturday, July 14th, the battle for the title of world Sandslopestyle champion began. In the women's event, which was held on a challenging course with more than 10 different obstacles, Gesine Sahlfeld (Germany) gave a demonstration of why she had been tipped as the favourite, winning in impressive style with 8.2 points. Runner-up Katrin Schmid (Germany) received 6.9 points; Lilian Gehrke (Germany) placed third with 5.1. By 3 pm, after a hard-fought competition, the men's rankings were also completed. A consistent performance earned Michael Schlenker (Germany) the title. He received 9.0 points, while Digacomo Diaz (Brazil), who did a frontal flip, received 8.5. Manuel Ries (Germany) took third place with 7.9 points.

At 10:45 pm on Saturday, the main event of the 2007 Sandboarding World Championships kicked off: the Bit Sandboardercross competition. The semi-finals were each contested by eight women and eight men, with four contestants riding simultaneously. The women's final four were all from Germany: Rosa Czipf (4th place), Simone Hurt (3rd), Gesine Sahlfeld (2nd) and Katrin Schmid, who secured the title with a convincing ride. In the men's event, Volker Weiß (Germany) qualified for the final comfortably ahead of Phillip Auerswald (Germany). The line-up was completed by Benjamin Nagel (Germany) and Rob Gerlings (Netherlands). The final run itself was dominated by Volker Weiß, who after a lightning-quick start took the lead on the first turn and never looked back. The Sandslalom finale took place at 2 pm on Sunday.



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