

38th Foulee Blanche: a weekend of beautiful snow and great skiing!

It snowed all night in Autrans-Meaudre and participants of the 7th Classic Foulee made the most of the amazing nordic conditions in the Autrans ski area. Skiers found 25cm of fresh snow at Gève this morning, which soothed the concerns of the organisers, who had hoped against hope that the 38th Foulee Blanche would go ahead.

The classic races went ahead in a friendly and competitive atmosphere. Only the sun was missing, but the pleasure of gliding across the beautiful fresh snow made up for this. All the necessary elements were there to set off this great international nordic weekend; cow bells, children, ski poles in the air and good humour.



7th Classic Foulee – Results

In the 25km race, despite thick fog, the Jurassien Alexis Jeannerod and the Villardien Louis Schwartz, rapidly took matters in hand and put a minute into their nearest rival, Guillaume Berhault from Chamrouse. In the ladies race, a trio from Haute-Savoie Nordic took all the podium positions, with Marie Kromer putting everyone in their place. After her victory at Bessans last weekend, she had the legs and the morale to triumph once again in Autrans, coming in ahead of her training partners, Constance Vuillet and Léa Damiani.

Benjamin Daviet, a member of the French Handicap Sports team, won the mens' 10km. Having asked to start alongside the able bodied skiers he dropped the competition by a minute. The ladies' race was won by the young Spanish skier Paula Martinez,

finishing ahead of the Isère skiers Elisabeth Robin Rivoire and Maya Cloetens.

In the 5km event, the young skiers of US Autrans, playing at home, almost achieved the grand slam by placing five of its skiers on the 6 steps of the boys' and girls' podiums. Only the young Spanish Claustre Mangas Montaner managed to slip between Autran skiers, finishing second in the race.

All the results can be found on line at www.lafouleeblanche.com

And tomorrow, the 38th Foulee Blanche will host national and international skiers!

There you have it. After months of preparation, the organising committee has achieved its goal of breaking into the international ski scene and hosting the opening stage of the FIS Worldloppet Cup long distance nordic ski series. Not forgetting of course that the Foulee Blanche has for several years been one of the first stages of the National Marathon Ski Tour. We should also point out that the Foulee is open to everyone, from the most experienced, to weekend skiers, juniors, able-bodied and handicapped skiers. It is this mix of people that makes the event so interesting for the participants. You can ski in the tracks of the best, compare your results, or just be happy to be there, skiing with friends and family alongside champions on tracks prepared to the highest French and international standards.

Some new names have appeared on the start list for the FIS Worldloppet Cup event, notably those of Ivan Perrilat-Boiteux and Jean-Marc Gaillard, both of whom are members of the French Nordic ski team, and medallists at the Sochi Olympics and the 2015 World Championships. Alongside them will be Giorgio Di Centa, Olympic champion in Turin and the 2015 circuit leaders, Petra Novak (interview on www.facebook.com/Worldloppet-248398098518529), Benoit Chauvet his heir apparent, the Swiss Toni Livers, Aurelie Dabudyk 2nd lady in 2015 and international skiers from Spain, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Belgium etc.

The start list is on line at www.worldloppet.com/fmstart.php

Race information

Tomorrow's races will once again be held at Gève. The fallback circuit is 17km long and is a mix of open areas and forest, with some tough hills and sprint zones, which should encourage a lively race between the fastest skiers. This promises to be a great event and spectators can come to the Gève stadium for free using the shuttle buses that start running from the Autrans Nordic Centre at 08h00.

Timings

1 circuit of 17km: "42km" = 2 loops, start 10:00 – "20km" = 1 loop, start 11:00
1 circuit of 10km and 1 circuit of 5km, start at 12:00



Press Release

Friday, 15th January 2016

38th Foulee Blanche
13th to 17th January 2016
Autrans - Vercors - Isère - FRANCE



Bib Collection only at the Nordic Centre!

Free shuttle buses will be available (skiers and supporters) from the Autrans Nordic Centre, which is signposted by arrows from the car parks.

Recommendation: competitors in the 42km and 20km should be at the start area before 10h00. Plan to be in Autrans 2hrs before the start time in order to make the most of your day.

Heated facilities are available for events at Autrans and Gève.

Weekend skiing at Gève

Sunday: Gève is only open for the Foulee Blanche. It is however possible to ski up to Gève on the tracks leading from Autrans village.

Journalists' reception

Press representatives are requested to get in touch with the press office immediately by completing the accreditation form and sending it to: www.lafouleeblanche.com/resultats so that appropriate facilities can be arranged.

Access to the race area by car is IMPOSSIBLE; meet in the media centre (Nordic Centre Autrans) where you can take advantage of the free shuttle service (car or bus, depending upon availability).

TECHNICAL TV INFORMATION

The production company Digivision is responsible for the event's images used in daily TV broadcasts: the News Access.

Available daily (except Friday) on FTP server: Address: 92.103.77.194 / Username: fouleeblanche / Password: news2016

Format news: HD, H.264 10mb / s .mov

ITW: Mother language

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Photos by David Boudin



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