



Press release

January 07, 2013

Austrian Freeski Open 2013 by Atomic: Olympic Countdown

The Austrian Freeski Open 2013 by Atomic is all about the Olympic qualification. The slopestyle contest at Snowpark Kitzsteinhorn, Zell am See-Kaprun, Austria, is an AFP World Tour gold-level event and sees the Austrians fight for their national championship. The unique set-up of the snow park and the unparalleled atmosphere make it one of the riders' favourite of the season. Loads of international top stars are already confirmed. The 11th Austrian Freeski Open by Atomic from February 27 to March 03, 2013 promises to keep you on the edge of your seat!



When the Austrian Freeski Open by Atomic was born in the winter of 2002/03, it was one of the first European freeskiing slopestyle events and one of the trailblazers of this sport that will have its Olympic premiere in 2014. Over the years, it has grown alongside the booming scene and evolved into one of the most important freeski events. As a gold-level stop of the Association of Freeskiing Professionals' (AFP) World Tour, the Austrian Freeski Open by Atomic plays an important role in the Olympic qualification for Sochi 2014, especially for the Austrian participants.



From February 27 to March 03, 2013, numerous world-class athletes will battle for the crown. The overall winner of the 2012 AFP World Tour, Gus Kenworthy (USA), winner of the Austrian Freeski Open 2012 and 2011 Andreas Hatveit (NOR), Austrian Champ 2012 Toni Höllwart (AUT), 2011 X-Games winner Sammy Carlson (USA), as well as "Rookie of the Year 2012" Kai Mahler (SUI), are already confirmed.

The Snowpark Kitzsteinhorn's perfectly prepared rails, kickers and special obstacles offer the international freeskiing elite the perfect conditions to show high-class performances and impressive skills. The online registration for the qualification round is open between January 20 and February 03, 2013. The participants compete in 3 categories: Apart from the open women and men competitions there will also be a rookie contest for riders younger than 16 years. The men's qualification is limited to 80 participants. The 15 best riders of the qualification round will meet the 15 seeded pros at the finals on March 02, 2013.

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The Austrian Freeski Open by Atomic will kick-off with the Freeski Night Show in Zell am See on February 27, 2013. From Thursday to Saturday, the action at Snowpark Kitzsteinhorn is in the centre of attraction. Several side events, concerts and DJ sets add to the freeskiing frenzy at Zell am See-Kaprun!



For up-to-date information as well as photos and videos of the previous events check www.austrianfreeskiopen.com.



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FACT SHEET AUSTRIAN FREESKI OPEN by Atomic

What	Open international freeskiing contest
Location	Kitzsteinhorn, Zell am See-Kaprun (AUT)
Date	February 27 to March 03, 2013
Contest mode	Slopestyle Contest Men: 80 starters compete in the qualification round. In the semi finals, the best 15 riders of the qualifications will meet the 15 seeded riders. Each rider has two runs, with the better score counting. The best 10 riders will advance to the finals where each rider will again have two runs to improve his score.
Programme:	
Wednesday, Feb 27, 2013	Training Freeski Nightshow, Zell am See Welcome Evening
Thursday, Feb 28, 2013	Ladies & Rookies contests Riders Evening
Friday, Mar 01, 2013	Qualification Men
Saturday, Mar 02, 2013	Finals Men
Sunday, Mar 03, 2013	FM4 Downdays Party Weather Day

Info (travel, accommodation) www.zellamsee-kaprun.com, www.kitzsteinhorn.at

Previous winners:

2012: Andreas Hatveit (NOR)
 2011: Andreas Hatveit (NOR)
 2010: Jossi Wells (NZL)
 2009: Elias Ambühl (SUI)
 2008: Kalle Leinonen (FIN)
 2007: Kevin Rolland (FRA)
 2006: Russ Henshaw (AUS)
 2005: Andi Prugger (AUT)/Luggi Brucic (AUT)
 2004: Martin Misof (AUT)
 2003: Nico Zacek (GER)

Organizer: Zero Division, Martin, McFly' Winkler
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