**Press Release 17th February 2019**

**GSIESERTAL LAUF: KOWALCZYK AND KARDIN WON THE CT**

**CHERVOTKIN AND ROPONEN SHOW IN FREE TECHNIQUE**

36th Gsiesertal Lauf yesterday and today in South Tyrol

Oskar Kardin and the legend Kowalczyk won the race in CT

Alexey Chervotkin won ahead of Matti Heikkinen on the 42 km track in FT

The committee was satisfied – the race has always taken place since 1984

Gsiesertal – land of sun and snow. The cross-country skiers found a magnificent setting for the competition in South Tyrol. Everyone was satisfied with the new start of the Gsiesertal Lauf towards Santa Maddalena and with the beautiful sunny weekend. There’s no surprise as far as the results in classic technique on Saturday are concerned: Oskar Kardin is one of the best athletes of the Visma Ski Classics challenge and he proved it on the 42 km track of the 36th Gsiesertal Lauf by winning the race ahead of the Italian athletes of team Robinson Mauro Brigadoi and Francesco Ferrari. The Italian team, however, was able to win with the Polish cross-country ski queen Justyna Kowalczyk, who clearly won ahead of the German Franziska Mueller. In the 30 km race the Team Trentino Robinson was once again able to get the victory with Lorenzo Busin - who was faster than Simone Varesco and Lorenzo Cerutti – and with Chiara Caminada ahead of Petra Tanner (AUT) and Federica Simeoni.

The 36th edition of the Gsiesertal Lauf ended today with the race in free technique. The Russian Olympic silver medallist Alexey Chervotkin won the 42 km race in the final straight against the world gold medallist Matti Heikkinen. The Austrian Bernhard Flaschberger was third. Among the women there was another ‘Olympic’ victory: the Finnish Riitta-Liisa Roponen, Olympic bronze medallist, crossed the finish line alone ‘avenging’ the second place of her teammate Heikkinen. Finland was also on the women's podium thanks to Susanna Saapunki who came second; third place for Laura Restagno from Cuneo. Congratulations to Barbara Jezersek of the Australia Team - who won the 30 km race ahead of the Italian Thea Schwingshackl and Julia Kuen - and to the Austrian Clemens Blassnig, who won ahead of his compatriot Urban Lentsch and of the Italian Matteo Tanel, winner of the last edition. A new success for the event; the president of the committee Walter Felderer stated: "It takes skill, organization and a bit of luck to ensure that the race always takes place (always since 1984 – ed.)”.

For further information: www.valcasies.com

**Download TV images:**

[**www.broadcaster.it**](http://www.broadcaster.it)

**42 km CT men:** 1. Kardin Oskar Team Ragde Eiendom 1:51.05,7; 2. Brigadoi Mauro Team Trentino Robins. 1:51.41,7; 3. Ferrari Francesco Team Trentino Robins. 1:53.04,6; 4. Amhof Manuel Team Futura 1:53.43,0; 5. Eriksson Robert Björkfors GoIF 1:56.46,5

**42 km CT ladies:** 1. Kowalczyk Justyna Team Trentino Robins. 2:04.09,4; 2. Müller Franziska SC Immenstadt /Team . 2:21.56,5; 3. Patini Asia Società Sportiva Fo. 2:41.26,5; 4. Maccagnan Anna G.S. Castionese 2:49.36,8; 5. Evangelist Julia A-Grundlsee 3:03.00,5

**30 km CT men:** 1. Busin Lorenzo Team Trentino Robins. 1:17.42,4; 2. Varesco Simone Team Trentino Robins. 1:17.53,1; 3. Cerutti Lorenzo Team Rossignol 1:20.20,0; 4. Kargruber Reinhard Team Futura 1:20.20,2; 5. Mich Riccardo Team Futura 1:20.33,2

**30 km CT ladies:** 1. Caminada Chiara Team Trentino Robins. 1:36.50,3; 2. Tanner Petra Skimarathon Team Aus. 1:39.48,7; 3. Simeoni Federica Sport Auer Obertill. 1:41.40,8; 4. Felderer Barbara A.S.V. 5V Loipe 1:43.59,9; 5. Huber Silvia ASV 5V Loipe Volksbank 1:46.05,4

**42 km FT men:** 1. Chervotkin Alexey Team Futura 1:42.14,7; 2. Heikkinen Matti FIN 1:42.14,8; 3. Flaschberger Bernhard Skimarathon Team Aus.. 1:44.02,6; 4. Galassi Michael ITA 1:44.06,2; 5. Liederer Niklas Adidas XCS Team 1:44.27,1

**42 km FT ladies:** 1. Roponen Riitta Liisa FIN 1:53.02,8; 2. Saapunki Susanna National Team Finland 1:55.01,3; 3. Restagno Laura Sci club Valle Pesio 2:09.38,6; 4. Mulyukova Elena TriathlonTeam Moskow 2:10.28,7; 5. Slattery Sarah AUS-North Strathfield 2:14.39,3

**30 km FT men:** 1. Blaßnig Clemens Fischer Racing Team 1:12.00,9; 2. Lentsch Urban Team TirolerOberland 1:12.01,1; 3. Tanel Matteo Team Trentino Robins. 1:12.03,4; 4. Klettenhammer Patrick Team Futura 1:12.05,2; 5. Amhof Manuel Team Futura 1:12.05,9

**30 km FT ladies:** 1. Jezersek Barbara Australia XC Team 1:19.09,9; 2. Schwingshackl Thea RG 5V Loipe 1:24.37,8; 3. Kuen Julia RG 5V Loipe 1:24.38,4; 4. Bolzan Lisa SC Orsago 1:28.42,1; 5. Marasca Isabel Nordic Team KSV 1:32.31,9