

The Norwegian Kajsa Vickhoff Lie is the fastest in the first official training

The young Norwegian Kajsa Vickhoff Lie set the fastest time in the first timed official training session of the downwhill of Val di Fassa, at its debut in the Fis Alpine Ski World Cup with a three-day event, the first official one after the recent World Championships in Cortina. After conquering the first podium of her career in the World Cup (on Jan. 30 in the Super-G in Garmisch-Partenkirchen), the fifth place in the Super-G and the sixteenth place in the Downhill at the recent Cortina World Championships, the 22-year-old Lie has confirmed herself as one of the most interesting emerging talents of the Ski World Cup circuit.

In fact she obtained the best time on the technical La VolatA slope that particularly suits to her characteristics. The Scandinavian athlete completed her trial in 1'25?14, ahead two of the favorites ones, the American Breezy Johnson, 41 hundredths behind, and the Swiss Lara Gut-Behrami, who missed a gate paying a delay of 46 hundredths.

On the home slope, already tested before the World Championships, the Italian athletes also impressed, above all the 23-year-old Nadia Delago from Val Gardena, who obtained an excellent fourth place at 61 hundredths from the Nowegian Lie. The Swiss downhill world champion Corinne Suter finished seventh with a delay of 92 hundredths.

Together with the American Breezy Johnson she is still struggling for the Downhill cup, third with 270 points in the standing still headed by the injured Sofia Goggia (480 points), followed by Breezy Johnson second with 285 points. A little further back the other Italian athletes. Elena Curtoni was the fastest one, placing 18th, 1”66 behind, followed by Federica Brignone (19th at 1”73) and Marta Bassino (20th at 1 ”79). 23rd at 2"03 Laura Pirovano, who started with bib number 1, 31st Federica Sosio (at 2"46), Francesca Marsaglia who ranked 33rd at 2"55, Teresa Runggaldier (daughter of the great ski champion Peter) 37th at 2”82. Federica Sosio and Teresa Runggaldier are still competing for a place in the weekend races together with Elena Dolmen (46th at 3”81) while Roberta Melesi finished 59th at 6” 60.

Sixty were the athletes coming from 15 different countries who tested the slope of the Passo San Pellegrino Ski Area. Tomorrow the second official timed training is scheduled at 10.15 a.m. From Friday to Sunday (two downhills and a super-G) Downhill World Cup points will be at stake.

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