

# <u>Successfully defended her title</u>: One year after her surprise victory at the ladies classic race in Flachau, Petra Vlhova was crowned Snow Space Salzburg Princess once again

Subtitle: 14,800 ski fans celebrated a ski festival in a class of its own at the tenth anniversary of the ladies floodlit classic race in Flachau.

For the tenth time, the AUDI FIS Ski World Cup Ladies Night Slalom was held on Tuesday, 14 January 2020 in Flachau in Snow Space Salzburg. For the anniversary race, the Ski World Cup team proved its snow competence once again and prepared a first-class race slope on the Hermann Maier FIS World Cup run. Not least, thanks to the optimal weather conditions the days before the night event, the Ladies' World Cup elite were offered a rock-hard race slope that is unequalled on the World Cup circus.

On race day itself, 14,800 ski fans flocked to Flachau to be there live at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the night classic. Just like in previous years, they transformed the finishing stadium in Snow Space Salzburg into a true witch's cauldron and cheered the athletes on to give it everything. In the first run, last year's winner Petra VLHOVA lived up to her current top form and with bib number two she delivered a run time that neither World Cup leader Mikaela SHIFFRIN nor the two Austrian slalom specialists Katharina LIENSBERGER and Katharina TRUPPE were able to beat.

Just like in Zagreb, SHIFFRIN tried to put VLHOVA under pressure with an aggressive second run, but made too many mistakes and finally slipped back to third place just behind Anna SWENN LARSSON. VLHOVA was able to fend off the surprising attack from the Swede Anna SWENN LARSSON with the fastest time in the second run and with a combined time of 1:53.65 and a lead of 10 hundredths over SWENN LARSSON was crowned Snow Space Salzburg Princess 2020 once again. The young Austrian Katharina LIENSBERGER showed her potential by delivering the third best time in the first run, but this time she narrowly missed a place on the podium by 37 hundredths overall. The twenty-three year old Austrian Katharina Truppe also achieved a top result, with a strong second run she moved up from eighth to sixth place.





The three young athletes Chiara MAIR (9<sup>th</sup> place), Katharina GALLHUBER (11<sup>th</sup> place) and Franziska GRITSCH (16<sup>th</sup> place) rounded off a great team performance by the Austrian technical skiers.

# Comments about the race

# First place Petra VLHOVA (SVK)

"The first run went really well, but in the second run I made a lot of mistakes. I'm speechless that so many people from Slovakia came to Flachau to cheer me on, winning here feels a bit like home for me."

# Second place Anna SWENN LARSSON (SWE)

"It was really a perfect day for me. Flachau is one of my favourite slopes. The conditions were very good and the atmosphere in Flachau is just unique year after year."

# **OC President Eugen FISCHBACHER**

"The weather gods were on our side this year for the anniversary of the Ladies' Night Classic race. Thanks to more than 400 volunteers, we once again succeeded in promoting Flachau's reputation as one of the top winter sports destinations in the Alps with two perfectly executed runs".

# Contact

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