

Press release: 15/02/2022

Successful premiere of the Austrian Snow Volleyball Tour at the Patscherkofel mountain

When volleyballs fly over Olympic ground—1,965 m above sea level

Last weekend, the Patscherkofel presented itself just like the people of Innsbruck, Austria know their home mountain: windy, sunny and with a spectacular panorama in all directions. Thus, everything was set for the very first tournament of the newly launched Austrian Snow Volleyball Tour. In a fantastic spot, 1,965 m above the sea with a view over the capital of Tyrol, snow volleyball celebrated its premiere where once Olympic downhill racers had competed.

In challenging conditions, but yet very good spirits, the local snow volleyball elite competed against the strong international rivalries. Finally, the Austrian women celebrated a triple victory with the quartet Freiberger/Wiesmeyr/Pfeffer/Schoder on top of the podium. The men's podium was international with Germany (Noack/Wagner/Schweikart/Doranth) winning ahead of Team Austria 1 and Switzerland. In general, the starting field was very appealing with athletes from six nations.

Snow volleyball has high potential in Austria

Austria has already hosted CEV European Tour stops and National Championships – and now, with the realisation of the Austrian Snow Volleyball Tour the next step is being made. An attractive sport like snow volleyball needs an extraordinary location—just like the Patscherkofel, the home mountain of Innsbruck. Especially during holidays and weekends, the venue is a highly frequented place that invites skiers, snowboarders, winter hikers and ski mountaineers to join the spectacle and watch matches on the courts. Despite the wind and cold temperatures, the young crowd had a great time. The DJs gave their best to fire up the fans and got people dancing around the centre court.

Also the players were excited: 'This is one of the most beautiful spots we've ever played. We definitely want this tournament to take place again next year!' the winning Bavarian men's team let us know. Organiser Simon Varges (My BeachEvent) promptly answered: 'We'll be back, we promise!' The aims for the next year(s) are high. Whirlpool, snowbar and players hotel are just a few of the ideas. In order to realise the big plans, the organisers have started a cooperation with the Austrian event agency Chaka2, which has been organising snow volleyball tournaments since 2008.

Innsbruck establishes itself as a beach and snow volleyball hotspot

It is no coincidence that the Patscherkofel was chosen for the kick-off of the Austrian Snow Volleyball Tour. The event enriches the volleyball tradition in Innsbruck. The city's signature tournament is the Innsbruck BeachEvent, which is also organised by My BeachEvent. For the last years, the tournament had been part of the Austrian Beach Volleyball Tour PRO. This year it will be held as an international tournament for the first time. Thus, the location was changed: From 3 to 5 June 2022, European beach volleyballers will play on one of the most iconic spots in town, the Innsbruck Market Place.

Facts Snow Volleyball

What: First tournament of the Austrian Snow Volleyball Tour

When: 12 & 13 February 2022, ca. 9.00 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Where: Mountain station of the Patscherkofel cable car

Who: 11 women's and 7 men's teams (national and international)

Mode: double elimination system

Social: www.instagram.com/innsbruck_beachevent;

Results

Women 1st place: Eva Freiberger/Stephanie Wiesmeyr/Eva Pfeffer/Silvia Schoder (AUT)

Women 2nd place: Martina Guggi/Michaela Hollaus/Sophia Feichter/Marilena Preiml (AUT)

Women 3rd place: Blanca Casares-Schroll/Katharina Mascherbauer/Michaela Wengler (AUT)

Men 1st place: Tim Noack/Fabian Wagner/Florian Schweikart/Bene Doranth (GER)

Men 2nd place: Moritz Kindl/Mathias Seiser/Maximilian Bichler/Marco Busch (AUT)

Men 3rd place: Remo Spahr/Marcel Spahr/Kilian Kasper (SUI)

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