

couples informed them of their plan to participate in seven races out of nine and in 1980 to achieve the Master title with the smallest possible numbers. Also media, flying companies and travel agencies showed their interest in the new series. One of those three couples was T. Duffy, one of the present members of the EC, with his wife Carol.

Not only was the Master title important to skiers but also the ordinal number of it. The number written on the medal is a prestigious additive and is important to the owner informatively as it is known which numbers were given in which year. Often the skiers who have already got one title want to get another with a certain number. In these cases they can express their wish to the General Secretariat where each case is decided individually. With a medal the Master also gets a personalised prestigious diploma in A3 format and a Master pin.

Usually each race has in its programme a reception for Worldloppet Masters. These kinds of meetings are the main places for Masters to get together. The names of new Masters are printed in a list in the Worldloppet Yearbook which is published annually.

The International Association of Worldloppet Skiers (IAWLS), registered in 2005, which unites more than 200 of the most active marathon skiers suggested to Worldloppet in the autumn of 2005 to introduce the new title: Global Worldloppet Skier (GWLS), to recognise once those who have taken part in all 14 Worldloppet races. This new title was confirmed by the AGM in summer of 2007.

GWLS is meant to be a new feature, a new prestigious goal to endeavour for the most dedicated competitors. If new races are introduced in the future, they will be added to the required races. There will be no new medal or pin but a diploma and an alphabetical list of GWLS on the Worldloppet website. After each name, the year in which the GWLS was obtained will show how many WL races were involved. The first year for which the recognition is awarded is the year 2000 (inclusion of the last race - Jizerská Padesátka).

The GWLS title does not compete with the WL Master system. When a skier has obtained his/her first Master, the next goal can be to ski the 4 races not included in the Master, and become a GWLS. When a skier has obtained 10 stamps in a passport, the passport is invalidated. For the GWLS it is not necessary to revalidate and amalgamate passports. The skier must send simply the dates, times and placements in the 14 races to the General Secretariat Office which will issue to the skier a new prestigious diploma without any payments or further formalities.

IAWLS is an association uniting long-distance ski fanatics: it has many multiple (up to 15 times) Worldloppet Masters and they have priceless experiences which they kindly share on their website <http://www.worldloppetskier.com/>. These association members have a wealth of information about their experiences which is very useful for beginners who are just starting their careers.



Worldloppet Gold Master Medal

Worldloppet calendar 2008

Worldloppet short races 2007/2008 - Valid for recognition as a Worldloppet Silver Master

Date	Race name	Distance	Techn	Country
25.08.07	KANGAROO HOPPET: Australian Birkebeiner	21 Km	FT	AUS
11.01.08	JIZERSKÁ PADESÁTKA 50: BEDRICHOVSKA 30	30 Km	FT	CZE
13.01.08	JIZERSKÁ PADESÁTKA 50: PATRIA DIRECT Short	25 Km	CT	
20.01.08	DOLOMITENLAUF: Lienz Lauf	25 Km	FT	AUT
24.01.08	MARCIALONGA: Lavazelloppet	22 Km	CT	ITA
27.01.08	MARCIALONGA: Marcialonga LIGHT	45 Km	CT	
02.02.08	KÖNIG LUDWIG LAUF	23 Km	FT	GER
03.02.08	KÖNIG LUDWIG LAUF	23 Km	CT	
09.02.08	LA TRANSJURASSIENNE: La MiniTrans	25 Km	CT	FRA
10.02.08	SAPPORO INTERNATIONAL SKI MARATHON	25 Km	FT	JPN
10.02.08	TARTU MARATON: Open Track	31 Km	FT	EST
17.02.08	TARTU MARATON: Short Race	31 Km	CT	
16.02.08	GATINEAU LOPPET	29 Km	CT	CAN
17.02.08	GATINEAU LOPPET	29 Km	FT	
23.02.08	AMERICAN BIRKEBEINER: Kortelloppet	23 Km	FT	USA
23.02.08	FINLANDIA- HIIHTO	32 Km	CT	FIN
22.02.08	VASALOPPET: Kortvasan	30 Km	CT	SWE
23.02.08	VASALOPPET: TjeiVasan *	30 Km	CT	
26.02.08	VASALOPPET: HalvVasan	45 Km	CT	
29.02.08	VASALOPPET: SkejtVasan	30 / 45 Km	FT	
02.03.08	ENGADIN SKIMARATHON: EngadinerFrauenlauf *	17 Km	FT	SUI
09.03.08	ENGADIN SKIMARATHON: HALBMARATHON	21 Km	FT	

* - For women only