

Worldloppet Multiple Masters

15 X WORLDLOPPET MASTERS

HANNES LARSSON, FRA

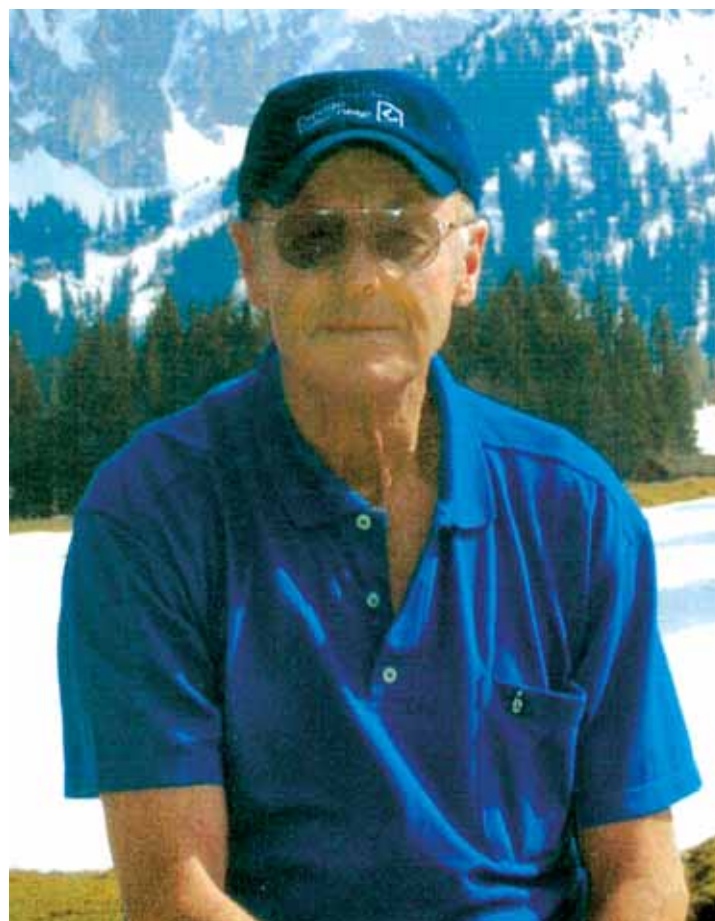
I started skiing when I was just under 3 years, in my home town Nokia. After some years of mainly alpine skiing, I restarted XC skiing seriously when I moved to northern Italy in 1976. The following year I skied Dolomitenlauf (incredible euphoria when I crossed the finish line!) and Marcialonga, then every year at least the 5-race Euroloppet. In 1995 I skied Kangaroo Hoppet and in 1996 I got my first Worldloppet Master. Japan had to wait until 1997, Canada and USA until 1998.

Step by step I got the Worldloppet fever. The WL Master achievement is worth more than an Olympic gold which involves only one victory, whereas the Master has to be victorious in 10 races (over him/herself, according to the famous Dolomitenlauf motto). In 2007 I got my 15th Master.

Skiing every week-end one or two WL races is never boring because of the variety of races. Even in the same race the snow conditions are different from year to year. There are 14 venues and only 11 week-ends, so one can make a different program every season.

XC skiing is the best of all sports; it exercises every muscle and keeps you fit. In the WL circuit I find a motivation to train during the endless summer. And an ever-widening circle of friends from all around the world. A fitting aphorism is "XC skiers are nice guys!"

Hannes Larsson



JAN JASIEWICZ, SUI

I graduated as an engineer in electricity as well as later in process control and information systems.

During the Olympic Winter Games in Cortina D'Ampezzo I raced for Poland in the alpine disciplines. I have also participated twice in Academic World Championships.

In the 1970s I joined an American company and had to travel to many countries as a consultant.

Living mostly in Switzerland my passion became mountain climbing, including the peaks of Everest (4 summit attempts but none successful) and Mc Kinley. I conquered at least 30 volcanoes in the South-America, Ruwenzori and Kilimanjaro in Africa. In Europe I have climbed more than 40 summits above 4000 meters including Elbrus.

Traveling is my next passion which has brought me to 142 countries.

I still practise the leisure sport of cross country skiing and up to now I have participated in more than 400 ski races at different distances.

I will be happy if I can continue to participate in Worldloppet races in the future.

Jan Jasiewicz

