

## PRESS RELEASE

**HARD, HARDER, HERVIS MOUNTAIN ATTACK on 19.1.2024**

> Largest ski touring event in Austria

> about 1,000 athletes from 22 nations at the start again

**Saalbach - Hinterglemm, 20.12.2023. Austria's biggest and toughest ski touring race, the Hervis Mountain Attack in Saalbach Hinterglemm, will be held for the 26th time on 19.01.2024.**

Roland Kurz from the Salzburg event agency NMC launched the Mountain Attack 26 years ago. What was first launched in 1999 as an experiment, but nevertheless with a vision, has long since developed into a touring ski cult event worldwide.

For 26 years, the Mountain Attack has offered all amateur and hobby athletes the unique opportunity to compete against the best ski mountaineers in the world in the same outdoor conditions, at the same time and over the same distance. Professionals and amateurs united in the same competition on a highly challenging course is unique.

Ski mountaineering is now more than just firmly anchored in our society, it has become a beloved winter sport in Austria and in the mountain regions of Europe.

The boom in ski touring continues unabated, with more and more people finding their way to ski mountaineering, whether as pleasure, hobby or competition ski mountaineers. All facets are represented, all milieus and income levels are practicing this sport.

The race starts on Friday, January 19, 2024 at 4:00 pm on the village square in Saalbach. The starting signal will be given by sports councillor Martin Zauner.

Athletes will sprint along the village street to the base area at the foot of the Schattberg. Under the motto: "On your skins, get set, steep uphill!" the Glemmtal mountains are "attacked". With gradients of up to 70 percent in the lower part of the Schattberg, the first mountain demands everything from the athletes.

### THE RACES of the Mountain Attack: 5 DIFFERENT CATEGORIES

1. the **Schattberg Race**: this is a pure vertical race (ascent race). Here you have to conquer 1017 meters of altitude with the finish at the summit of the Schattberg.
2. the **Tour**: this is an individual race (several ascents and descents). Here the participants have to conquer 5 summits, a total of 2,036 vertical meters in the ascent and in the descents are completed. The route leads over: Schattberg - west summit - descent to Hinterglemm - through the village - ascent Hasenauer Köpfl - Reiterkogel - descent Wetterkreuz - Bernkogel - descent to Saalbach
3. the **Marathon**: also an individual race. Here you have to conquer 3,010 meters of altitude. The route to Hinterglemm is identical to the tour. However, the participants also have to tackle the Zwölferkogel ascent, the northern descent to the Hochalm and the ascent from the Hochalm towards Hasenauer Köpfl. The athletes therefore climb a total of 6 peaks!
4. the **Marathon Relay** (NEW from 2024!!!): This year the marathon relay celebrates its premiere. The marathon distance must be completed as a team of 3. The starting runner masters the ascent to the Schattberg - west summit - descent Hinterglemm. There he hands over to the 2nd runner: Zwölferkogel ascent - descent to the Hochalm. Handover to the 3rd runner: ascent Hasenauer Köpfl - descent to the finish in Saalbach. Target group: Mountain friends, sports enthusiasts, company teams
5. the **Junior Sprint**: This is a sprint race held at the foot of the Schattberg in the area of the base area. Children between the ages of eight and fourteen start in several heats (3-4 kids). The course has an elevation gain of approx. 50 meters and the duration of each heat will be approx. 3-5 minutes. The fastest kids from each heat will progress to the next round, while the others will have another chance to qualify in a hope round. The race continues through the quarter and semi-finals to the final.

## IMPORTANT SIDE FACTS:

### Salzburg State Championships

For the third time, the Salzburg state champions in the long-distance categories (individual marathon & individual half marathon) will be crowned as part of the Mountain Attack. The SK Viehhofen with Peter Gruber at the head of the team will be responsible for organizing the event as part of the Mountain Attack.

### European SKIMO Tour

The new overall ranking from the 2023/24 season consisting of the races Mountain Attack, Erztrophy, Jennerstier and Sella Ronda, offers ambitious ski touring athletes an attractive overall ranking thanks to a well thought-out scoring system.

### Live stream

As in previous years, a LIVE STREAM of the race will be available on [www.mountain-attack.at](http://www.mountain-attack.at) in 2024. In cooperation with Drei-Business and the Mediahaus production team, Mountain Attack will be broadcast live in 5G quality from the start preparations at 3:40 pm until approx. 7:30 pm.

In addition, postings, live reports and current pictures on the Mountain Attack Facebook page will inform fans about the current race progress.

In the finish arena on site, the race will be broadcast live on an LED wall in the finish area. Four presenters, eight mobile camera teams, five fixed camera positions and a state-of-the-art broadcast van will provide action-packed images and background reports on all aspects of the Attack.

### Live Tracking App

Timekeeping is carried out by Attack partner Time2Win using active transponder technology. All participants can use this tracking system via a dedicated Time2Win app and the smartphone they carry with them acts as a GPS transponder. This means that spectators and fans can follow their athletes at all times and view their split times and placings live.

### Safety

A Mountain Attack doctor and a Red Cross team will be on site to ensure the safety of the participants. Representatives of the Saalbach mountain rescue service and the cable car piste service are positioned at all summits. The event team includes several paramedics who are on duty at the checkpoints.

## DATA & FACTS

Mountain Attack International Touring Ski Marathon

Date: Friday 19.01.2024,

Start: 4.00 p.m., Saalbach

Location: Skicircus Saalbach-Hinterglemm

Courses: 5 categories on marked and secured slopes

Junior Sprint: Sprint competition with several heats, Schattberg base area

Marathon: 3010 vertical meters, 6 peaks

Tour: 2036 vertical meters, 5 peaks

Schattberg Race - vertical race with finish at the Schattberg summit

1017 vertical meters

Marathon relay: 3010 vertical meters, 6 peaks as a 3-person relay

Categories: Marathon Men & Women, Tour Men & Women, Marathon

Men +45, Tour +45 Men, Junior Sprint, Marathon Relay (overall ranking)

Prize money: Total eur 9.360,-

Mountain Hero: Combined classification with the marathon of the World Games of Mountainbiking 2024 (only long distance - marathon)

## RACE SPECIALS

### Course record bonus

If the course record, set by Jakob Herrmann in 2020, is beaten with 2:15:10 hours, there is an extra bonus of euro 500.

## RACE PROGRAM

1:00 p.m.: Junior Sprint

4.00 p.m. Start marathon, tour, category +45, Schattberg Race in Saalbach, several start waves

approx. 4.40 p.m. First planned arrivals on the Schattberg

approx. 4.55 p.m. first planned arrivals in Hinterglemm

approx. 5.35 p.m. First planned finishes Saalbach Tour Men

approx. 6.15 p.m. first finishes in Saalbach (Marathon)

10.00 p.m. Award ceremony Schattberg Arena, Saalbach

## PROGRAM

from 3.00 p.m. Start Moderation:

Marina Herzmayer & Oliver Andorfer

from 3.40 p.m. LIVE coverage with pictures from the Schattberg, Zwölferkogel, Hochalm, Reiterkogel and from the course and finish line

5.15 p.m. Award ceremony Junior Sprint at the Attack Arena Saalbach

7.30 p.m. Music-Attack with Two Shades DJ at the Attack Arena Saalbach

10.00 p.m. Award ceremony at the Attack Arena Saalbach

10.30 p.m. Attack-Clubbing Castello / Saalbacher Hof

Free fan gondola to the Schattberg immediately after the start at 4.00 p.m.

## THE "MOUNTAIN MAN" OF RECENT YEARS:

(fastest time of the race at the marathon)

Jakob Herrmann (AUT) 2023, 2020 with course record

Christian Hoffmann (AUT) 2022, 2016, 2014, 2013

Michele Boscacci (ITA) 2019, 2018

Toni Palzer (GER) 2017

Tadei Pivk (ITA) 2015

Kilian Jornet Burgada (ESP) 2012, 2011

Konrad Lex (GER) 2010

Guido Giacomelli (ITA) 2009, 2007, 2006

Andi Ringhofer (AUT) 2008, 2005, 2004

Martin Hornegger (AUT) 2003

Mirco Mezzanotte (ITA) 2002

Luciano Fontana (ITA) 2001

Fabio Meraldi (ITA) 2000

Omar Oprandi (ITA) 1999

## THE WINNERS 2023

### Marathon

Winner men: Jakob Herrmann, AUT 02:22:14

Winner women: Elena Nicolini, ITA 03:08:08

Winner Men +45: Sepp Grugger AUT 02:47:09

### Tour

Winner Men: Hannes Lohfeyer, AUT 01:38:49

Women's winner: Karmen Klacnik Pobezin, SLO 02:16:47

### Schattberg Race

Winner Men: Maximilian Kurz AUT 00:46:18

Winner Ladies: Tina Fischl, GER 00:54:51

### Junior Sprint

Matthias Fenk, GER

## ORGANIZER

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## MEDIA INFORMATION and ACCREDITING as well as PRESS PHOTOS and FILM MATERIAL

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