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SCOTTY JAMES SNAGS HALFPIPE SILVER AND MOGUL SKIER BRITT COX KEEPS YELLOW BIB

A silver medal and four top ten finishes featured the Aussies in another big World Cup winter sport weekend.

The highlight came from Laax, Switzerland, as VIS snowboarder Scotty James flew high to take silver in an incredibly competitive final in the season's second Halfpipe World Cup.

James set the bar high early in the decider, capping off his run with a backside double cork 1260 as the 'last hit', scoring 93.25 to lead the strong field.

In front of an amped up full house in picturesque blue-sky conditions, the standard in the second run climbed as riders brought bigger tricks onto an immaculate-looking pipe.

James delivered an even better rendition in his second run, elevating his score to 96.50 but it would be American Chase Josey who would prove James' toughest competitor in the all-important third and final run.

The American produced a remarkable third-run to score 97.75 and take the lead – a gap which James couldn't close after dropping the backside 1260 early in his final run.

The podium finish moves James to fourth in the world, with Thursday's X Games in Aspen taking place before the next FIS World Cup in Mammoth Mountain, USA on Friday, 3 February.

In Canada at the Val St. Come Mogul Skiing World Cup, Britt Cox retained the yellow bib as world number one after finishing fifth in an event dominated by the Canadians.

Leading after the Ladies qualification round, Cox skied brilliantly notching up 75.30 points going into Final 1 where she again posted a high score (78.81) behind Canadian Justine Dufour-Lapointe.

"It was a solid day for me," Britt said.

"I was happy with the execution of my jumps today but a few mistakes in the middle section cost me a spot on the podium. I'm keen to get to work and fix those things up."

NSWIS athletes Claudia Gueli (18th) and Jakara Anthony (20th) both registered PBs.

In the Men's field, **Matt Graham** kept up his solid string of results, unlucky to narrowly miss the podium with a score of 81.11 to finish fourth.

“My goal was to bounce back with a good result after last week's disappointment in Lake Placid. The course was tricky and catchy so I am happy to put down three reasonably clean runs,” he said.

Brodie Summers and Rohan Chapman-Davies joined Matt in the Final 16 and first round of finals. Summers finished in 13th and Chapman-Davies recorded a PB of 14th.

The Olympic Winter Institute Australia Mogul Skiing team heads to Calgary for the next World Cup on Sunday, January 29.

The weekend wrapped up in Solitude, Utah for the second 2016/17 Snowboard Cross World Cup. Heading into the event as world number one, **Belle Brockhoff** made the final with some clean runs but struggled early in the last race, finishing sixth.

Despite being disappointed with her weekend, Belle only slipped one spot in the over FIS World Standing rankings.

Jarryd Hughes was the best performed of the men, reaching the Small Final, placing eighth overall. **Alex 'Chumpy' Pullin and Cam Bolton** did not progress to the finals.

Hughes and Pullin are currently ranked sixth and seventh respectively in the World Standings. The next World Cup to be held in Bulgaria from Thursday, February 2.

Skeleton racer John Farrow was very successful, clinching the 2016/17 North American Cup series as Overall Champion – his first title after nine years in the sport.

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