

CURRENT SPEED SKI DH WORLD CUP CHAMPION THE WORLD'S FASTEST NON-MOTORIZED SPORT BRITISH DH RECORD HOLDER

PRESS DOSSIER



ABOUT JAN FARRELL

HIGHEST RANKED BRITISH SKI RACER 2012, 2013 & 2014

Jan Farrell was born in 1983 in Lancaster, England, the son of a Czech mother and an English father. Jan first put on a pair of skis when he was 2 years old, and he has never missed a season since the age of five. He competed in Alpine Skiing and Cross Max (later ski-cross), before making the final move to race the Speed Ski Speed Ski World Cup circuit.

His first speed ski race was in 2011, and soon began to have success: he was ranked 9th in the world in 2012, and 5th in 2013, before winning the top spot in 2014, becoming World Cup Champion. He reached a speed of 210.035 kph., thus becoming the third fastest skier in history on downhill skis.

In the 2014-15 season, Jan will for the first time compete in the Speed 1 category in the World Cup, and in the Downhill category SDH in the World Championships to be held in Andorra. His aim is to win the World Championships in the Downhill category, and two podium places and an overall minimum classification of 5th in Speed 1, in order to place himself at the highest level over the seasons to come. One of his great objectives for the future is to beat seven Guinness speed records.

Jan has brought together his own team: a trainer, a ski-tech and specialist medical service. He is constantly involved in researching and developing new materials, techniques and technology with a view to improving his performance and equipment. This is complemented by intensive physical preparation on a daily basis. Jan is 1.85m tall, and during the competition season weighs 95kg. He spends 250 days a year in the gym and around 90 days on snow, mainly in Austria, Spain and touring the World Cup.

His secrets for becoming a champion are effort, perseverance, the will to win, and, most importantly, innovation and freethinking.

Jan off-piste

Jan combines his career as a top sportsman with that of an entrepreneur. When he is not skiing, you will find him in his office at Liberalia, the company he founded at the age of 18. His passion to create, develop and compete, his will to win is just as strong in his business environment.

His business profile is not limited to the development of his own projects. He is always on the lookout for new synergies, opportunities for collaboration, and fresh challenges. He is actively involved in over half a dozen firms, plays an active role in various federations, including FIS and the Madrid Ski Federation.

As well as all this, Jan acts as a Mentor for budding entrepreneurs who are studying their MBA at IE Business School (ranked 9th in the World by the FT). He's also a motivational speaker, and gives courses in technology for executives.

Jan is, moreover, a keen landscape photographer in his spare time, and a qualified alpine ski instructor.

"THE SHORTEST LINE BETWEEN A AND B IS STRAIGHT.
TURNING IS BRAKING."

SPEED SKI

"THIS REQUIRES EXTREME CONCENTRATION. EVERYTHING IS DECIDED IN THE 20 SECONDS OF A DOWNHILL RUN."

Speed Ski is the world's fastest non-motorized sport. It consists of the straight-line descent of an extremely steep slope, sometimes exceeding a half-kilometre of vertical drop.

Some pistes exceed 120% (or 50°, or 1-in-0.84 gradient).

Acceleration from 0 to 100km/h in 3.4 seconds to over 200km/h – faster than freefall speed.



CAREER AND ACHIEVEMENTS

FIS SPEED SKI WORLD CUP OVERALL RANKING:

2014 - World Cup winner

2013 - 5th position

2012 - 9th position

2011 - 25th position

RACE RESULTS

2014

- 2nd at Vars (France) attempt at Speed Masters world record 30 March 2014
 - 210,035 kph
- 7th at Idre (Sweden) 16 March 2014
- 1st at Idre (Sweden) 15 March 2014
- 1st at Sun Peaks (Canada) 8 March 2014
- 1st at Sun Peaks (Canada) 7 March 2014
- 1st at Pas de la Casa (Andorra) 23 February 2014
- 5th at Pas de la Casa (Andorra) 22 February 2014
- 8th at Vars (France) 25 January 2014

2013

- 5th at Verbier (Switzerland) -Speed Masters -17 April 2013 - 194,17kph
- 11th at Verbier (Switzerland) 17 April 2013
- 9th at Pas de la Casa (Andorra) 7 April 2013
- 6th at Idrefjäll (Sweden) 17 March 2013
- 6th at Idrefjäll (Sweden) 16 March 2013
- 4th at Sun Peaks (Canada) 3 March 2013
- 4th at Sun Peaks (Canada) 2 March 2013
- 17th at Vars (France) World Championships
 26 January 2013

2012

- 19th at Verbier (Switzerland) 18 April 2012
- 8th at Idre (Sweden) 25 March 2012
- 8th at Idre (Sweden) 24 March 2012
- 12th at Vars (France) 18 March 2012
- 14th at Pas de la Casa (Andorra) 26 February 2012
- 12th at Lackenhof am Ötscher (Austria) 15 January 2012

2011

- 25th at Verbier (Switzerland) World Championships - 21 April 2011
- 5th at Pas de la Casa (Andorra) 13 March 2011

ONE MILLIMETRE IS ENOUGH
TO CHANGE A RACE INTO VICTORY

FUTURE GOALS

"RESULTS DEPEND ON YOUR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL STRENGTH AND ON METICULOUS ATTENTION TO YOUR EQUIPMENT"

2015

- Win the World Championships in Andorra, his "home" piste.
- Beat the Downhill record (211,02 kph).
- Minimum 5th classification in World Cup Speed 1 category, with two podium placements.
- Beat the first three Guinness speed records

2016

- Compete for the Crystal Globe.
- Beat the 240kph mark in Speed 1.
- Begin the "Las Leñas" competition projuect.
- Beat two new Guinness speed records.

2017

- Win the World Cup Speed 1 Crystal Globe.
- Reach 250 kph on skis.
- Win the Speed 1 World Championship.
- First competitions at Las Leñas, Argentina.
- Beat two new Guinness speed records.

2018 ONWARDS

- Continue competing for the Crystal Globe.
- Try for world records at Vars, Les Arcs and, hopefully, at Las Leñas.
- Look for new challenges and records to beat!

COMPETITION PROJECTS

- One of Jan's objectives is to take Speed Ski a step forward and to organize a trial competition within two or three seasons. Las Leñas (Argentina) has a perfect piste for speed ski, longer than that at Les Arcs, steeper that at Vars, and with a huge braking area. A proper preparation of this piste could ensure a world record well above 280 kph. This would be a PRO (rather than FIS) event, with a few select runners capable of the challenge.
- A FIS World Cup, in Spain; he is already previewing locations and talking to resort managers.



SPONSORS

Atomic: Skis, boots and bindings. Both Atomic Spain and the factory in Altenmarkt (Austria), ensure that Jan always has the fastest equipment, and offer him technical and logistical support.

Leki: Ski sticks and gloves. Leki International make sticks to measure for Jan, enabling him to adopt the ideal posture for speed.

SkiClinic Lienz, run by Peter Schaffner (13 years in the World Cup with Salomon), prepares winning skis and boots for Jan.

Manifiesto: Publicity agency in charge of Jan's image and his publicity campaigns.

Club Amistad: Ski club where Jan has always competed.

Coppel Dental: A dental clinic which provides Jan with financial support.



JAN IN THE MEDIA

EL PAÍS

"Jan Farrell wins overall Speed Ski SDH World Cup"

"It's going to hurt when I fall!"



"Jan Farrell earns victory in the final with a speed of 159,49 km/h"

"Jan Farrell accelerates as fast as a Porsche 911 with 520bhp"



"Jan Farrell: next season I'm going to race in the maximum category"



"British Speed-Skier Jan Farrell wins the overall FIS World Cup with 4 victories in a row"

"Jan Farrell wins Speed Ski World Cup in Grandvalira"



Velocity Challenge Speeds Skiing Up at Sun Peaks"



"Jan Farrell: Winning the Speed Ski SDH World Cup is a dream come true" "Jan Farrell, with a speed of 210,035 km/h finishes just 1 km/h shy of the new World Record in Vars"



"Jan Farrell wins the overall FIS Speed Ski SDH World Cup" "Jan Farrell: I focused, concentrated and raced as best I knew"



"The British skier living in Spain, Jan Farrell, wins the overall FIS Speed Ski SDH World Cup"



Jan Farrell: "You don't feel vertigo at those speeds"

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