



MEDIA RELEASE

Pure emotion on the frozen lake of St. Moritz at the 2017 Night Turf St. Moritz:

Berrahri, Avril Peccau and the singer Baschi were the big winners on the frozen lake of St. Moritz

The third edition of Night Turf yesterday, 24th February 2017, on the frozen lake was a total success again. About 5,000 spectators spent the afternoon and evening on the lake, the scene augmented by the excellent entertainment provided by the races and the show acts.

The 2017 Night Turf St. Moritz started with a colourful fun fair. The racing enthusiastic spectators started arriving in droves in the early afternoon, keen to benefit from the free entry to the frozen lake. To put them all in the right mood, the regional hotels offered a most varied range of culinary delicacies and beverages in the public catering tents. Many visitors seized the opportunity to back their personal favourites in the betting tent, hoping not to miss out on the attractive winning odds.

At 3.30 p.m. things became really exciting on the racetrack with four spectacular races, with the sun shining through just before the match race sponsored by the Handels- und Gewerbeverein – or Trade Association – of St. Moritz. In this duel of horse versus horse and lady rider versus male rider, Renny Storm – victorious last Sunday and owned by the Chevaalex stable, was the clear favourite against his training counterpart Ferro Sensation. The seven-year old gelding ridden by Alexander Pietsch, with more than a thousand victories under his belt, started the race in a very casual manner. Ferro Sensation was in front heading up the finishing straight where Renny Storm stormed past leaving him no chance.

However, in the trotting race presented by BMW (Schweiz) AG, an outsider took all the glory. Hardly anybody had counted on Avril Peccau, trained and driven by owner Jean-François Johner, after the performances so far this season. However, during a captivating final struggle, the seven-year old prevailed over Ramona Lap and favourite Top Winner.

The flatrace for the GP LONGINES was an easy win for the English guest Berrahri, in spite of his significant handicap of 65kg. The six-year old trained by John Best for the owner partnership White Turf Racing UK, together with replacement jockey Raphael Lingg, had complete and supreme control over his opponents led by Kontrast and Eyecatcher.

In the mounted celebrity Skikjöring presented by CREDIT SUISSE, six daring stars from politics, sport, music and TV competed against each other: **Jürg Stahl**, acting President of the National Council and newly elected President of Swiss Olympic, **Marc Berthod**, former ski racer, **Simon Schürch**, 2016 Olympic champion in mens lightweight fours rowing, **Nöldi Forrer**, 2001 Swiss wrestling king as well as the singer **Baschi** and SRF television presenter **Sven Epiney**.

The ultimate victory went to white horse Sleeping Giant with Raphael Lingg in the saddle and Baschi on the ropes behind. He was more than happy about his victory against Simon Schürch and last year's winner Nöldi Forrer.

After the races the Night Turf party started on the frozen lake of St. Moritz. For the first time, a free live concert was held on the outdoor stage. The Black Barons', currently the most successful Swiss country band provided the entertainment with their legendary songs, such as 'Girl in the Night'. The Latin-American soul singer Solana Féria also thrilled the audience with her rhythmical live act full of exuberance and joie de vivre – turning the frozen lake of St. Moritz into a real dance floor. At 8 p.m., crowned the fantastic overall experience, a laser show amazed the visitors, by lighting up the night sky over St. Moritz, again provided in 2017 by the Badrutt's Palace Hotel.

With a total of 5,000 enthusiastic spectators, the same number as last year, this third Night Turf event was again most appealing. The official festivities went on to 9 p.m. with food and drinks providing for a bubbling atmosphere on the frozen lake of St. Moritz. Those who had been able to obtain one of the limited number of coveted tickets for the experience package in the VIP tent, were able to savour a dinner provided by GAMMACATERING whilst enjoying a live concert with Boney M. feat. Liz Mitchell. The ensuing dance party with DJ Roger Martin went on until late in the night, finishing up at half past one.

Sponsors and partners of the 2017 Night Turf

This time, once again, the St. Moritz Racing Association has received great support from the following sponsors and partners, who make the 2017 Night Turf 2017 possible:

Main sponsors: BMW (Schweiz) AG, Credit Suisse AG und Longines; **Racing sponsors:** BMW (Schweiz) AG, Credit Suisse AG, Longines, Handels- und Gewerbeverein St. Moritz; **Event partners:** Badrutt's Palace St. Moritz, Carpe Diem Beds of Sweden, Crystal Hotel St. Moritz, Destination Engadine St. Moritz, Municipality of St. Moritz, Hotel Saratz Pontresina, Kulm Hotel St. Moritz, St. Moritz Tourism Sports & Events, Butscher's shop Heuberger; **Official partners:** Allegra Passugger Mineral sources AG, Cecchetto Import AG, CIGAR MUST, DIVINO – Selected wines, DRINK.CH (Silverbogen AG), Laurent-Perrier Suisse SA, **Barter sponsors:** Blasto AG, GAMMACATERING AG, Koller Elektro AG, smARTEc Administrative technology AG, St. Moritz Energy. **Media Partner:** Engadiner Post, ibexmedia.ch

Further information and current news at: www.nightturf.com and on [Facebook](#).

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You will find **the Night Turf race results** in the [Newsticker](#).

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All documentation of the Engadin St. Moritz tourism organisation can be found at the following link:

<http://www.engadin.stmoritz.ch/winter/en/media/basisinformationen/>

