

Report on Munich Sports Festival 2013

Team Alpenbrise (Alpine breeze) – made up of the Munich Freestyle Frisbee players Markus Götz, Toby Künzel, Melanie Kranz, Sophie Wolf and Lasse Schwarze – took advantage once again this year of the opportunity to present their sport at the annual Munich Sports Festival. The festival was held on Sunday, July 7 at the beautiful and centrally located Koenigsplatz Square in downtown Munich. It was a spectacular, sunny day as 40,000 visitors came to learn more about the 70 different sports being presented – and to try their hand at them.

To attract the interest of festival attendees and spark their interest in the sport, the Munich Freestyle group invited others from the German Frisbee community. The guests -- including Florian Hess, who has been crowned German champion multiple times and is currently the European champion – arrived on Friday from Karlsruhe, Nuremberg and Berlin. The joint Frisbee weekend started on Saturday with a hat tournament in the English Garden, the large city park that runs through Munich. They met at the Monopteros colonnade, the traditional meeting place for Team Alpenbrise.

On Sunday, the organizational team built up the Alpenbrise booth on the nearly 400 square meter playing field. In addition to a disc museum with new and historic Frisbees, a catch gallery, a Z-machine to get the disks spinning quickly and a disk golf basket for practicing precision throws, the team also had informational material covering all aspects of the sport of Frisbee.



The disc museum, with professional sport discs from the various disciplines, historic discs dating back to the original Frisbee pie form and a variety of recreational discs, was very well received by visitors to the festival.

The festival opened at 11 am, with the host Freestylers from Munich and their guests jamming on the action field as a way to awaken festivalgoers' interest in Frisbee and spark their passion for the game with the disc. Enthusiastic Frisbee novices of every age were shown the basics of throwing, catching and performing tricks, enjoying initial feelings of success with the colorful plastic Frisbees. As expected, the Z-machine was a real magnet for the visitors. The rotating disc on the fingernail was particularly fascinating for the festival goers, who all wanted to try it out themselves. Plenty of artificial nails and finger picks were available for the delay novices, making it easier for them to experience success.



Training devices like the spin jammer for the nail delay or the whiz ring for brushing help beginners get a feeling more quickly for the right movements in Freestyle Frisbee.



A particular highlight was the Z-machine, borrowed from the German Frisbee Sports Federation. It enables participants, supervised by the freestylers, to get their Frisbees spinning at high speeds and then seemingly effortlessly hold them in the so-called nail delay.

At 12.30, Florian Hess – winner of multiple German championship titles and reigning European champion – was joined by his team partners Alex Leist and Freddy Finner from SSC Karlsruhe e.V. in an impressive show on the main stage. The show generated a lot of enthusiasm on the part of festivalgoers, many of whom had never heard of this sport before..



The day before the festival, Team Alpenbrise hosted a typical Bavarian weisswurst breakfast for all the guest players, followed by a freestyle tournament in the English Garden and later a barbecue. The party continued on into the warm summer night (not without a spontaneous Frisbee jam, of course). All in all, the weekend was a tremendous success – not just for the visitors to the sports festival, but also for all participating Frisbee players.



A huge thank you to everyone who supported Team Alpenbrise in advance, contributing to the success of the event:

- German Frisbee Sports Federation (DFV): Jörg Benner
- Freestyle Frisbee e.V.: Markus Hein and Jan Schreck
- FPA Spread the Jam Grant
- Sponsors Patagonia München and Robert Maier Druck and Kopie
- ... and, of course, the guest jammers Jan Zverina, Nico Schwarz, Udo Engeter, Katrin Grosse, Raphael von der Grün, Florian Hess, Alexander Leist, Ayla D'avila Rosa, Freddy Finner