

08. - 19. FEB 2023

**BMW IBU WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIPS
BIATHLON
OBERHOF 2023**



**FOUNDATION
FOR A
SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE
#CAREFORFUTURE**



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SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SPORT

Eighteen years have passed, yet for all the people involved the memories remain vivid. Not least for the thousands of fans who turned the ARENA am Rennsteig into a biathlon madhouse and, of course, the athletes who fought for gold, silver and bronze at the 'Wimbledon' of biathlon.

The positive impact of the IBU Biathlon World Championships 2004 has remained over the years. The euphoria of those days provided both the initial spark and the fuel, and inspired at least two generations of sport enthusiasts.

Is it any wonder then, that the entire world of biathlon, all of Germany and Thuringia are looking forward to the **BMW IBU World Championships Biathlon Oberhof 2023**. More than 300 top athletes from 30 nations will excite biathlons fans around the world from **8th – 19th February 2023**, when the Biathlon World Championships will be held in Oberhof, Germany for the second time.

The stage is set for a massive spectacle. Over the last few years, the ARENA am Rennsteig has been transformed into the world's most modern biathlon arena. Together with numerous experts, a concept was developed to meet all the requirements of a major sports event today. Not just in terms of the general daily set-up surrounding the sport but also, and in particular, regarding the sustainability of the world championships and the continued use of the venues.

The common goal of the organisers, federations, and government representatives at federal, regional, and local levels levels, is to plan and execute the World Championships in a way that will meet the requirements of cross-generational responsibility. Any future success in the development of biathlon in Thuringia will only be possible in accordance with society and the environment in the region. All partners share this view.

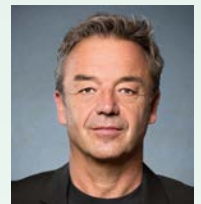
Sustainable development means that any future use of the venue has to take environmental, social, and economic aspects into consideration. It is important to continuously balance all interests and to resolve conflicts for future generations. Only in doing so, will our children and grandchildren have access to both elite academy and grassroots sport at the tradition-rich federal sports base in Oberhof.



Dr. Franz Steinle
(DSV)



Dr. Hartmut Schubert
(ZV TWZ)



Prof. Dr. Ralf Roth
(SIS, DSV-Board)



Thomas Grellmann
(Oberhofer Sport und
Event GmbH)





With this goal in mind, the German Ski Association (DSV), the International Biathlon Union (IBU), and the Zweckverband Thüringer Wintersportzentrum (TWZ) are striving for a positive development. The **BMW IBU World Championships Biathlon Oberhof 2023** will serve as an engine for a sustainable, future-oriented sports development.

This report aims to provide, in an open and transparent way, information concerning specific sustainability achievements made by and challenges posed by the Championships. It describes the activities and areas of application that provide a structure to the overall concept and fill it with content and life. As such, this report serves as a starting point for future sustainability goals and activities.

„With great care and the intention to work as resource-friendly as possible, we have rethought many things over recent years. Between the priorities of environmental protection and winter sports, it was necessary to find solutions that safeguard the tradition-rich venue, while making clear that climate change is not a marginal phenomenon but a key topic for the future,“

explains Dr. Hartmut Schubert,
Chairman of the Zweckverband Thüringer Wintersportzentrum.





DSV SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2030 – FUTURE OF BIATHLON IN THE FOCUS

In the sport of biathlon we often set ourselves ambitious goals for success. For sustainable sports development we need a common vision of the future and concrete plans of action. At the German Ski Association, we seek to protect our resources and implement the key elements of our **DSV Sustainability Strategy 2030 #careforfuture**. Our goal in Oberhof is to enable the next biathlon and winter sports generations to benefit from outstanding events and a high-performance training base.

We are working hard to make the German Ski Association a more sustainable sports association. Together with the International Biathlon Union, we also want to play a leading role in the transformation of biathlon sport. Together we are driven by the idea of making the future of biathlon sustainable.

Based on our outlook, our experience and our standards, the DSV has defined specific areas of action over the years and is constantly pursuing them. Specifically, our strategic ambitions include six fields of action in three areas of responsibility: winter sports organisation with our member federations; training facilities and federal sports bases; and winter sports events, in particular world cups and world championships.

*Instruments and ambitious targets backed by concrete measures and projects on the different levels. These include key projects such as the **KLIMA.SCHNEE.SPORT** expert forum*

CLIMATE & ENERGY Energy checks, snow and resource management at training centers

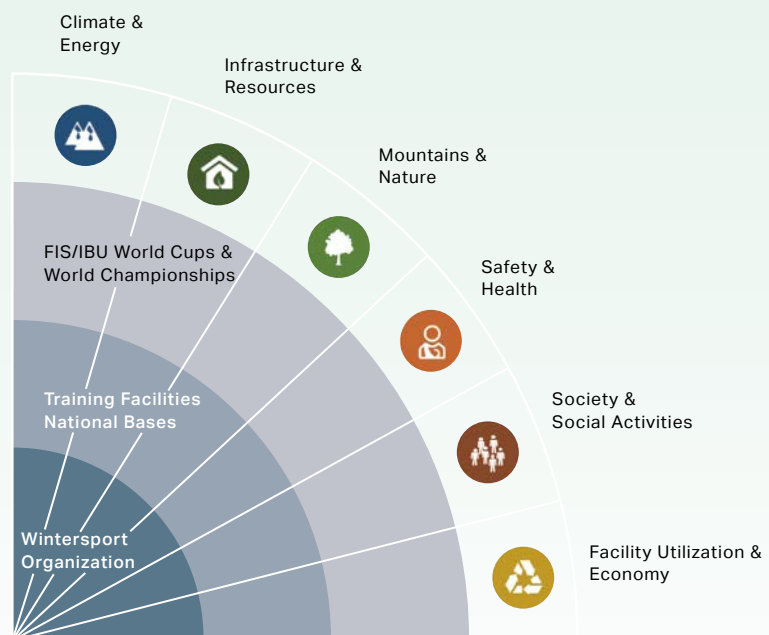
INFRASTRUCTURE & RESOURCES Management of recreational activities in wildlife habitats

MOUNTAINS & NATURE Operation of DSV ski patrols

SAFETY & HEALTH Prevention of sexualized violence in winter sports

SOCIETY & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES Sustainable operating concepts for training and competition centers

FACILITY UTILIZATION & ECONOMY Renowned sustainability concept of the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships Oberstdorf/Allgäu 2021



Fields of action and areas of responsibility of the sustainability strategy of the German Ski Association (DSV)



International endeavours, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, the UN 'Sports for Climate Action Framework' of which we are a signatory and the Sustainability Strategy of the German federal government provide the binding framework in consideration of the role of sport.

On various levels the ambitious targets were backed up by specific measures and projects. Winter sports events such as the Biathlon World Championships 2023 are driving forces for a future-oriented and needs-based development of year-round training and competition facilities.

Dealing with climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing the global community, as well as winter sports. Therefore, we can no longer discuss „if“ scenarios regarding enhanced sustainability but focus on the „how“.

Climate protection is an existential field of action for winter sports. Every additional tonne of emissions harms the climate further and worsens the climatic conditions for our sport. Achieving the Paris climate goals is in the interest of winter sports and requires a rapid reduction of emissions as well as the removal of already emitted CO₂ from the atmosphere.

*The DSV set its course for climate responsibility and CO₂ neutrality for our network back in 2019 with its **Sustainability Strategy 2030.***

- Our sports facilities and World Cup/ WCH locations are part of the UN framework for 'Sports for Climate Action'.
- We are committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent at all venues and events by 2030 at the latest (reference year 2019).
- From 2040 we will be climate neutral.

Therefore, with the Biathlon World Championships 2023 in Oberhof, we are particularly supporting measures that will minimise fossil energy consumption at events and promote resource efficiency in all areas.





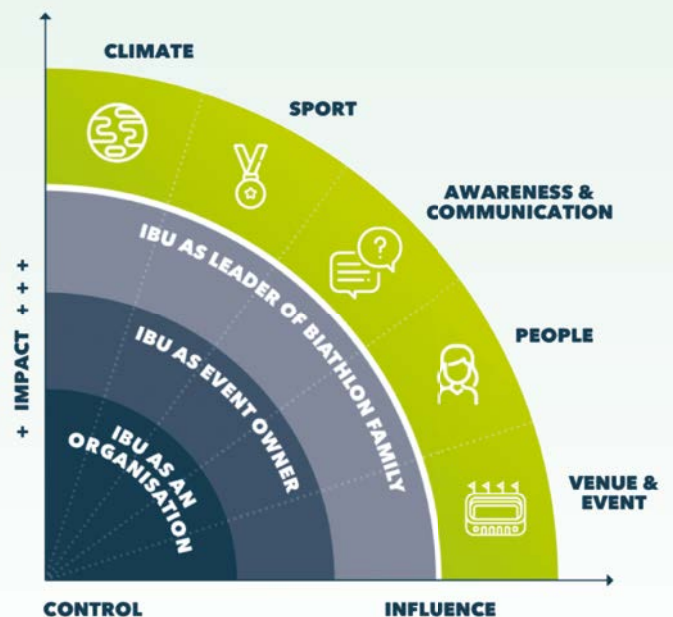
SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY OF THE INTERNATIONAL BIATHLON UNION

As the international umbrella organisation for the sport of biathlon, the International Biathlon Union (IBU) can directly implement change in the sport. At the same time, the IBU can also use the sport as a platform to create awareness for sustainability and climate change in the society.

„Sustainability is an increasingly important and relevant issue in sports – and no sport is more affected by climate change than biathlon. The IBU must a strong stance on becoming an increasingly sustainable and environmentally-friendly sport, becoming a thought leader among International Federations.“

Olle Dahlin, IBU-Präsident

As part of its 'Target 26' strategy, the IBU adopted an ambitious Sustainability Strategy 2020 – 2030 in September 2020. This strategy is based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) and covers the three dimensions of sustainability – environmental, social and economic. The strategy initially focused on the IBU's own activities. The focus has now shifted to the cooperation with IBU events and the global biathlon family as a whole. This includes national member federations, partners and sponsors, as well as the media and biathlon fans worldwide. Overall the approach is evolutionary rather than revolutionary, emphasising long-term behavioural change over short-term gains.





As a snow sport, biathlon is directly affected by climate change. That is the reason why the IBU emphasises the importance of climate action. As a signatory to the 'Sports for Climate Action Framework' and the UN's 'Race to Zero' campaign, the IBU has also committed to reducing the carbon footprint of the sport by 50 percent (base year 2019), to be carbon neutral by 2030 and to be net zero by 2040.

Besides the strategic area 'Climate', the IBU has set itself clear goals in all five fields of action. Within the focus area 'Venue & Event', the IBU works closely with its organising committees, who all measure and manage their respective footprints using a biathlon-specific emissions calculator. They also work to reduce and recycle waste. In July 2022, the IBU presented the first Sustainability Awards to organising committees that took the lead in embracing sustainability and reducing their own impact.

Within the focus area 'Sport', the IBU has created the so-called Snow Network to develop and implement best practices for sustainable snow management at its events. The IBU also remains committed to a full ban of fluorocarbon waxes in biathlon.

For further information about the sustainability work of the IBU, please visit:
<https://www.biathlonworld.com/inside-ibu/sustainability>



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1 | DEVELOPMENT & USE OF EXISTING SPORTS FACILITIES



Oberhof looks back on 100 years of winter sports tradition. Today it is a leading winter sports centre and regularly hosts major international sporting events. But grassroots sport and year-round training from junior to elite level groups also play an important role here.

The sports venues and sports facilities are at the heart of the **BMW IBU World Championships Biathlon Oberhof 2023**. The World Championships are a large event – but ultimately only a blink of an eye in relation to the lifespan of a sports facility. Therefore, the following sustainability principle applies to all new buildings and modernisations: „Long-term use is the overarching goal, the Biathlon World Championships are a highlight.“ Wherever possible and as far as the sporting requirements can be met, the use of existing sports facilities has top priority. This was achieved by the use and modernisation of the existing facilities in Oberhof.

From the sustainability perspective, this means a needs-based re-planning of existing facilities. Especially when it comes to the long-term use as a training and competition site across all user groups. In this way, the Biathlon World Championships provide impulses for a modern and long-term development of the infrastructure as a prerequisite for high-performance sport, competitive youth sport, club and school sport, and sport tourism. The modernisation of the facilities should preserve the appeal of Oberhof for Nordic Skiing in the long term, ensure a high-quality utilisation of the sports facilities all year round and optimise operations in the long term. In summer, athletes train with roller skis on the cross-country ski routes and jump on the ski jumps even more often than in winter. In addition, the ARENA am Rennsteig will be used more intensively by other target groups, events, training courses and seminars with the help of suitable offers and products. As a prerequisite, the concept of the infrastructure is based on a critical analysis of sports needs and an ecologically and economically balanced approach to the entire life cycle of the winter sports centre. This will continue to secure jobs and create regional value in sports and tourism.





2 | FUTURE-ORIENTED SPORTS VENUES, ENERGY AND CLIMATE PROTECTION



To minimise the energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of sports facilities permanently, modernisation projects with large investments in new technologies, especially for emission avoidance, are inevitable. This goal cannot be achieved without a rapid and courageous change of course. This change of course is now being navigated with the help of extensive conversion and modernisation measures at the sports facilities in Oberhof. The measures for a climate-neutral energy supply are funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection as well as the Free State of Thuringia, represented by the Thuringian Ministry for Environment, Energy and Nature Conservation. The basis for the envisioned energy targets is the Energy Concept for the Oberhof Sports Facilities (2018), the extended photovoltaic study (2019) and the update of the Energy Concept (2022). Thanks to this sustainable energy concept, Oberhof serves as a shining example of a model region, with lighthouse character for the development of future energy supply strategies. The focus is on the long-term and sustainable use of the sports facilities in Oberhof all year round – for sports, education and culture, the region and its people.

The flagship of the already implemented modernisation measures is the use of waste heat from the refrigeration units in the EISARENA and the Skisport-HALLE by the so-called 'cold network'. The 3.5 km long network line that meets the arena's cooling requirements provides sufficient waste heat to run the functional buildings and common rooms of the sports facilities. In the cold network, the waste heat from the condensers is fed to the winter sports facilities at Grenzadler and Fallbachhang as



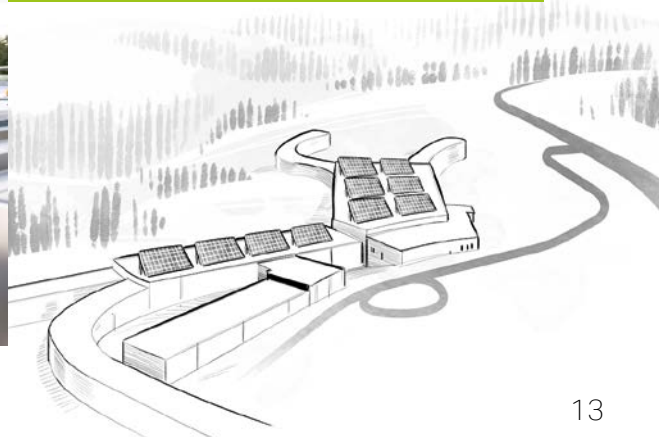


primary energy. At the same time, the power requirement for the re-cooling of the refrigeration units is reduced. In the future, the excess of the bundled waste heat will be supplied to parts of Oberhof as district heating and used for the sports high school, sports halls, and the elementary school. Future developments will include a bioenergy centre with two large heat pumps, two bi-methane thermal power stations, one biomass boiler powered by wood chips from the surrounding area, and a cogeneration plant. This bioenergy centre will make 4,065,900 kWh of heat surplus available to the various consumers annually from 2025.

For the World Championships, the energy supply of the winter sports centre is covered by certified green energy from renewable hydropower. In future, the focus will be on increasing the share of self-sufficiency in the own area network of TWZ. For this purpose, the installation of photovoltaic systems is planned in all suitable areas of the sports facilities. These include the buildings on the shooting range, the snow storage hall, as well as the target house, machine hall and the garage complex of the EISARENA. A total of 2,000 modules with a surface of 3,500 m² will be installed by the spring of 2023. The installation already began in August and September 2022. From spring 2023 onwards, between 18 and 21 percent of the total required energy can be covered by regenerative solar energy: An output of around 750,000 kWh with a peak of 800 kW and predicted CO² savings of 500 tonnes per year. In addition, two-thirds of the total required energy will be provided by self-generated power through thermal power stations in the bioenergy centre. In terms of its energy supply the winter sports centre will be, in the long run, 100 percent self-sufficient.



- Versatile use of sports facilities throughout the year, also beyond sports, and use of existing infrastructure
- Heat supply for the buildings 100 % from waste heat generated on site
- District heating supply for the city and region of Oberhof from waste heat surplus
- Installation of photovoltaics on 3,500 m² of building area with predicted CO₂ savings of 500 tonnes per year
- Bioenergy centre with regenerative energy sources in planning
- Total energy requirement covered by 20 % from photovoltaics and 65 % from our own bioenergy centre with the target of 100 % self-supply in the future





3 | RESOURCE-EFFICIENT SNOW MANAGEMENT



The environmental and sustainability advisory board of the DSV and the accompanying international network of climate scientists agree in their expectations, that the annual average temperatures in the mountain areas will increase by a further 2 degrees by the end of the century. As a result of such warming, the natural snow cover suitable for snow sports will also continue to decrease in the Thuringian Forest in the long term. In this context, the meteorological conditions for technical snow production are changing. Operators of winter sports events and training centres must adapt accordingly, contribute to climate protection, modernise the facilities and consume energy and water resources efficiently. For this reason, numerous technical measures to reduce energy consumption through increased efficiency, new technologies and organisational innovations were carried out in Oberhof.

At World Championships or World Cup events, it is a general requirement of the international sports associations that sufficient snow reliability is guaranteed for the event. For this purpose, snow is produced on site and preserved over summer in snow depots, so called snow farming. Optimal environmental conditions can be leveraged for such production to minimise the use of resources. No chemical additives are allowed in snow production, which means that artificial snow, like natural snow, consists purely of water. The snow production for the operation of the sports





facilities (trails, shooting range and functional areas) for the World Championships requires about 30,000 m³ of water. After the World Cup, these prepared trails will be available for training and further competitions. The depots in Oberhof have a maximum storage capacity of 45,000 m³ of snow.

A total of over 32,000 m³ of snow was stored at four locations from the 2021/22 season. Since 2021, the new 'Kulle-Kurve' depot has been used for snow farming. The snow is produced under optimal environmental conditions, brought into the depot, and preserved over the summer. The depot has a capacity of 18,000 m³ and the snow is insulated with a 40 cm layer of wood chips and sawdust. In addition, the snow depot next to the ski hall offers 10,000 m³ storage capacity. The thermal insulation is guaranteed by a geo-fleece, a 25 cm thick polystyrene layer and a mirrored foil. A further 3,000 m³ of snow can be stored in the ski hall and the Kanzlergrund depot respectively.

The first measurements, despite the hot summer of 2022, show that there has been a volume loss of around 34 – 36 percent. This means that enough snow is available to secure the Biathlon World Championships. The snow depots in Oberhof are scientifically monitored for research purposes due to their different site conditions and insulation methods to optimise snow storage practices in the long term and to gain a better understanding of the relevant parameters, also for other venues.

About one third of the CO₂ emissions at sport facilities are generated when preparing cross-country ski trails, ski slopes, and ski jumps. This year, for the first time, HVO fuel will be used in the vehicles for preparation and maintenance at the venue. The hydrogenated vegetable oils originate partly from waste fat sources and partly from residues of industrial production. Compared to conventional diesel fuels, CO₂ emission savings of up to 90 percent can be achieved. In addition, the emission of nitrogen oxides and particulate matter is reduced.



- Efficient and resource-saving snow management based on state of the art methods
- Extensive snow storage capacities optimise the use of resources
- Scientific monitoring and continuous improvement of snow storage
- 90 % CO₂ emission reduction potential in snow distribution and course preparation with HVO fuel



4 VOLUNTEERS



Around 1,000 volunteers contribute significantly to the successful running and smooth organisation of the Biathlon World Championships. Without their continued commitment, sporting events are difficult to accomplish. The volunteers have been the face of winter sports events in Oberhof for years. They support and fill a variety of roles with enthusiasm and a zest for action, from accreditation to security, from logistics to the fan shop, from social media to anti-doping.

All volunteers receive a new set of apparel free of charge for the World Championships, which can be used for further World Cup events until at least 2026. In addition to providing a common appearance for the spectators, TV viewers and the event's branding, sustainable production is guaranteed by the manufacturer. The packaging of the clothing must meet relevant sustainability standards and may not contain any substances that are harmful to the environment or human health.

- Volunteers are the heart of the event
- Long tradition of volunteering at the Oberhof World Cup events
- Exclusive benefits & offers for all volunteers





5 | SOCIAL, YOUTH-ORIENTED & INCLUSIVE OFFERS

Promotion of Young Athletes

The promotion of young athletes has high priority in Oberhof. In the wake of the Biathlon World Championships, three additional sports development projects are fostered together with the Thuringian Ski Association. The **International Youth Camp Biathlon** in the ARENA am Rennsteig has taken place since 2017 and was staged again in autumn 2022 after a break due to Covid-19. 90 young athletes from 20 nations came together for a week of training and cultural exchange.

„For the athletes, the camp is like Christmas and Easter all at once and definitely a great enrichment. In the biathlon mecca of Oberhof, they develop both personally and physically.“

Zibi Szlufcik,
DSV Head Coach Junior Biathlon





As part of the **Biathlon in Schools** project, almost 100 primary school classes from 57 Thuringian schools have enjoyed an indoor biathlon course since April 2022 and thus playfully experienced a taste of the everyday life of professional athletes. Based on a normal biathlon competition, the children covered a short distance with obstacles and – with a safe laser rifle – demonstrated their accuracy. In the third and final round, the fastest teams fought to secure tickets for the World Championships in February for themselves and their classmates. Local top athlete Vanessa Voigt from Thuringia supports the project.

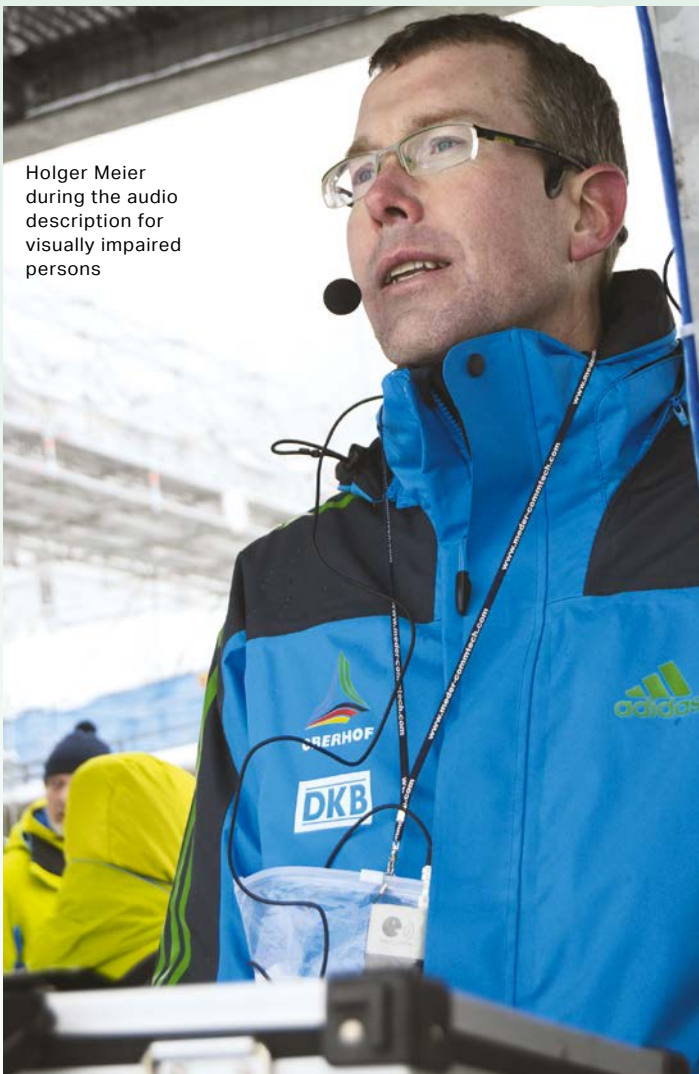
On the hunt for medals instead of class tests – thanks to the project **Youth Meets Biathlon**: 3.000 Thuringian students are invited to watch the World Championships live on the first and second day of the competitions in the ARENA am Rennsteig and experience the world-famous atmosphere of Oberhof. They will be on site when gold, silver and bronze are awarded for the mixed relay on 8th February and when the women fight for the world title in the sprint on 10th February. The project aims to nurture their enthusiasm for biathlon and all winter sports.





Inclusive Offers

As a winter sports spectacle, the Biathlon World Championships seeks to inspire people regardless of their needs and welcome them to Oberhof. Wheelchair users and visually impaired can access their own reduced ticket categories. Accompanying persons receive free entry. A designated area with 25 spaces for wheelchairs is reserved under the new sports science building (G3) that can be reached barrier-free. Audio description will be available for the visually impaired. To ease travel to the event, there is a separate parking area at Wadeberg. From there, the German Red Cross offers transport to the ARENA am Rennsteig, as well as a lot of support from volunteers. In addition, ticket options starting from EUR 26,- will be available to facilitate inexpensive access to the event for as many social groups as possible.



Holger Meier during the audio description for visually impaired persons

„The event can be recommended without hesitation for wheelchair users. Everything is organised perfectly! We look forward to helping visitors with disabilities again this year.“

Anke and Mario Schmidt –
Voluntary Inclusion Officers, OC Oberhof



- Diverse sports development projects for children and young people
- Oberhof as an important location for youth training groups all year round
- Customised offers for different groups for an unlimited experience of the World Championships
- Accessibility support by the German Red Cross
- Inexpensive ticket offers for everyone



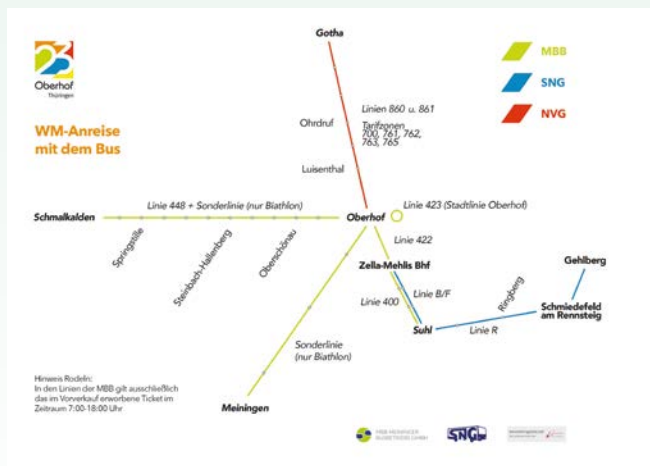
6 | SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY CONCEPT

The mobility of spectators, team members and officials is one of the main emission drivers at sports events. For this reason, a comprehensive mobility concept was developed in order to facilitate the access by local public transport. Oberhof itself is not connected to the railway network, the nearest train station Zella-Mehlis (WCH train station) is 10 km away. Bridging the so-called last mile between the train station and the event location is therefore of particular importance. For this purpose, free shuttle buses run back and forth between the train station and the sports facilities until 22:30 CET. In addition, the regular bus service directly to Oberhof can be used, as well as special bus services from Schmalkalden and Meiningen. The use of shuttles and public transport within a radius of more than 50 km to Erfurt, Bad Neustadt and Wernshausen is free of charge in the World Championships ticket for all visitors.

For those arriving by private car, over 11,000 P+R parking lots are available close to the event location during the World Championships, for example in Crawwinkel and Suhl. From there, shuttle buses also commute to the winter sports facilities until 22:30 CET. There are no parking facilities in Oberhof to keep the local traffic flowing and to guarantee smooth bus services. For the mobility of accredited persons within Oberhof, a fleet of vehicles from IBU partner BMW is provided, including low-emission electric vehicles. In addition, a total of 25 minibuses, each with eight seats, are in on hand to transport people as efficiently as possible.

Fan buses from event trip organizers can stop at designated spots on Crawwinkel Straße and Tambacher Straße. A total of 40 to 60 fan buses are expected daily. At high occupancy rates, they also contribute to a climate-friendly arrival and to the world-famous atmosphere at Grenzadler.

- Public transport ticket included in the event ticket within the radius of Erfurt, Bad Neustadt and Wernshausen
- Free shuttle buses between WCH train station Zella-Mehlis, P+R car parks and the sports facilities
- Additional buses from Schmalkalden and Meiningen for the period of the event
- Reduction of traffic volumes in Oberhof by redirecting private individual transport to P+R
- Efficient coordination of the mobility of team members and officials within Oberhof
- Reserved parking lots for climate-friendly fan buses






max. 6

Zusatz
nur mit
gültiger
Fahrkarte

DB
Unser
Sommermärchen
muss nicht enden.
Bleibt dabei.
auch ohne
8-Euro-
Ticket
Entdeckt unsere Halbesche
bahn.de/thueringer

Oberhof
Ich mag
23
Oberhof
Oberhof23.de
Oberhof
Thüringen
Mit dem Sommerlicher Luft.



7 | RESOURCE CONSERVATION & WASTE MANAGEMENT

Food & Drinks

The choice of offered food and drinks can significantly contribute to saving emissions. For this reason, dishes based on regional products and more environmentally friendly alternatives are on the menu. This includes a reduction in meat dishes and an increase in vegetarian and vegan alternatives. A vegetarian dish is offered every day, along with further vegan options. Drinks are supplied by regional providers from Schmalkalden and Gotha. Local bakeries and butcher shops from the area are engaged to keep transport routes short and support the local economy.

Waste Reduction

All dishes are served with biodegradable cutlery and napkins. For drinks a reusable cup system to reduce waste is put in place. The waste avoidance principle also applies to other levels. For example, advertising material is limited, and the distribution of flyers has been reduced to a minimum. Offices prioritise digital communication to reduce paper waste.

Flower Ceremony

The traditional Flower Ceremony will not feature bouquets of cut flowers. Instead, a tree will be dedicated to each winner. For this purpose, thirteen noble deciduous trees of the species sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) have been planted in advance. The world champions will find their name on the tree and can be admired on site for the coming decades.





Tree Sponsorship

A reforestation campaign for areas that have been destroyed by wind and bark beetle infestation in recent years is planned together with the forestry institutions in the region. A total of 2023 tree sponsorships are offered via the ticket shop, where those interested can choose between small and large tree categories. All sponsors can plant their trees themselves during a planting day in autumn and receive a certificate for their sponsorship. Those who cannot take part in the planting themselves will have their sponsored tree planted by volunteers.

Drinking Water Protection

Since the competition site at Grenzadler is a drinking water protection zone, the protection of nature and drinking water must be secured. Therefore, the rainwater retention basin at the ARENA-slope has a downstream separator system to filter pollutants. A throttled discharge system ensures the appropriate of water recirculation of the filtered water masses.



- Culinary supply by local providers with vegetarian and vegan alternatives
- Biodegradable cutlery and reusable cup system
- Trees dedicated to the World Champions instead of bouquets of cut flowers
- Local reforestation of damaged forest areas through tree sponsorships
- Safeguarding of the drinking water protection zone by means of rainwater retention basins with a separator system





8 | ECOLOGICAL COMPENSATION MEASURES

The construction of sports venues and facilities often leads to unavoidable impacts on nature and the landscape. The project developer is obliged to compensate for this intervention, if it cannot be avoided or reduced, by implementing nature conservation and landscape conservation measures. As part of the conversion of the ARENA am Rennsteig, comprehensive 'compensation and replacement measures' were set as part of the approval process.

The measures are implemented in close cooperation with the water authorities, the nature conservation authorities and the forestry authorities in order to ensure suitable technical support. The compensatory measures are measures in the immediate vicinity of the venue, but may also be cross-site projects.

Overview of Measures

MEASURE A1

Embankment planting at the Biathlon arena

- Topsoil is covered and fence built
- Planting work with autochthonous planting material in spring 2023
- Completion (2023), development maintenance (2024 – 2025)

ONGOING

MEASURE E1

Replacement pond/biotope Zella-Mehlis

- Newly created biotope on the meadow between Magnus-Poser-Straße and Straße-des-8-März in Zella-Mehlis
- Pond renaturation Zella-Mehlis

COMPLETED

MEASURE E2

Rock face Schwarza

- Clearing of hedges and bushes
- Three-year maintenance of extensive areas after completion in 2022

COMPLETED

MEASURE E3

Mountain meadow Steinbach-Hallenberg

- Develop forest edge, create open spaces at edge of forest (partial tree felling and rootstock clearing)
- Develop topsoil as a meadow area
- Three-year maintenance of extensive area after completion in 2022

COMPLETED



MEASURE E4A AND E4B

Unsealing road & culverts

- Remove asphalt and dispose properly
- Install drainage pipes & restore paths



MEASURE E5

Reforestation / Forest Conversion Oberhof

- Planting work with autochthonous material in spring 2023
- Protective measures for seedlings
- Two-year development maintenance after completion in 2023



Replacement afforestation Langewiesen/Gehre

- Fence construction and planting completed in spring 2022
- Three-year development maintenance after completion in 2023





FUTURE PROSPECTS

It is our responsibility to develop the sport of biathlon and the winter sports centre in Oberhof optimally for the future. The first steps were taken in 2021, 2022 and 2023 with the help of technological, structural, and organisational measures. The winter sports centre in the Thuringian Forest will continue to focus on the needs of winter sports enthusiasts and further accelerate its sustainable transformation.

We want to create strong awareness in the winter sports associations. It is upon us to shape our future. Sustainability is at the heart of what we do – not just when it comes to climate protection. The 17 UN sustainability goals all intertwine while social sustainability binds the region together – to ensure the acceptance by the local people and the development of passionate winter sports youngsters for the future.

The first steps taken by the **BMW IBU World Championships Biathlon Oberhof 2023** demonstrate the capabilities of the region and sport. However, it is not just the length of the steps that counts, but the continuity and direction of the movement towards a sustainable future.



08. - 19. FEB 2023

BMW IBU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BIATHLON OBERHOF 2023



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