Downhill And Slalom Results - Winter Olympics - Switzerland, 1948

Men's Downhill

Spectators lined the 2.1-mile course which dropped 2920 feet to see the world's greatest skiers take the precipitous schusses and hit the treacherous bumps which proved to be the downfall of many. The trail was smooth and had a sprinkling of new snow which combined with a warm sun to slow up some skiers on the flatter stretches of the course near the top. The top three-quarters of the run was down through a flag-marked course above tree-line, with the last schusses winding through trees which had been covered with straw-filled bags to prevent injury in the event of a crash. Henri Oreiller's run of two minutes, 55 seconds was better than four seconds ahead of his nearest competitor. The story was making the rounds of St. Moritz that French strategy was for Oreiller to "shoot the works" in downhill and for Couttet to take no chances so that he might win the slalom. Couttet did just that. Jack "Red Dog" Reddish of Salt Lake City was the standout among the Americans, finishing 26th and well ahead of his teammates. Movitz, Knowlton, Jennings and McLean all spilled to lose precious seconds.

Rank	Name	Country	Time (mins. secs.)
1	Henri Oreiller	France	2:55.0
2	Franz Gabl	Austria	2:59.1
3	Karl Molitor	Switzerland	3:00.3
3	Rolf Olinger	Switzerland	3:00.3
5	Egon Schoepf	Austria	3:01.2
6	Silvio Alvera	Italy	3:02.4
6	Carlo Gartner	Italy	3:02.4
8	Fernand Grosjean	Switzerland	3:03.1
9	Hans Nogler	Austria	3:03.2
10	Hans Hanssen	Sweden	3:05.0
11	Sverre Lassen-Urdahl	Norway	3:06.4
11	Adolf Odermatt	Switzerland	3:06.4
13	James Couttet	France	3:07.3
14	Engelbert Haider	Austria	3:08.2
15	Eberhard Kneisl	Austria	3:08.3
16	Bjarne Arentz	Norway	3:09.0
17	Antonin Sponar	Czechoslovakia	3:09.1
18	Romedi Spada	Switzerland	3:09.2
19	Edi Mall	Austria	3:09.3
20	Marius Eriksen	Norway	3:09.4
21	Vittorio Chierroni	Italy	3:10.0
22	Edi Rainalter	Switzerland	3:11.0
23	Guy De Huertas	France	3:12.0
23	Georges Panisset	France	3:12.0
25	Sverre Johannessen	Norway	3:12.1
26	Jack REDDISH	U.S.A.	3:12.3
27	Lubos Brchl	Czechoslovakia	3:12.4
28	Harvey Clifford	Canada	3:14.1
28	Hector Sutherland	Canada	3:14.1
30	Sixten Isberg	Sweden	3:15.0
31	Stein Eriksen	Norway	3:15.1
32	Eugenio Bonicco	Italy	3:15.4
33	Jean Pazzi	France	3:16.1
34	Claude Penz	France	3:19.2
35	Josef Marusarz	Poland	3:20.2
36	Tine Mulej	Yugoslavia	3:21.1
37	Jan Gasienica-Ciaptak	Poland	3:21.3
38	Aake Nilsson	Sweden	3:22.2
39	Pentti Alonen	Finland	3:22.3
40	Stig Sollander	Sweden	3:23.1
41	Olle Lalman	Sweden	3:23.2
42	Richard MOVITZ	U.S.A.	3:25.2
43	Steve KNOWLTON	U.SA.	3:26.2
44	Robert BLATT	U.S.A.	3:27.4
45	Devereaux JENNINGS	U.S.A.	3:28.2
46	Daniel S'Lachta	Czechoslovakia	3:29.4
47	Barney MCLEAN	U.S.A.	3:30.1
48	Peter Szikla	Hungary	3:30.4
49	Alexander Mazany	Hungary	3:31.4
50	Michel Feron	Belgium	3:34.3
51	Radu Scarneci	Rumania	3:35.0
52	Thomas Szekely	Hungary	3:36.0
53	Aimo Vartiainen	Finland	3:36.4
54	Slavko Lukanc	Yugoslavia	3:37.1
55	Franz Beck	Liechtenstein	3:38.3
56	Bert Irwin	Canada	3:39.1
57	Demetre Fratzila	Rumania	3:39.3
58	Demetre Sulica	Rumania	3:39.4
59	Hernan Oelkers	Chile	3:40.2
60	Donald Garrow	England	3:41.3
60	Bill Irwin	Canada	3:41.3
62	David Madjar	Bulgaria	3:45.3
63	Justo Del Carril	Argentina	3:46.2
64	Magnus Brynjolfsson	Iceland	3:48.2
65	Karl Kvoari	Hungary	3:49.1
66	Jon Coliban	Rumania	3:49.2
67	Jerzy Schindler	Poland	3:49.4
68	Luis De Ridder	Argentina	3:50.2
69	Matevz Lukanc	Yugoslavia	3:50.3
70	Philippe D'Ursel	Belgium	3:51.0
71	Mihai Bara	Rumania	3:52.3
71	Ciril Pracek	Yugoslavia	3:52.3
73	Max Gassner	Liechtenstein	3:53.0
74	Vasile Jonescu	Rumania	3:54.1
74	Erturo Hammersley	Chile	3:54.1
74	James Palmer-Tompkinson	England	3:54.1
77	Georges Libik	Hungary	3:55.3
78	Jaime Errazuriz	Chile	3:56.4
79	Poldi Schaedler	Liechtenstein	4:00.0
80	Joze Bertoncelj	Yugoslavia	4:00.2
81	Stuart Parkinson	England	4:03.0
82	Dimitar Drajeff	Bulgaria	4:07.1
83	Gonzalo Dominguez	Chile	4:08.3
84	Ludwig Mate	Hungary	4:09.0
85	Otto Jung	Argentina	4:09.3
86	Jose Arias	Spain	4:11.4
87	Rasit Tolun	Turkey	4:12.1
88	Peter Waddel	England	4:17.4
89	Thomas Morawitz	Spain	4:24.0
90	Theodor Sele	Liechtenstein	4:24.1
91	Gino De Pellegrin	Argentina	4:25.2
91	Jan Appleyard	England	4:25.2
93	Pablo Rosenkjer	Argentina	4:36.2
94	Dursun Bozkurt	Turkey	4:37.3
95	Julio Cermuda	Argentina	4:46.4
96	Thorir Jonsson	Iceland	4:47.0
97	Osmar Juege	Turkey	4:49.2
98	Gudmundur Gudmundsson	Iceland	4:57.0
99	Prinz Constantin	Liechtenstein	5:04.1
100	Jose Vila	Spain	5:13.0
101	Fotios Mavriplis	Greece	5:39.1
102	Fernando Arminan	Spain	5:41.2

Women's Downhill

The girls had their first shot at Olympic laurels in the downhill, held Feb. 2 over a course one and three-tenths miles long which dropped 1719 feet. A series of bad bumps half way down the course spoiled the chances of several of the racers who spilled here, including Andy Mead and Georgette Thiolliere-Miller. Without attempting to perform any race post mortems, it seemed to us that these two girls had the fastest runs up to the time of their spills and one or the other would have won if they could have kept on their feet through the "Grand Trou" or "Big Hole" as it was called. It was in this same spot that Rhona Wurtele of the Canadian twin combination spilled. Rhona had not skied for three weeks, having been laid up by a scalp infection which resulted from a spill during training, yet she was determined to compete in the Olympics. Her sister Rhoda had previously chipped an ankle bone and was out of competition. Despite her lack of training, Rhona zoomed down the course in her characteristic fashion. Following her spill, she picked herself up and raced down the last half of the course and through the finish, where she dropped to the ground; later examination showed that she had skied the last half of the race with a broken leg.

Rank	Name	Country	Time (In mins. and secs.)
1	Hedy Schlunegger	Switzerland	2:28.3
2	Trude Beiser	Austria	2:29.1
3	Rese Hammerer	Austria	2:30.2
4	Celina Seghi	Italy	2:31.1
5	Lina Mittner	Switzerland	2:31.2
6	Suzanne Thiolliere	France	2:31.4
7	Laila Schou-Nilsen	Norway	2:32.4
7	Francoise Gignoux	France	2:32.4
9	Rosmarie Bleuer	Switzerland	2:33.3
10	Lucienne Schmidt-Couttet	France	2:35.2
11	Antoinette Meyer	Switzerland	2:35.4
12	Brynhild GRASMOEN	U.S.A.	2:36.0
13	Gretchen FRASER	U.S.A.	2:37.1
14	Irene Molitor	Switzerland	2:37.2
14	Alexandra Nekwapilowa	Czechoslovakia	2:37.2
16	Annelore Zueckert	Austria	2:38.4
17	Annelies Schuh-Proxauf	Austria	2:39.0
18	May Nilsson	Sweden	2:39.1
19	Erika Mahringer	Austria	2:39.3
20	Ruth-Marie STEWART	U.S.A.	2:42.0
21	Fernande Bayetto	France	2:43.1
22	Rebecca CREMER	U.S.A.	2:44.2
23	Borghild Niskin	Norway	2:44.4
24	Olivia Ausoni	Switzerland	2:45.1
25	Bozena Moserova	Czechoslovakia	2:46.1
26	Sophie Nogler	Austria	2:47.0
27	Isobel Roe	England	2:47.3
28	Paula KANN	U.S.A.	2:49.0
29	Micheline Desmazieres	France	2:50.2
30	Rosemarie Sparrow	England	2:52.3
31	Georgette Thiolliere-Miller	France	2:52.4
32	Renata Carraretto	Italy	2:59.1
33	Sheena Mackintosh	England	3:00.0
34	Xanthe Ryder	England	3:01.4
35	Andrea MEAD	U.S.A.	3:03.1
36	Aniko Igloi	Hungary	3:07.1
37	Rhona Wurtele	Canada	3:26.1

Women's Combined Downhill-Slalom

Trudy Beiser's second place in the downhill combined with an eighth in the slalom gave the Austrian lass a gold medal for the combined, but Gretchen Fraser became the first American to win a silver medal for Olympic ski competition for her second in the results.

Rank	Name	Country	Downhill (Points)	Slalom (Points)	Total Points Score
1	Trude Beiser	Austria	0.38	6.20	6.58
2	Gretchen FRASER	U.S.A.	5.50	1.45	6.95
3	Erika Mahringer	Austria	7.04	0.00	7.04
4	Celina Seghi	Italy	1.66	5.80	7.46
5	Francoise Gignoux	France	2.69	5.45	8.14
6	Rosmarie Bleuer	Switzerland	3.20	5.60	8.80
7	Anneliese Schuh-Proxauf	Austria	6.66	3.10	9.76
8	Hedy Schlunegger	Switzerland	0.00	10.20	10.20
9	Alexandra Nekvapilova	Czechoslovakia	5.63	5.35	10.98
10	Lucienne Schmidt-Couttet	France	4.35	7.15	11.50
10	Suzanne Thiolliere	France	2.05	9.45	11.50
12	Rese Hammerer	Austria	1.02	10.85	11.87
13	Laila Schou-Nielsen	Norway	2.69	9.45	12.14
14	Lina Mittner	Switzerland	1.79	10.75	12.54
15	May Nilsson	Sweden	6.78	6.25	13.03
16	Ruth-Marie STEWART	U.S.A.	8.58	9.15	17.73
17	Rebecca CREMER	U.S.A	10.11	11.90	22.01
18	Bozena Moserova	Czechoslovakia	11.26	11.75	23.01
19	Borghild Niskin	Norway	10.37	14.00	24.37
20	Georgette Thiolliere-Miller	France	15.49	10.30	25.79
21	Andrea MEAD	U.S.A.	22.14	8.70	30.84
22	Renata Carraretto	Italy	19.58	14.00	33.58
23	Isobel Roe	England	12.16	22.75	34.91
24	Sheena Mackintosh	England	20.10	15.90	36.00
25	Rosmarie Sparrow	England	15.36	21.80	37.16
26	Olivia Ausoni	Switzerland	10.62	27.40	38.02
27	Xanthe Ryder	England	21.25	25.85	47.10

Women's Slalom of the Combined Downhill-Slalom

It was in this slalom, held Feb. 4, that charming Gretchen Fraser finished in runner-up position to Erika Mahringer of Austria. Gretchen proved for the first time that American skiers could stand up with the best of the Europeans as she ran the 3280-foot course filled with 45 tricky gates.

Rank	Name	Country	1st Run Time (In seconds)	2nd Run Time (In seconds)	Total Time (Seconds)
1	Erika Mahringer	Austria	58.4	59.7	118.1
2	Gretchen FRASER	U.S.A.	61.8	69.2	121.0
3	Anneliese Schuh-Proxauf	Austria	62.1	62.2	124.3
4	Alexandra Nekvapilova	Czechoslovakia	65.9	62.9	128.8
5	Francoise Gignoux	France	63.8	65.2	129.0
6	Rosmarie Bleuer	Switzerland	65.5	63.8	129.3
7	Celina Seghi	Italy	68.2	61.5	129.7
8	Trude Beiser	Austria	61.8	68.7	130.5
9	May Nilsson	Sweden	65.3	65.3	130.6
10	Lucienne Schmidt-Couttet	France	64.0	68.4	132.4
11	Andrea MEAD	U.S.A.	63.8	71.7	135.5
12	Ruth-Marie STEWART	U.S.A.	69.8	66.6	136.4
13	Laila Schou-Nielsen	Norway	71.0	66.0	137.0
13	Suzanne Thiolliere	France	70.0	62.0	137.0
15	Hedy Schlunegger	Switzerland	71.4	67.1	138.5
16	Georgette Thiolliere-Miller	France	63.9	69.8	138.7
17	Lina Mittner	Switzerland	63.3	76.3	139.6
18	Rese Hammerer	Austria	68.9	70.9	139.8
19	Bozena Moserova	Czechoslovakia	74.6	67.0	141.6
20	Rebecca CREMER	U.S.A.	69.4	72.5	141.9
21	Renata Carraretto	Italy	74.1	72.0	146.1
21	Borghild Niskin	Norway	72.6	73.5	146.1
23	Sheena Mackintosh	England	70.9	79.0	149.9
24	Rosemarie Sparrow	England	82.0	79.7	161.7
25	Isobel Roe	England	88.1	75.5	163.6
26	Xanthe Ryder	England	85.0	84.8	189.8
27	Olivia Ausoni	Switzerland	104.4	68.5	172.9

DELICATE TIMING CLOCKS like this pair at the finish of the special slalom courses kept fractional tallies on racers. Each clock is three feet in diameter. Finish-line clocks were synchronized with start line.

Men's Combined Downhill and Slalom

Henri Oreiller became the only skier at the Olympics to win two gold medals. Jack Reddish's steady runs in the slalom, his second being less than three seconds off Couttet's winning time, gave him a 12th in the combined, the best any American had ever finished in this event in Olympic competition up to this time.

Rank	Name	Country	Downhill (Points)	Slalom (Points)	Total Points
1	Henri Oreiller	France	0	3.27	3.27
2	Karl Molitor	Switzerland	3.09	3.35	6.44
3	James Couttet	France	6.95	0	6.95
4	Edi Mall	Austria	8.06	0.48	8.54
5	Silvio Alvera	Italy	4.30	4.41	8.71
6	Hans Hansson	Sweden	5.52	3.79	9.31
7	Vittorio Chierroni	Italy	8.28	1.41	9.69
8	Hans Nogler	Austria	4.63	5.33	9.96
9	Antonin Sponar	Czechoslovakia	7.84	3.35	11.19
10	Edi Reinalter	Switzerland	8.83	3.18	12.01
11	Eberhard Kneisl	Austria	7.51	4.85	12.36
12	Jack REDDISH	U.S.A.	9.71	3.53	13.24
13	Engelbert Haider	Austria	7.40	5.86	13.26
14	Lubos Brchl	Czechoslovakia	9.82	5.03	14.85
15	Adolf Odermatt	Switzerland	6.51	9.13	15.64
16	Fernand Grosjean	Switzerland	4.52	12.09	16.61
17	Bjarne Arentz	Norway	7.73	9.44	17.17
18	Georges Panisset	France	9.38	9.00	18.38
19	Aake Nilsson	Sweden	15.11	4.32	19.43
20	Marius Eriksen	Norway	8.17	11.51	19.68
21	Harvey Clifford	Canada	10.60	9.74	20.34
22	Sverre Johannessen	Norway	9.49	11.51	21.00
23	Hector Sutherland	Canada	10.60	11.12	21.72
24	Claude Benz	France	13.46	9.52	22.98
25	Steve KNOWLTON	U.S.A.	17.32	6.43	23.75
26	Barney MCLEAN	U.S.A	19.42	5.73	25.15
27	Josef Marusarz	Poland	14.01	11.95	25.96
28	Pentti Alonen	Finland	15.22	11.16	26.38
29	Robert BLATT	U.S.A.	18.09	9.74	27.83
30	Peter Szikla	Hungary	19.75	9.39	29.14
31	Jan Gasienica-Ciptak	Poland	14.67	16.45	31.12
32	Stein Eriksen	Norway	11.14	21.36	32.50
33	Daniel S'Lachta	Czechoslovakia	19.20	15.21	34.41
34	Slavko Lukanc	Yugoslovia	23.28	12.17	35.45
35	Thomas Szekely	Hungary	22.62	15.17	37.79
36	Bill Irwin	Canada	25.71	13.54	39.25
37	Matevz Lukanc	Yugoslovia	30.68	12.13	42.81
38	Hernan Oelkers	Chile	25.05	17.78	42.83
39	Philippe D'Ursel	Belgium	30.90	14.24	45.14
40	Demetre Fratzila	Rumania	24.61	21.27	45.88
41	Ion Coliban	Rumania	30.02	16.10	46.12
42	Michel Feron	Belgium	21.85	24.67	46.52
42	Demetre Sulica	Rumania	24.72	21.80	46.52
44	David Madjar	Bulgaria	27.92	18.75	46.67
45	Donald Garrow	Great Britain	25.71	21.27	46.98
46	Karl Kvoari	Hungary	29.91	18.44	48.35
47	Franz Beck	Liechtenstein	24.06	24.31	48.37
48	Magnus Brynjolfsson	Iceland	29.47	23.29	52.76
49	Bert Irwin	Canada	24.39	29.12	53.51
50	Poldi Schaedler	Liechtenstein	35.86	18.62	54.48
51	Joze Bertoncelj	Yugoslavia	36.08	19.06	55.14
52	Jaime Errazuriz	Chile	34.09	26.82	60.91
53	Vasile Ionescu	Rumania	32.67	28.81	61.48
54	Jose Arias	Spain	42.37	23.03	65.40
55	Dimitar Drajeff	Bulgaria	39.83	25.94	65.77
56	Otto Jung	Argentina	41.16	24.89	66.05
57	Arturo Hammersley	Chile	32.67	36.65	69.32
58	Theodor Sele	Liechtenstein	49.22	23.56	72.78
59	Thomas Morawitz	Spain	49.11	23.95	73.06
60	Gino De Pellegrin	Argentina	49.87	23.42	73.29
61	Harry Taylor	Great Britain	45.68	30.31	75.99
62	Max Gassner	Liechtenstein	32.00	44.56	76.56
63	Luis De Ridder	Argentina	30.57	49.54	80.11
64	Pablo Rosenkjer	Argentina	55.94	28.68	84.62
65	Thorir Jonsson	Iceland	61.79	27.61	89.40
66	Ludwig Mate	Hungary	40.83	48.79	89.62
67	Gudmundur Gudmundsson	Iceland	67.30	37.81	105.11

Men's Slalom of the Combined Downhill-Slalom

Champion Couttet nosed out Hannes Schneider's nephew Edi Mall of Austria by the close margin of one and one-tenth seconds for two runs down the 3280 foot slalom which was studded with 45 gates. Slalom courses for all events were prepared for the competitions by having dozens of skiers foot-tramp the snow before packing it with skis. Final preparation consisted of spraying water over the entire course in time to let it freeze solidly.

Rank	Name	Country	1st Run Time (In seconds)	2nd Run Time (In seconds)	Total Time (Seconds)
1	James Couttet	France	68.7	66.2	134.9
2	Edi Mall	Austria	69.5	66.5	136.0
3	Vittorio Chierroni	Italy	70.8	67.3	138.1
4	Edi Reinalter	Switzerland	76.3	65.8	142.1
5	Henri Oreiller	France	72.3	70.0	142.3
6	Karl Molitor	Switzerland	74.0	68.5	142.5
6	Amtonin Sponar	Czechoslovakia	73.1	69.4	142.5
8	Jack REDDISH	U.S.A.	74.1	68.8	142.9
9	Hans Hannson	Sweden	73.5	70.0	143.5
10	Aake Nilsson	Sweden	75.3	69.4	144.7
11	Silvio Alvera	Italy	75.3	69.6	144.9
12	Eberhard Kneisl	Austria	78.1	67.8	145.9
13	Lubos Brchl	Czechoslovakia	79.1	67.2	146.3
14	Hans Nogler	Austria	72.2	74.8	147.0
15	Barney MCLEAN	U.S.A.	76.4	71.5	147.9
16	Engelbert Haider	Austria	76.4	71.8	148.2
17	Steve KNOWLTON	U.S.A.	75.5	74.0	149.5
18	Georges Panisset	France	79.8	75.5	155.3
19	Adolf Odermatt	Switzerland	79.8	75.8	155.6
20	Peter Szikla	Hungary	84.1	72.1	156.2
21	Bjarne Arentz	Norway	80.8	75.5	156.3
22	Claude Penz	France	74.7	81.8	156.5
23	Robert BLATT	U.S.A.	75.6	81.4	157.0
23	Harvey Clifford	Canada	86.8	70.2	157.0
25	Hector Sutherland	Canada	82.8	77.3	160.1
26	Pentti Alonen	Finland	89.0	71.2	160.2
27	Marius Eriksen	Norway	81.6	79.4	161.0
27	Sverre Johannesen	Norway	86.2	74.8	161.0
29	Joseph Marusarz	Poland	83.2	78.8	162.0
30	Fernand Grosjean	Switzerland	79.6	77.5	162.3
31	Matevz Lukanc	Yugoslavia	89.3	73.1	162.4
32	Slavko Lukanc	Yugoslavia	87.1	75.4	162.5
33	Bill Irwin	Canada	92.9	72.7	165.6
34	Philippe D'Ursel	Belgium	91.4	75.8	167.2
35	Thomas Szekely	Hungary	88.4	80.9	169.3
36	Daniel S'Lachta	Czechoslovakia	92.4	72.0	169.4
37	Jon Coliban	Rumania	96.0	75.4	171.4
38	Jan Gasienica-Ciaptak	Poland	85.0	82.2	172.2
39	Hernan Oelkers	Chile	93.6	81.6	175.2
40	Karl Kvoari	Hungary	92.5	84.2	176.7
41	Holdi Schaedler	Liechtenstein	100.0	77.1	177.1
42	David Madjar	Bulgaria	98.9	78.5	177.4
43	Joze Bertoncelj	Yugoslavia	98.5	79.6	178.1
44	Demetre Frazila	Rumania	101.7	81.4	183.1
44	Donald Garrow	England	91.8	86.3	183.1
46	Stein Eriksen	Norway	106.8	71.5	183.3
47	Demetre Sulica	Rumania	101.5	82.8	184.3
48	Jose Arias	Spain	102.6	79.5	187.1
49	Magnus Brynjolfsson	Iceland	99.0	83.7	187.7
50	Gino De Pellegrin	Argentina	100.8	87.2	188.0
51	Theodor Sele	Lichtenstein	97.5	90.8	188.3
52	Thomas Moravitz	Spain	104.4	84.8	189.2
53	Franz Beck	Lichtenstein	106.2	83.8	190.0
54	Michel Feron	Belgium	103.0	87.8	190.8
55	Otto Jung	Argentina	105.2	86.1	191.3
56	Dimitar Drajeff	Bulgaria	104.0	84.7	193.7
57	Jaime Errazuriz	Chile	101.1	94.6	195.7
58	Thorir Jonsson	Iceland	117.0	80.5	197.5
59	Pablo Rosenkjer	Argentina	105.3	94.6	199.9
60	Vasile Jonescu	Rumania	105.8	94.4	200.2
61	Bert Irwin	Canada	117.0	78.9	200.9
62	Harry Taylor	England	105.8	97.8	203.6
63	Arturo Hammersley	Chile	117.5	90.5	218.0
64	Gudmundur Gudmundsson	Iceland	135.8	84.8	220.6
65	Max Gassner	Lichtenstein	129.0	106.9	235.9
66	Ludwig Mate	Hungary	139.3	106.2	245.5
67	Luis De Ridder	Argentina	166.3	80.9	274.2