

SuperTour Races November 2009 West Yellowstone

The races this year were attended by some of the elite American and Canadian racers. There was even an Iranian in the mens races who did very well. National, collegiate, regional, and ski educational foundation ski teams were all present at the races, but I only saw one public high school represented on the start lists and that was Lander Valley. Luke Bromley (LVHS alum now at Montana State), Henry Austin, Mara Gans, Reuben Watkins, and Joe Austin (the oldest racer by 15 yrs. in the Sprints!) skied in the races this year, and I was excited and proud that they did.

Results were varied, but all of them gained experience, strength, and skill from the events. Results are available online at http://summittiming.com/races/race_results.php

However, if you want to see a short video of Henry Austin modeling the new Lander lycra go to <http://fasterskier.com/2009/11/video-of-the-mens-supertour-freestyle-race/> . You can watch the entire video clip of the race leaders and try to pick out Henry, or fast-forward to about 4'50" and see his 10 second clip. Its good.

Next year it would be nice to see more Lander participation there. The junior race would be a good entry level event, and I saw skiers as young as 8 years old entered. For the older crowd, Joe Austin or Beth Reid should provide you some inspiration. Joe entered the Sprint race, which is a young persons event: he didn't win but he wasn't last, and as stated earlier he was a good 15 years older than any other entrant! Beth hadn't competed in years, but showed up to compete against her 17 year old daughter and finished in the top 20 in all 3 events. Beth is 50 years old! Of course, there is more to Beth's story, but that is all I'm telling here. I scored a hug from Beth, but I didn't even attempt one from Joe.