

## **Women's Ski Jumping USA**

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### **Press Release**

**Dec. 13, 2010**

### **Three Visa team members in top six overall on COC**

Dec. 13, 2010 —Visa Women's Ski Jumping Team members are sitting in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place overall in the Continental Cup standings heading into the final competition before the holiday break this weekend in Notodden, Norway.

Jessica Jerome is second overall with 260 points, behind Austria's Daniela Iraschko who won both competitions (Dec. 11-12) in Vikersund, Norway. Lindsey Van is third with 230 points and Sarah Hendrickson is fourth with 211 points. Also, Alissa Johnson is 13<sup>th</sup> and Abby Hughes is 15<sup>th</sup>.

"We are jumping extremely well. Most of our training preparation is based around one specific event in February (World Championships in Oslo), so I think there is still a lot more to come from the U.S. team," Johnson said.

Sixteen-year-old Hendrickson took second Saturday, Dec. 11 in Vikersund with jumps of 112.5 and 115.5 meters, and mentor and veteran Van jumped 109.5 and 116.5 meters to take third place. On Sunday, Dec. 12, Van was third with consistent jumps of 112.0 and 113.5 meters. The International Ski Federation set the Vikersund hill size at 117 (K105) and many jumpers were exceeding the K-point and jumping more than 100 meters. On Sunday, Iraschko jumped 122 meters, which equaled a ladies hill record she nabbed last year.

"It was hard to make the second round in these comps. You had to jump in the 90s (meters) which makes the comp that much more competitive and fun," Hendrickson said. "The conditions were perfect, as was the hill."

Hendrickson said she's satisfied with her jumps but knows she can improve. "The coach told me, 'Sarah, it is good that you got fourth place with not very good jumping. If you jump well, you can kill it,'" she quipped.

Nine Visa team members are competing on the COC this month and coach Kjell Magnussen is getting some additional help from former Norwegian ski jumping great Sigurd Pettersen, who coaches at the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences.

"We are fortunate to have another perspective from someone who has been the best in the world," Johnson said. "He has helped keep team morale high and made sure everyone is calm and relaxed and ready to go out on the hill and jump far."

The COC continues Friday in Notodden.

**Continental Cup  
Vikersund, Norway**

**Dec. 11, 2010**  
**Women's HS117**  
**(In top 30)**

1. Daniela Iraschko, Austria (115, 119.5) 276.1
2. Sarah Hendrickson, USA, (112.5, 115.5) 263.4
3. Lindsey Van, USA, (109.5, 116.5) 261.8
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6. Jessica Jerome, USA, (108, 109) 241.1
8. Abby Hughes, USA, (104.5, 107) 226.7
11. Alissa Johnson, USA, (104, 101.5) 216.9
22. Nita Englund, USA, (102.5, 102.5) 206

**Continental Cup**  
**Vikersund, Norway**  
**Dec. 12, 2010**  
**Women's HS117**  
**(In top 30)**

1. Daniela Iraschko, Austria (118, 122) 286
2. Coline Mattel, France, (113, 115) 265.4
3. Lindsey Van, USA, (112, 113.5) 259.9
4. Sarah Hendrickson, USA, (111.5, 107.5) 246.7
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6. Jessica Jerome, USA, (106.5, 108.5) 237
13. Alissa Johnson, USA, (103.5, 105) 221.3
21. Abby Hughes, USA, (100.5, 98.5) 201.2
30. Nita Englund, USA, (101, 91) 180.6

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