

WINTER DEW TOUR IN BRECKENRIDGE STACKED WITH OLYMPIANS

Who to Watch When the World's Best Freestyle Skiers and Snowboarders

Take Center Stage at Winter Dew Tour December 14-17

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Carlsbad, Calif. (December 5, 2017) -- The annual Winter Dew Tour, presented by Mountain Dew and produced by TEN: The Enthusiast Network, returns to Breckenridge Ski Resort in Colo., December 14-17, where it will showcase the world's best male and female skiers and snowboarders in both individual and Dew Tour Team Challenge competitions. The list of athletes invited to compete at Dew Tour is stacked with Olympians and athletes vying for Dew Tour victory and qualifying points for the Pyeongchang Winter Games as the event serves as an Olympic qualifying event for the U.S. and Canada. A total of 24 Sochi medalists are scheduled to compete at Dew Tour.

A total of 12.5 hours of Winter Dew Tour coverage will air on NBC and NBCSN, with DewTour.com live streaming all event finals starting Friday through Sunday. All event finals will be live on Facebook, Periscope, Twitch, Daily Motion, Youtube, the Dew Tour app with DewTour.com and offering the best streaming experience, including live scoring.

While Dew Tour is a standalone action sports competition and festival, this year incorporates the road to Pyeongchang as it pertains to individual competitions: the men's and women's halfpipe and slopestyle snowboarding and skiing competitions will serve as U.S. Ski & Snowboard Olympic qualifying events. In addition, Dew Tour will also serve as a selection event for the Canadian men's and women's snowboard slopestyle teams. A World Para Snowboard Nor Am competition will also be featured, allowing para athletes to gain valuable Paralympic qualifying points.

"I'm really excited to be competing at this year's Winter Dew Tour," commented 20-year-old Mountain Dew professional snowboarder **Julia Marino**, who placed fourth in last year's women's slopestyle competition. "This is my first Dew Tour as a Mountain Dew athlete so I'd really love to secure a spot on the podium this year, but mostly, I'm just really glad to be part of such a fun event that represents the cool and creative vibe of snowboarding."

"The Dew Tour is a massive event every year for freeskiers, but the stakes are even higher this year with it being an Olympic qualifier," said **Gus Kenworthy**, 2014 Sochi silver medalist in ski slopestyle. "It's always a great event to kick off the winter competition season."

Winter Dew Tour will also host its signature Dew Tour Team Challenge and Streetstyle competitions along with a calendar of fan-based activities. All competitions and fan zones - both on and off-mountain - are free and open to the public. The concert, featuring The Floozies and Anomalie, and Dew Tour VIP packages are ticketed events. The full schedule with information on ticketed events, can be found HERE.

Here's who to watch at Dew Tour:

Men's & Women's Ski Halfpipe

Men's Ski Halfpipe **David Wise** (USA) will defend his reigning Dew Tour title, as last year's halfpipe events were snowed-out. **Torin Yater-Wallace's** (USA) last win at Dew Tour was in 2014, but he is very much in medal contention, as are **Kevin Rolland** (FRA) and **Benoit Valentin** (FRA). **Gus Kenworthy** (USA) (newly featured in Dew Tour's <u>Beyond the Bib</u> series) is a force in both pipe and slopestyle. On the women's side, **Maddie Bowman** (USA) is a powerhouse with no signs of slowing. In addition to her gold from Sochi, she has five Dew Tour medals and six X Games medals to her name. Look for **Cassie Sharpe** (CAN) – sister to snowboarder Darcy Sharpe – as well as France's **Marie Martinod** to throw down solid runs.

Men's & Women's Ski Slopestyle

The 2016 Dew Tour Champion Henrik Harlaut (SWE) returns this year; and will keep a close eye on Oystein Braaten (NOR) who took home X Games gold in Aspen and Norway earlier this year. Sochi ski slopestyle medalists Gus Kenworthy and Nick Goepper (USA) are also in the running. On the women's side, Dara Howell (CAN) is the Sochi gold medalist and continues to strengthen her runs with tricks. Tess Ledeux (FRA) is a rising star, taking home silver at X Games this year, while seasoned skier Devin Logan (USA) could easily ski away with a podium spot.

Men's & Women's Snowboard Halfpipe

The men's halfpipe will be one to watch at Winter Dew Tour, with **Shaun White** (USA) and **Scotty James** (AUS), both known for their incredible amplitude and technical runs. **Danny Davis** (USA) is arguably the most stylish rider in his discipline, which challenges the entire field from getting too comfortable. Always bringing the fire in the halfpipe are the Japanese riders **Ayumu Hirano**, **Taku Hiraoka** and **Raibu Katayama**. On the women's side, it's the strength of the U.S. athletes: **Kelly Clark**, **Chloe Kim**, **Elena Hight** (newly featured in Dew Tour's <u>Beyond the Bib</u> series) and **Maddie Mastro** are who to watch for the coveted podium spots.

Men's & Women's Snowboard Slopestyle

Mark McMorris (CAN) will ride to protect his five-peat winning status at Dew Tour. The field is packed with talent who are pushing the sport to new levels. Look for Marcus Kleveland (NOR), Sebastien Toutant (CAN), Max Parrot (CAN), Red Gerard (USA) and Brock Crouch (USA) to make statements on the course. The women's Slopestyle competition has U.S. depth, but powerhouses Spencer O'Brien(CAN) and Enni Rukajärvi (FIN) are always strong contenders. Snowboarding's most decorated women's slopestyle athlete Jamie Anderson (USA) is set to defend her 2016 Dew Tour title, and fellow Americans Hailey Langland and Julia Marino will make for a strong field.

Men's & Women's Para Snowboarding

In its second year at Dew Tour but the first time as a World Para NorAm competition, a men's and women's para snowboarding Banked Slalom event will be held on Friday, December 15. The Banked Slalom is a new discipline that will debut in Pyeongchang. The U.S. team that swept the Para-Snowboardcross podium in Sochi in 2014 – Evan Strong, Keith Gabel and Mike Shea – are all scheduled to compete as is Sochi women's Para Snowboardcross bronze medalist Amy Purdy (USA).

Team Challenge

The Team Challenge features teams made up of endemic brands in skiing and snowboarding which will compete on a three-part course. The Dew Tour courses will be modified specifically for the Team Challenge; the slopestyle course will feature a Jib and a Jump section, and the halfpipe will house the Pipe section. Each team will have a captain and three athletes: one each for the Jib, Jump and Pipe sections. Snowboard companies **Burton**, **Nitro**, **Salomon**, **Rome**, **Ride** and **DC** will all field teams for the Team Challenge, as will ski companies **Faction**, **Armada**, **Head**, **Atomic**, **Volkl** and **K2**. Burton and Atomic will be defending their titles after last year's inaugural event. New videos introducing this year's ski and snowboard teams are arriving daily on dewtour.com and Dew Tour's social media channels.

Streetstyle

Dew Tour's signature after-hours Streetstyle competition will return to downtown Breckenridge on Friday, December 15 at 6 p.m. where the world's best urban skiers and riders are showcased under the lights in an open jam format. With four-time winner **Darcy Sharpe** (CAN) solely focusing on Slopestyle this Dew Tour, the snowboard competition is up for grabs, while last year's winner **Alex Bellemare** (CAN) will hold it down for the skiers. The Streetyle course will be open to the public on Saturday and Sunday after Friday's competition.

For more information on the Winter Dew Tour including a full roster of invited athletes, schedule of events, tickets and more, visit <u>dewtour.com</u>. Stay fully up to date on all things Dew Tour with the Dew Tour mobile app. Continue the connection on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube @DewTour.

About Dew Tour

Dew Tour is an innovative contest series and content platform that brings together the world's best skateboarders, snowboarders, skiers, artists, brands and fans in a celebration of creativity and style.

In 2016, TEN: The Enthusiast Network became the official strategic partner to lead content production, execution and event staging for the Dew Tour. Working in close collaboration with TEN's core action sports media brands and in partnership with DEW®, Dew Tour continues to progress events and content, bringing millions of action sports fans engaging stories and experiences across digital and broadcast mediums. In addition to Dewtour.com and TEN's digital network, Dew Tour's summer and winter events will be broadcast on NBC.

About TEN: The Enthusiast Network

TEN: The Enthusiast Network is the world's premier network of enthusiast brands, such as SURFER, TRANSWORLD SKATEBOARDING, GRINDTV, SOUND & VISION and SHUTTERBUG. With the world's largest action/adventure sports media platform, 38 publications, 30 annual events and more than 20 iconic brands representing the best of action/outdoor and home technology, TEN inspires enthusiasts to pursue their passions. For more information, visit enthusiastnetwork.com.

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