

## CANCELLATION 23. HERVIS MOUNTAIN ATTACK

- > LOCKDOWN in Austria up to and including January 17th, 2021
- > LOCKDOWN and travel warning in various EU countries
- > The 23rd edition of the Hervis Mountain Attack, planned for January 15, 2021, has to be canceled for the first time
- > According to federal law, Covid-19 protective measures ordinance, no events are permitted
- > Outlook for Hervis Mountain Attack 2022

Salzburg / Saalbach, December 21, 2020. Austria's largest and toughest touring ski race, the Hervis Mountain Attack in the Skircircus Saalbach-Hinterglemm, planned for Friday, January 15th, 2021, has to be canceled for the first time.

The current ordinance of the Federal Minister for Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, valid until December 23, 2020, clearly regulates under Section 13 (1) that events are prohibited. From today's perspective, it cannot be assumed that the measures in the new ordinances will be relaxed at the beginning of January; rather, a tightening based on the possible increase in the number of infected people after the holidays is expected. In addition, a few days ago the Austrian federal government announced another 3rd lockdown, which will come into force on Saturday, December 26th, 2020 and will remain in effect up to and including at least January 17th, 2021.

From December 24th outdoor sports facilities such as ski slopes (lifts using FFP2 masks), etc. will be reopened. Ice rinks in Vienna (with 750 ice skaters on the ice rink at the same time) or Salzburg are already open and are obviously not a problem for infection.

In addition, since December 7th, 2020, numerous slopes - which are thankfully available exclusively to tourers from many mountain railways - have been open and are being stormed by hundreds of recreational athletes at the same time.

All of this is possible, but obviously not in the form of a controlled event equipped with a Covid prevention concept - one of the many measures that the population often does not understand.

(According to all experts, infections in individual outdoor sports have not yet been proven and represent a very low risk. Even more so in touring skiing, as the minimum distance cannot be undercut under any circumstances due to the length of the ski and the use of poles).

We, as the organizer, have been working closely with the Saalbach municipality, the Zell am See office and the Ministry of Sports to create a comprehensive prevention concept since July. The cooperation worked very well, and everyone would have tried to make the Hervis Mountain Attack possible, for which we would like to express our thanks.

Mag. Roland Kurz: "The prevention concept has been thought out down to the last detail. That's not the problem here either. Due to the ordinance, it is unfortunately not legally possible to issue appropriate notices for the implementation and also for the event locations that we urgently need in order to carry out a Hervis Mountain Attack in the usual and expected quality. In view of the situation that is to be accepted and unfortunately, we have to cancel the event for the first time in 22 years with a heavy heart. That also affects me personally. Our event industry has almost come to a standstill since March, unfortunately this will not change anytime soon. "

In summary, we therefore unfortunately have to say

that after consultation with the mountain railways and the Saalbach tourist office, as well as with our namesake Hervis, we have come to the decision to cancel the touring ski cult event planned for Friday, January 15th, 2021 today.

The travel warnings and quarantine regulations of many countries also represent an insurmountable problem. Athletes from over 20 nations usually take part in the Hervis Mountain Attack and therefore have to isolate themselves in their home country after returning.

The local hotels and restaurants, which we urgently need for such an event, will also remain closed until at least January 17th, 2021. It remains to be seen whether and how many ski guests will / can come to Austria afterwards.

The athletes registered for 2021 will be informed of the cancellation today via our well-known communication tools (homepage, Facebook and Instagram). In addition, we will contact all participants from mid-January 2021 and then, according to the competition announcement, will refund 50% of the entry fee.

From mid-January 2021, we will start preparing for the Hervis Mountain Attack 2022. The anticipated date has already been set for Friday, January 14th 2022.

#### **ORGANIZER**

Mag. Roland Kurz, NMC GmbH, Felix-Dahn-Str. 1A, 5020 Salzburg, mail@mountain-attack.at or at 0043/664/33 76 125, 0043/662 / 635653-0 www.mountain-attack.at

#### **MEDIA INFORMATION and PRESS PHOTOS**

NMC GmbH, Felix-Dahn-Str. 1A, 5020 Salzburg, presse@mountain-attack.at or 0043/662 / 635653-0 www.mountain-attack.at >> Press