



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Skier Luca Schuler (SUI) and Snowboarder Sven Thorgren (SWE) win the Suzuki Nine Knights Big Air Competition.**

**Livigno (ITA), April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015** – The world’s best skiers were joined by elite snowboarders for the first time at the Suzuki Nine Knights Big Air contest in Livigno, Italy on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2015. With perfect blue bird conditions, the athletes launched themselves off the 11m high jump, flying 35m before landing their tricks, much to the delight of the cheering crowd and judges. The gigantic snow castle on Mottolino Fun Mountain saw Sweden's Sven Thorgren take the victory over the other snowboarders, and standing at the top of the all-Swiss ski podium, was 18 year-old Swiss skier Luca Schuler.

#### **FREESKI**

Of the many skiers competing, it was a 100% Swiss podium with Luca Schuler, Kai Mahler, and Fabian Bösch taking first, second, and third respectively. Luca’s mastery of big tricks combined with his huge amplitude pushed his score to the top. His tricks included: a triple cork 1080 safety, double cork bio 1260 safety, and a bio 720 Bow & Arrow. Stoked on his performance, Luca explained, “It feels fantastic to win. Last year I was second and this year I’m first, so it really can’t be better. The jump was perfect and I got to try two doubles... man, it was awesome.”

#### **SNOWBOARD**

Snowboarders went huge during the entire contest, confirming their rightful place in the line-up. Continuing his big air domination from the days before, Swede Sven Thorgren stomped massive technical tricks with style, including a cab 1260 roastbeef shifty shifty, backside rodeo 540 nosegrab, and a frontside triple cork 1440, a personal first. Looking back on his win, Sven was stoked: “It feels so crazy to win today. It was also my first time landing my frontside triple and I’m just super pumped.” In second was fellow Swede, Tor Lundström with Belgian rider Seppe Smits rounding out the podium, who landed a clean Backside Triple 1440 nose grab, a personal first.

Video edits will follow soon, with full highlights from the week, so stay tuned to [www.nineknights.com](http://www.nineknights.com). Next up is the Suzuki Nine Knights MTB on 31<sup>st</sup> of August to the 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2015 in Mottolino, Livigno.

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## TRICKS:

### Snowboard:

#### Sven Thorgren (SWE):

Frontside Triple Cork 1440 (personal first), Cab 1260 Roastbeef Shifty Shifty, Backside Rodeo 540 Nosegrab

#### Tor Lundström (SWE):

Backside Triple Cork 1440 Mute, Frontside 1440 Mute (personal first day 4), Frontside 360 Stale

#### Seppe Smits (BEL):

Backside Triple 1440 nose (personal first), Cab 1260 mute, Switch Backside 180 Method

### Skiers:

#### Luca Schuler (SUI):

Triple cork 1080 safety, Double cork bio 1260 safety, Bio 7 Bow & Arrow

#### Kai Mahler (SUI):

Alley Oop Double Cork 7, Switch right triple cork 1260 safety, Cork 540 blunt

#### Fabian Bösch (SUI):

Triple 1440 safety, switch double cork misty safety, Cork 720 blunt

## VIDEOS

Dual Double Backflip Go Pro Moment: [bit.ly/GoProMoment\\_NineKnights\\_2015](http://bit.ly/GoProMoment_NineKnights_2015)

Jesper Tjäder's "Dream Line" [bit.ly/NineKnights15\\_JesperTjader](http://bit.ly/NineKnights15_JesperTjader)

GoPro Course Preview: [bit.ly/GoProCoursePreview\\_9K\\_15](http://bit.ly/GoProCoursePreview_9K_15)

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### About The Distillery and NBH Events

The Distillery GmbH is a marketing agency and media production house, dedicated towards the active cultures in Europe. Together with our long term partner NBH Events GmbH, we successfully realize the Suzuki Nine Knights / Nine Queens event series since 2008.

### About Livigno:

Sitting right in the heart of the Alps, Livigno is the place to discover new winter sports: In Livigno, telemark skiing is living a second youth, freestyle has grown up and snowboarding found its first fans. Livigno has also hosted several editions of the Burton European Open, a top international event, which turned the resort into a real Mecca of snowboarding during the first years of the new millennium. The snow and ski areas are winter's main attractions as Livigno provides an extensive and modern ski-lift network to its guests. Today, with more than 115 km of slopes Livigno is a perfect choice for everyone, with or without a snowboard, to enjoy snow, shopping and après ski.

For more info visit: [www.livigno.eu](http://www.livigno.eu)

[www.facebook.com/LivignoFeelTheAlps](https://www.facebook.com/LivignoFeelTheAlps)

[twitter.com/Livigno](https://twitter.com/Livigno)

[plus.google.com/+livignoeu](https://plus.google.com/+livignoeu)

### About Mottolino Fun Mountain:

Mottolino Fun Mountain is a skiing area of Livigno located in the Italian Alps. It is well known for its prime Snowpark, which has won several awards in Italy in recent years and is rated among the best ones in Europe: covering 120.000 m<sup>2</sup> (more than 30 soccer fields) constructed from more than 170.000 m<sup>3</sup> of snow, it has been chosen by GoPro as a partner of excellence. Fun is at the bottom of almost any activity, which has led to a great variety over time. Not only has Mottolino hosted the highest music concert in the Italian mountains, the Ice Party, it has also been the home of three editions of the Burton European Open, seven editions of Burn River Jump and many times of the World Rookie



*Fest. In 2015 Mottolino will host the legendary NINE KNIGHTS freeski event, which will take place already for the fourth time in Italy. The resort will provide enough snow for the shapers to build the massive, enchanted Nine Knights castle, which will remain in the beautiful mountains of the Mottolino skiing resort for a week*

*Do you want to know more about it?*

*Check out our brand new webcam on: [www.mottolino.com/info/WebCam.aspx?p=P2](http://www.mottolino.com/info/WebCam.aspx?p=P2)*

*For more info visit: [www.mottolino.com](http://www.mottolino.com) or [www.facebook.com/MottolinoFunMountain](https://www.facebook.com/MottolinoFunMountain)*

#### **About Suzuki**

*The Suzuki Motor Corporation is based in the Japanese city of Hamamatsu, and is the world's leading supplier in the minicar segment. In the 2013/2014 business year it produced 2.86 million vehicles worldwide. The Corporation employs 51,503 people globally and sells its products in 196 countries and regions.*

*In the 2013/14 business year, the company turned over 2.94 billion yen (€20.7 billion\*). With an operating result of around 187.7 billion yen (€1.31 billion\*), the Suzuki Motor Corporation saw a 29.9 percent rise in its profits over the previous year. Global sales amounted to 2.66 million cars in the 2013/14 business year. Suzuki maintains 35 main production facilities in 24 countries and regions.*

*Suzuki's 'Way of Life!' represents the global brand-attributes of enthusiasm, down-to-earthness, quality, sportiness and team spirit. These values express themselves in innovation, products tailored to customer needs, and an impressive set of core expertises including in the offroad and AWD fields, based on a company history stretching back for more than a century.*

*Suzuki International Europe GmbH, based in Bensheim, Hessen, controls activities throughout Germany in the three business areas of Cars, Motorbikes and Marine. With its 375 employees, the company generated a turnover of €635.6 million in the 2013/14 business year. A total of 27,835 vehicles were newly registered in the year 2014.*

*\* Exchange rate on 31 March 2014: €1 = 142.2 yen.*