

2002 JUMPING



**HOME
OF THE
BRAVE.**

Ski jumping, with athletes traveling more than the length of a football field down a snowy landing hill, is one of the most spectacular winter sports. It's a tricky blend of sheer power (at takeoff) and a nearly scientific application of basic flight properties (in the air). "Aerodynamic" and "flying" are common words heard as jumpers discuss their sport or as people watch them in flight.

The introduction of the so-called "V-technique" in the late '80s, where skiers push their skis into a V pattern immediately after takeoff, revolutionized the sport in the '90s. Skiers jump farther than ever before, and they do it from a lower start near the top of the in-run, and with (for safety purposes) lower takeoff speed.

"It's such a rush when you hit that takeoff," said four-time U.S. jumping champion and two-time Olympian Randy Weber, who retired after the '98 season. "You're going almost 60 miles an hour and then you're in the air. You're only 10 or 12 feet off the ground but, especially as you come over the knoll of the hill and start dropping, it can seem like you've been dropped out of an airplane."

Skiers hunch over their skis as they descend the in-run, gathering speed for takeoff. They try to stay low – but not too low – before they spring forward and up, swinging the tips of their 8-1/2 foot skis (about 252 centimeters) out so they can ride whatever air may be on the hill.

World Cup jumps, broken down into the average length by jumper, are divided into three categories: normal hill, large hill and flying hill (or ski-flying hill). Newcomers start on much smaller hills, perhaps even as small as five meters, which would be little more than snow piled up and shaped into a modest jump. The normal hill originally was called a 70-meter hill, but today it's called a 90-meter hill because that's about how far a skier jumps from takeoff to the spot midway between the two skis on

landing. The large hill, originally the 90-meter, is usually a 120-meter today (or, depending on its size, a 112-meter or 115 meter, etc.).

The flying, or ski-flying hill, is the biggest of all. There are only six in the world, including Copper Peak at Ironwood, Mich. They range anywhere from 165 to 185m. The longest jump in the world was recorded by Austrian Andi Goldberger, who went 225 meters in Planica, Slovenia in March 2000. "You're truly flying out there," commented Weber.

Landing hills have two major control points. P-point, designated by the blue marking on the side of the landing area, is the spot where the hill is at its steepest pitch. K-point, so named from the German *kritikal*, is the spot where a jumping hill stops falling and begins to flatten. Volunteers line the side of the landing hill, usually at one-meter intervals, to mark the distance of the jump.

Wind is critical for jumping. Too much wind creates unsafe conditions – and safety is always the priority. Skiers generally have 15 seconds to jump, from the time a green light flashes at the end of the takeoff "table". A coach stations himself near the takeoff – there's usually a coaches' stand where they will gather – and uses a hand signal to tell the jumper to hold (because there is little or no wind) or go (because there's good wind for lift or because the poor condition isn't going to change).

Points for each jumper are based on "style" points, awarded by five judges on the side of the hill who judge each jumper's form and landing, and a formula for distance. High and low style scores (from 0 to 20 at half-point increments) are discarded and the other three scores tallied.

Sometimes, there are distance-only contests, usually an exhibition or fun event at the end of a normal jump meet. Jumpers are allowed to pick their start points and have only one goal – to go farthest and stand up when they land.

Another small, young troupe of U.S. jumpers heads into the Olympic winter looking to capitalize on their experience from a year ago. Spending much of their preseason training on the Olympic hill at Utah Olympic Park was designed to improve their technique and boost their confidence for the big show in February.

Alaskan Alan Alborn (Anchorage), a 1998 Olympic jumper, enjoyed the best month of his career from the World Championships to the end of the season. He not only set an American distance mark when he jumped 210 meters in a World Cup ski-flying competition Oberstdorf, Germany, but he hung-up the best result of his young career (three full seasons of World Cup jumping) when he was 11th in another ski-flying event at World Cup Finals in Planica, Slovenia.

Clint Jones (Steamboat Springs, CO), the

youngest ski champion in U.S. history (in any ski discipline) when he won the 120-meter title in 2000, moved onto the World Cup stage for the first time. Brendan Doran (also Steamboat Springs) saw sparse World Cup action but he did get to train and compete on the 2002 Olympic large hill.

"The thing we have to remember is these are still young guys," said Head Coach Kari Ylianttila. "Clint's only 16 and Alan won't turn 21 until the season has started, and Brendan's just 22. There was some good progress last season - the best so far for Alan. But last season is already old, and these guys know they have to pick it up a lot for this season."

A development team was expected to be named in the fall, based on results of preseason jumping.

2001-2002 JUMPING ROSTER

NAME	DOB	HOMETOWN	USSA CLUB
Alan Alborn	12/13/80	Anchorage, AK	NSAA
Brendan Doran	3/17/79	Steamboat Springs, CO	SSWSC
Clint Jones	10/5/84	Steamboat Springs, CO	SSWSC

FIS Ruhrgas Ski Jumping World Cup

The FIS Ski Jumping World Cup is the highest-level competition series in the sport with events around the globe every season from November through March.

FIS Ruhrgas Ski Jumping World Cup

Nov. 23-24	Kuopio, FIN	K120/K120 (both night)
Dec. 1-2	Neustadt, GER	K120/K120
Dec. 8-9	Villach, AUT	K90/K90
Dec. 15-16	Engelberg, SUI	K120/K120
Dec. 21-22	Val di Fiemme, ITA	K120/K120
Dec. 30	Oberstdorf, GER	K115
Jan. 1	Garmisch-Part., GER	K115
Jan. 4	Innsbruck, AUT	K120
Jan. 6	Bischofshofen, AUT	K120
Jan. 12-13	Willingen, GER	K120 Team/K120
Jan. 19-20	Zakopane, POL	K120/K120
Jan. 24	Hakuba, JPN	K120
Jan. 26-27	Sapporo, JPN	K120 (night)/K120 Team
Mar. 2-3	Lahti, FIN	K116/K116
Mar. 9-10	Harrachov, CZE	K185/K185 *
Mar. 13	Falun, SWE	K115 (night)
Mar. 15	Trondheim, NOR	K120 (night)
Mar. 17	Oslo, NOR	K115
Mar. 23-24	Planica, SLO	K185 Team/K185

* Ski-flying World Championships; does not count towards World Cup

Chevy Truck U.S. Ski Jumping Championships Steamboat Springs, CO

The Chevy Truck U.S. Ski Jumping Championships match the best skiers from the U.S. Ski Team against up-and-coming skiers vying for a top spot.

Mar. 27	K90
Mar. 28	K120

FIS World Junior Championships

Ski Jumping Schonach, GER

Jan. 24	K90 Team
Jan. 26	K90 Individual

FIS Ski Jumping Continental Cup

Dec. 1-2	Gallivare, SWE	Jan. 26-27	Westby, WI
Dec. 8-9	Kuopio, FIN	Jan. 27	Brotterode, GER
Dec. 15-16	Lahti, FIN	Feb. 2-3	Braunlage, GER
Dec. 26	St. Moritz, SUI	Feb. 2-3	Iron Mountain, MI
Dec. 28	Engelberg, SUI	Feb. 9-10	Gallio, ITA
Jan. 1	Innsbruck, AUT	Feb. 16-17	Planica, SLO
Jan. 5-6	Ruhpolding, GER	Mar. 2	Neustadt, GER
Jan. 11-13	Sapporo, JPN	Mar. 3	Schoenwald, GER
Jan. 12-13	Bischofshofen, AUT	Mar. 9-10	Zakopane, POL
Jan. 19-20	Courchevel, FRA	Mar. 13	Vaaler, NOR
Jan. 19-20	Ishpeming, MI	Mar. 13-14	Zao, JPN
Jan. 26	Lauscha, GER	Mar. 15-16	Vikersund, NOR

ALAN ALBORN



Height: 5-11 (1.77cm)
Weight: 130 (59kg)
Birthdate: Dec. 13, 1980
Birthplace: Anchorage, AK
Hometown: Anchorage
Year on Team: 3rd
School: Home-schooled
Club: Alaska Jumping Club
Sponsor: VISA

HIGHLIGHTS

- Set U.S. distance mark (210 meters)
- Posted career-best result in '01
- Earned second U.S. title

Like the pilot he is, Alan (Airborn) Alborn seems to have filed a pretty good World Cup flight plan. He's hung-up the best results of his young career in each of the last few seasons ... and a year ago, as a tune up for this Olympic season, he became the first American to jump more than 200 meters.

That performance, in which he jumped 210 meters in training in Oberstdorf, Germany (ski-flying records are recognized from

training as well as competition), was followed by an 11th-place result at World Cup Finals. Then he came home and paddled everyone to win his second U.S. large-hill championship, this time by almost 38 points. It was a wide-smile finish to a season that started sluggishly, including an injury to his right ankle at New Year's when he slipped and kicked a wall during an indoor soccer drill in Germany.

Comment: "That [right] ankle injury during that Four Hills Tournament was pretty rough. It was a sprain, but I couldn't do anything. I just had to take it easy — no running, no weight lifting, no plyos. If I'd broken it, that probably would've done me in, but as it turned out, it was good because it gave me a chance to get my desire back."

Comment II: "It's been one of my main goals for a long time to push the distance record over 200 meters. And even when the season started poorly, I knew ski-flying was coming toward the end of the season and I was working to have enough confidence and ability to perform on the ski-flying hill. It was pretty cool."

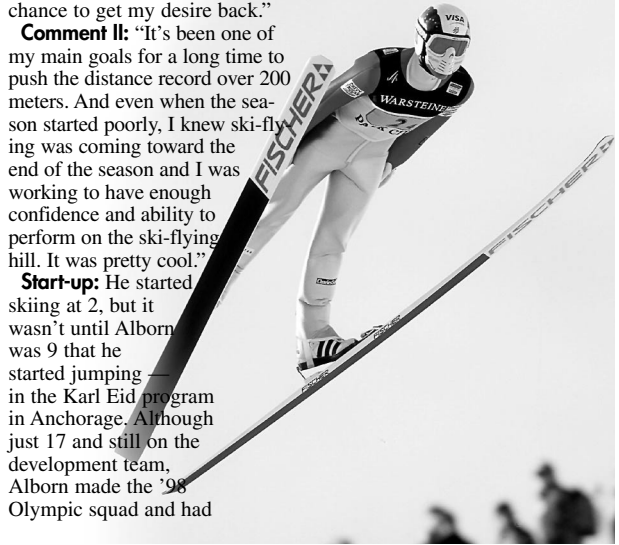
Start-up: He started skiing at 2, but it wasn't until Alborn was 9 that he started jumping in the Karl Eid program in Anchorage. Although just 17 and still on the development team, Alborn made the '98 Olympic squad and had

the second-best U.S. results in Japan.

High-flyer: Dad's a commercial pilot and, like his dad, Alborn has his pilot's license. He also has his own plane, a single-engine Cessna 185.

Wheelies: The only thing holding him back from having more fun on a dirt bike is that he doesn't own one. And he's usually training or traveling. "But if I had the opportunity, I'd probably go all the time."

New sport: Alborn, who enjoys salmon fishing in Alaska, tried ice fishing for the first time last winter. "It's a lot of sitting around," he said with a grin.



RESULTS

OLYMPICS

42T '98	90m	Nagano, JPN
44 '98	120m	Nagano, JPN

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

23 '01	90m	Lahti, FIN
27 '99	120m	Ramsau, AUT
40 '99	90m	Ramsau, AUT
41 '01	116m	Lahti, FIN

WORLD CUP

11 '01	185m-1	Oberstdorf, GER
13 '00	120m	Iron Mttn, MI
17 '00	120m	Kuopio, FIN
21 '99	90m	Lahti, FIN
23 '01	185m-2	Planica, SLO
24 '99	120m	Oberstdorf, GER
27 '99	185m-2	Planica, SLO
34 '01	120m	Oslo, NOR
35 '01	120m	Trondheim, NOR

U.S. CHAMPIONSHIPS

1 '01	120M	Park City, UT
1 '99	120m	Lake Placid, NY
2 '01	90m	Park City, UT



CLINT JONES

Okay, so “flyweight” doesn’t work as well now for high school junior Clint Jones. As he passed 16 years of age a year ago, he started to stretch and he filled out a bit — adding two inches and almost 15 pounds.

Jones, who became the youngest champion in any U.S. ski discipline in March 2000 when he won the U.S. large-hill championship, figures he also packed away a big bundle of experience last season as he spent most of the winter on the World Cup tour. And competed in his first World Championships.

●**Comment:** “The season was pretty up and down, but overall pretty good. Going to World Cups was fun. Before [February ’00] I was at my first World Cup, at Iron Mountain, and I was 32nd although it was kind of a fluke because of the conditions. But I

was thinking, ‘That wasn’t so hard.’ Last year I went up to the other World Cups where it was more fair and that opened my eyes quite a bit.”

●**Start-up:** “I was an alpine skier and my brother [Robbie], who’s five years older, started jumping. He got me to try — I was about 5 — and I really liked it.”

●**Prime chow:** Jones’ dream meal: smoked salmon with lemon and peppers.

Height: 5-9 (1.73m)
Weight: 120 (55kg)
Birth date: Oct. 5, 1984
Hometown: Steamboat Springs, CO
Year on Team: 2nd
School: Whiteman School
Club: Steamboat Springs WSC

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Youngest U.S. ski champ

RESULTS

1 '00	US-120m	Steamboat, CO
4 '00	US-90m	Steamboat, CO
5 '01	US-90m	Park City, UT
6 '01	US-120m	Park City, UT
18 '01	WJC-90m	Karpacz, POL
32 '00	WC-120m-1	Iron Mtn, MI
37 '01	Worlds-90m	Lahiti, FIN
38 '01	Worlds-120m	Lahiti, FIN
50 '00	WC-120m-2	Iron Mtn, MI

BRENDAN DORAN

Hgt: 6-2 (1.85m) **Wgt:** 155 (70kg) **B-day:** March 17, 1979
Hometown: Steamboat Springs, CO **Club:** SSWSC

In his fifth season on the Ski Team, Brendan Doran is looking to compete in his second Olympics. Nagging injuries (back, knee) have slowed him in the last couple of seasons. He was a soccer player growing up in Southern California, but when the Dorans moved to Steamboat in 1990 and he saw the ski jumps at Howelsen Hill, “I was hooked.” He toyed with nordic combined for a couple of seasons before settling on jumping after he won a Continental Cup meet at Westby, Wis., in 1995. He has his own brush-hog, which he uses to make a few bucks in between training camps while clearing open land in Steamboat. He enjoys turkey hunting (he and Dad have wangled a couple of trips to Vermont in the last two years) and still savors soccer.

●**Career Highlights:** Winning that '95 Continental Cup in Westby and competing at the '98 Olympics lead the parade (he was 52nd in the 90-meter event) ... Close behind: his first U.S. title (90-meter) in '00 and competing in the '95 World Championships at 15

**Kari Ylianttila**

Kari Ylianttila, *Head Coach*
Matt Terwilliger, *Development Coach*

KARI YLIANTTILA*Ski Jumping Head Coach*

Former Finnish jumping Head Coach Kari Ylianttila came to the USA after the '94 season to help develop young skiers. This is his fifth season as U.S. jumping head coach and Ylianttila is starting to see more of the fruits of those first few seasons over here. Originally, Ylianttila served multiple functions with international coordination, jumper development, coaches' education and club liaison. Those duties were narrowed in '96 so he could help coach young skiers and, with the '98 Olympic season, he assumed the duties of U.S. head coach. A 1980 Olympian for Finland, he was on the Finnish national coaching staff for 12 years, including head coach of the powerful Finn flyers 1987-94. He and his family live in Park City.

2001 Ruhrgas FIS Ski Jumping World Cup

Final Standings

1.	Adam Malysz, POL	1531
2.	Martin Schmitt, GER	1173
3.	Risto Jussilainen, FIN	938
4.	Noriaki Kasai, JPN	728
5.	Janne Ahonen, FIN	686
55.	Alan Alborn, USA	42

2001 Chevy Truck U.S. Ski Jumping Championships Park City, Utah

Large Hill (120m) Men

1.	Alan Alborn, USA	259.0
2.	Bill Demong, USA	231.2
3.	Todd Lodwick, USA	219.7
4.	Brendan Doran, USA	215.8
5.	Johnny Spillane, USA	215.4

Women

1.	Lindsay Van, USA	156.7
2.	Karla Keck, USA	125.2
3.	Liz Szyotori, USA	65.5
4.	Jessica Jerome, USA	58.1
5.	Blair Tomten, USA	12.7

Small Hill (90m) Men

1.	Bill Demong, USA	241.5
2.	Alan Alborn, USA	237.5
3.	Todd Lodwick, USA	227.5
4.	Johnny Spillane, USA	224.0
5.	Clint Jones, USA	223.5

Women

1.	Lindsay Van, USA	198.5
2.	Liz Szyotori, USA	145.5
3.	Karla Keck, USA	144.0
4.	Jessica Jerome, USA	106.5
5.	Blair Tomten, USA	101.0

2001 FIS Nordic World Championships Lahti, Finland

Large Hill (116m)

1.	Martin Schmitt, GER	276.3
2.	Adam Malysz, POL	273.5
3.	Janne Ahonen, FIN	267.4
38.	Clint Jones, USA	74.7
41.	Alan Alborn, USA	69.3

Large Hill (116m) Team

1.	Germany (Hannawald, Uhrmann, Herr, Schmitt)	939.8
2.	Finland (Jussilainen, Soininen, Kantee, Ahonen)	900.2
3.	Austria (Goldberger, Loitzl, Hoellwarth, Horngacher)	880.2
No U.S. team competed		

Small Hill (90m)

1.	Adam Malysz, POL	246.0
2.	Martin Schmitt, GER	233.0
3.	Martin Hoellwarth, AUT	223.0
23.	Alan Alborn, USA	183.0
37.	Clint Jones, USA	78.0

Small Hill (90m) Team

1.	Austria (Loitzl, Goldberger, Horngacher, Hoellwarth)	953.5
2.	Finland (M. Hautamaeki, Jussilainen, Kantee, Ahonen)	951.5
3.	Germany (Hannawald, Uhrmann, Herr, Schmitt)	911.5
No U.S. team competed		

Past U.S. Ski Jumping Champions

1904	Conrad Thompson	1944	No event held	1984	70m-Jeff Hastings
1905	Ole Westgaard	1945	No event held		90m-Jeff Hastings
1906	Ole Feiring	1946	Arthur Devlin	1985	70m-Chris Hastings
1907	Olaf Junnum	1947	Amholdt Kongsgaard	1986	70m-Rick Mewborn
1908	John Evenson	1948	Ame Ulland		90m-Mike Holland
1909	John Evenson	1949	Petter Hugsted	1987	70m-Chris Hastings
1910	Anders Haugen	1950	Olavi Kuronen		90m-Mike Holland
1911	Francis Kempe	1951	Arthur Tokle	1988	70m-Mark Konopacke
1912	Lars Haugen	1952	Clarence Hill		90m-Mike Holland
1913	Ragnar Omtvedt	1953	Arthur Tokle	1989	NH-Mike Holland
1914	Ragnar Omtvedt	1954	Roy Sherwood		LH-Mike Holland
1915	Lars Haugen	1955	Rudy Maki	1990	NH-Jim Holland
1916	Henry Hall	1956	Keith Zuehlke		LH-Jim Holland
1917	Ragnar Omtvedt	1957	Ansten Samuelstuen	1991	NH-Jim Holland/ Mark Konopacke (tie)
1918	Lars Haugen	1958	Billy Olson		LH-Ryan Heckman
1919	No event held	1959	W.P. Erickson	1992	NH-Jim Holland
1920	Anders Haugen	1960	James Brennan		LH-Jim Holland
1921	Carl Howelson	1961	Ansten Samuelstuen	1993	LH-Jim Holland
1922	Lars Haugen	1962	Ansten Samuelstuen	1994	NH-Randy Weber
1923	Anders Haugen	1963	Gene Kotlarek		LH-Todd Lodwick
1924	Lars Haugen	1964	John Balfanz	1995	NH-Randy Weber
1925	Alfred Ohrn	1965	David Hicks	1996	90m-Randy Weber
1926	Anders Haugen	1966	Gene Kotlarek	1996	120m-Randy Weber
1927	Lars Haugen	1967	Gene Kotlarek	1997	112m-Casey Colby
1928	Lars Haugen	1968	Jay Martin	1998	88m-Randy Weber
1929	Strand Mikkelsen	1969	Adrian Watt		112m-Todd Lodwick
1930	Casper Oimoen	1970	Bill Bakke	1999	90m-Todd Lodwick
1931	Casper Oimoen	1971	Jerry Martin		120m-Alan Alborn
1932	Anton LeKang	1972	Greg Swor		90m(W)-Lindsey Van
1933	Roy Mikkelsen	1973	Jerry Martin	2000	LH-Clint Jones
1934	Casper Oimoen	1974	Ron Steele		NH-Brendan Doran
1935	Roy Mikkelsen	1975	Jerry Martin		LH(W)-Lindsay Van
1936	George Kotlarek	1976	Jim Denney		NH(W)-Lindsay Van
1937	Sigmund Ruud	1977	Jim Denney	2001	LH-Allen Alborn
1938	Sig Ulland	1978	Mike Devecka		NH-Bill Demong
1939	Reidar Anderson	1979	Jeff Davis		LH(W)-Lindsay Van
1940	Alf Engen	1980	Walter Malmquist		NH(W)-Lindsay Van
1941	Torger Tokle	1981	70m-Horst Bulau		
1942	Ola Aanjesen		90m-Horst Bulau		
1943	No event held	1982	70m-Reed Zuehlke		
			90m-Jeff Hastings		
		1983	70m-Mark Konopacke		
			90m-Jeff Hastings		

Key: NH, Normal Hill (formerly called 70-meter, approximately 90-meters); LH, Large Hill (formerly called 90-meter, approximately 120-meters); (W), women.

Donna Weinbrecht
Olympic Moguls Champion



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