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TOUGH RACE IN MEN'S CLASSICAL

FIS World Cup Ruka Nordic Opening 25.-27.11.2005

Men's 15 kilometres cross-country classical was held in Ruka on Saturday. The race was tough and the differences between the top three were small. German **Tobias Angerer** won the race with time 36:32.8. Norwegian **Jens Arne Svartedal** was second only 1,7 sec. behind Angerer. **Jens Filbrich** from Germany came in third (36:40.8).

The winner Tobias Angerer was surprised at his victory. – *This was my second World Cup victory. I noticed already last week that I am in strong shape. Classical goes even better and the technique has improved, Angerer says with satisfaction.* German was able to stay in top three all the time during the race. Still he had to wait until the end to celebrate his victory because Svartedal speeded up until the finish. Svartedal started the race after Angerer and was able to catch him all the time. Svartedal's spurt before the finish line was not enough and Angerer won. – *I knew that even two metres can make a difference. I am very happy about the victory, Angerer says*

Svartedal was only little behind the winner. Until the last metres he believed to be able to win. – *I thought that I could have won. I hoped that the last 500 metres would have gone faster, Svartedal thinks a bit disappointed.* His tactic in Ruka has been to start the race slower and to speed up until the end, like he did today. Tomorrow in freestyle Norwegian is after World Cup points.

German Jens Filbrich, who was third, was satisfied with his race. He especially likes the tracks in Ruka and last year came in fifth in the same competition. – *Last week I was a bit ill so I'm very happy with the third position. Bronze medal is my goal in the Olympics, too.*

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