



Media Information

25<sup>th</sup> September 2018

**BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch: Jovial get-together for the BMW sport family at Oktoberfest.**

- **Traditional BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch at the largest fair in the world.**
- **Olympic gold medallists, world champions and motorsport stars enjoy fast-paced fun and a relaxing afternoon.**
- **“Golden Geisi” Natalie Geisenberger presents her entire medal collection in public for the first time**

**Munich. Since Saturday, the 185<sup>th</sup> Oktoberfest on the Theresienwiese has once again been thrilling millions of visitors from all over the world. This can mean only one thing: it is time for the BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch. For the ninth time, BMW invited well-known athletes and guests from various sports, as well as its sport and brand ambassadors, to the largest and most famous fair in the world.**

BMW Motorsport Director Jens Marquardt toasted the “fifth season”. He was joined by guests including BMW works driver and Brand Ambassador Alessandro Zanardi (ITA), BMW Classic ambassadors Katarina Witt (GER) and Prince Leopold of Bavaria (GER), and BMW works drivers from the DTM and endurance racing, as well as Olympic gold medallists, world champions and top winter sport athletes. Olympic luge champion Natalie Geisenberger (GER) presented all five of her medals in public for the first time during the BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch.

In keeping with tradition, the BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch began with a jovial stroll around Oktoberfest; the action on the Devil's Wheel, bumper cars and the Münchner Rutschen (slide) was predictably competitive. This was followed by the more relaxed part of the BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch, in the wonderful atmosphere of the Käfer-Wiesn-Schänke, where athletes past and present discussed their sports and much more over a snack and a beer.

**BMW guests from the world of winter sport.**

Rosi Mittermaier (GER), BMW Wintersport Ambassador



Christian Neureuther (GER), BMW Wintersport Ambassador  
Natalie Geisenberger (GER), four-time Olympic luge champion  
Felix Loch (GER), three-time Olympic luge champion  
Georg Hackl (GER), three-time Olympic luge champion  
Johannes Lochner (GER), three-time world bob champion with pushers Florian Bauer, Marc Rademacher and Christian Rasp  
Norbert Loch (GER), BSD head coach luge/bobsleigh  
René Spies (GER), BSD head coach bobsleigh  
Alexander Resch (GER), member of the board of management of the BSD

**BMW guests from the world of motorsport.**

Jens Marquardt (GER), BMW Motorsport Director  
Alessandro Zanardi (ITA), BMW Brand Ambassador  
Philipp Eng (AUT), BMW DTM driver  
Augusto Farfus (BRA), BMW DTM and WEC driver  
Nico Menzel (GER), BMW Motorsport Junior  
Timo Scheider (GER), BMW works driver  
Martin Tomczyk (GER), BMW works driver  
Marco Wittmann (GER), BMW DTM driver  
Sven Quandt (GER), Team principal of X-raid Team  
Christina Surer (SUI), former racing driver

**Other BMW Ambassadors.**

Katarina Witt (GER), BMW Classic Ambassador  
Prince Leopold of Bavaria (GER), BMW Classic Ambassador

**Quotes from the 2018 BMW Wiesen Sport-Stammtisch.**

**Katarina Witt (BMW Classic Ambassador):**

“Despite all the many projects I have on at the moment – I was on the BMW Classic Rally two weeks ago and am also preparing a figure skating show – I was not going to miss out on this get-together. It has become a wonderful tradition.”



**Prince Leopold of Bavaria (BMW Classic Ambassador):**

“Oktoberfest is obviously rather special for my family, as it was introduced by my great-great-grandfather Ludwig I. I always really look forward to attending this big get-together of the BMW sporting family, and to seeing so many familiar faces.”

**Alessandro Zanardi (BMW Brand Ambassador, BMW works driver):**

“I share a long and fantastic history with BMW. Over all the years, I have obviously made a lot of friends, and it is great to meet some of them at an occasion like this. I enjoy a beer, but a beer with friends is so much better.”

**Jens Marquardt (BMW Motorsport Director):**

“For me, the BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch is a very pleasant appointment each year. It shows the diverse positioning of BMW in sport, motorsport and beyond. In my opinion, this gathering is the embodiment of BMW’s philosophy of being a global group and yet still like a big family.”

**Marco Wittmann (BMW DTM driver):**

“This event is a great tradition every year. When the weather is as good as it is today, what more do you want? Visiting Oktoberfest and meeting all the other members of the BMW family makes a nice change from the everyday routine of motorsport.”

**Philipp Eng (BMW DTM driver):**

“This year is actually the first time in my life that I have visited Oktoberfest. It is great to meet sportsmen and women from other sports, who I only knew from television before, in person at this BMW event.”

**Augusto Farfus (BMW DTM driver):**

“It is nice to be back. Oktoberfest is huge. It reminds me a bit of our Brazilian carnival. It is great to meet up with so many other sportsmen and women here once a year. It is funny that although we are all part of the BMW family, our schedules do not allow us to meet more often. That makes the get-together at Oktoberfest all the better.”

**Martin Tomczyk (BMW works driver):**

“The BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch has become something of an institution and I am very happy to be back here with my wife Christina again this year. I am



always particularly pleased to meet the bobsledders, as we have a very close relationship.”

**Timo Scheider (BMW works driver):**

“Not only have I got to know many sportsmen and women from a wide range of sports, but also a number of journalists who were familiar to me. We are usually all caught up in our everyday lives and do not have much time for each other. This is the perfect place to have a more relaxed chat with a few people.”

**Rosi Mittermaier (BMW Wintersport Ambassador):**

“It is always a nice mixture of a reunion with old acquaintances and an opportunity to get to know new, young members of the BMW family. I particularly like it when the Wiesn is a little quieter, like this morning, and you can enjoy the original atmosphere. It is a nice Bavarian tradition.”

**Christian Neureuther (BMW Wintersport Ambassador):**

“There is always a relaxed atmosphere at the BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch. I particularly like that. I really enjoy coming here in the morning and seeing so many children about.”

**Johannes Lochner (world bobsleigh champion):**

“A real Bavarian has to visit the Wiesn at least once a year. The BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch is the perfect opportunity. After all, we bobsledders are back on the ice for the first time in just three weeks’ time, so we have to make the most of this opportunity.

**Natalie Geisenberger (Olympic luge champion):**

“I chose the BMW Wiesn Sport-Stammtisch as the place to show all five of my Olympic medals in public for the first time. I think it is a very cool occasion to do it. Although the start of the season is just around the corner, and we consequently have a lot of engagements, I enjoy coming to this gathering every year. It is like a family get-together.”

**Georg Hackl (Olympic luge champion):**

“We luge athletes head to Norway at the end of the week for some training. That makes it all the nicer to spend a morning relaxing at Oktoberfest and meeting other sportsmen and women from the BMW family. This event has become something of a tradition.”



**Felix Loch (Olympic luge champion):**

“Every year, this visit to Oktoberfest is a nice change from everyday training, as we are already in the middle of our preparations for the coming winter. I am very happy so far and am looking forward to getting on the ice for the first time in Lillehammer this weekend.”

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