

1999 EVENT

The Course Due to poor visibility, the start was delayed by 30 minutes. Because of poor snow cover, the course went to Sun Valley, over the Dam Wall, to Watchbed Creek, up to The Park and back over Heathy Spur, with long course skiers turning left at the Bogong High Plains Road towards Watchbed Creek again, while Birkebeiner skiers headed to the finish. Hoppet skiers did two loops and Birkebeiners one. Skiers returned to the Nordic Bowl via the steep descent and ascent below the dam wall. Joey skiers just went to Sun Valley and back.

Weather & Snow Conditions Hot weather early in the week combined with rain later in the week reduced the snow cover. Snow bridges collapsing over creeks was a problem. It was very foggy over the top of Heathy Spur and extra course marking was required on the day.

Entries 1, 240

Other Ben Derrick went into the race as one of the favourites, however he was sick in the Hoppet week. He tried to go with the leaders, but blew up and dropped back through the field and ended up 16th. Vitali Tchernov (RUS) left Cameron Morton (AUS) behind at about the 12km mark, and won by about 2 minutes. Jannike Oeyen (NOR) was the clear winner in the women's event – over 8 minutes ahead of second placed Brigitte Witschi-Wenger (SUI). The Kangaroo Hoppet was the final race in the *FIS Continental Cup*. Cup winners were: Men – Ben Derrick (AUS) and Women – Camille Melvey (AUS).

Technical Delegate (TD) Graeme Power (AUS-NSW)

Assistant TD David Wells (AUS-VIC)

Winners & Best Australians				
	Overall		Best Australian	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Kangaroo Hoppet	Vitali Tchernov (RUS)	Jannike Oeyen (NOR)	Cameron Morton (2nd)	Camille Melvey (3rd)
Birkebeiner	Dan van der Ploeg (AUS)	Deb Godsmark (AUS)	Daniel van der Ploeg (1st)	Deb Godsmark (1st)
Joey Hoppet	Peter Malcolm (AUS)	Esther Bottomley (AUS)	Peter Malcolm (1st)	Esther Bottomley (1st)