

We use cookies to improve your experience on this website. By continuing to browse our site you agree to our use of cookies.

I agree - don't show this message again

I want more information / Set my preferences

EDITION: INTERNATIONAL | U.S. | MEXICO | ARABIC

TV: CNNi | CNN en Español

Set edition preference



Sign up | Log in

SEARCH

Home | Video | World | U.S. | Africa | Asia | Europe | Latin America | Middle East | Money | World Sport | Entertainment | Tech | Travel | iReport

Football | Golf | Tennis | Motorsport | Human to Hero | Horse Racing | Equestrian | Sailing | Analysis

Part of complete coverage on **Alpine Edge**

Speed skier Simone Origone targets new world record

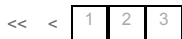
By **Tom Sweetman** and **Ursin Caderas**, for CNN
April 8, 2014 -- Updated 1617 GMT (0017 HKT)



Simone Origone broke his own speed skiing world record last month reaching 252.4 kilometers per hour (156.8 mph) on the slopes at Chabrieres in France. His previous best was 251.4 km/h (156.2 mph), which he recorded in 2006.

Hurling into the history books

HIDE CAPTION



STORY HIGHLIGHTS

Simone Origone thrilled to break speed skiing world record by clocking 252.4 km/h

The Italian beat his own record of 251.4 km/h (156.2 mph) set in 2006

The 34-year-old is planning to break the world record for a third time next year

Follow us at [@WorldSportCNN](#) and like us on [Facebook](#)

(CNN) -- For most people, breaking one world record would suffice. But for Simone Origone, rewriting history a second time isn't quite enough.

Last month, the Italian speed skier set a new world record of 252.4 kilometers per hour (156.8 miles per hour) on the slopes of Chabrieres in the French Alps, beating his previous best of 251.4 km/h (156.2 mph) set at Les Arcs in November 2006.

Now, the 34-year-old is gearing up to go even faster.

"I have already started to plan my next world record, next year, same place," Origone told CNN. "If the conditions are perfect -- temperature, wind, snow -- I can be as fast as 254 or 255 km/h (158.4 mph)."

He might be already masterminding his next world-record attempt, but Origone is still coming to terms with the magnitude of his record-breaking achievements.

Read: [Origone rewrites speed skiing history](#)

"It was the best day of my life! To set a new record once is cool. But to do it twice is absolutely great. I'm really happy with that after waiting for eight years," said Origone.

SHARE THIS

Print
Email
More sharing

Recommend 43

Most Popular

Today's five most popular stories

[American Music Awards: 8 stars who stole the show](#)

[World's most impressive metro stations](#)

[Fires, chaos erupt in Ferguson after grand jury doesn't indict in Michael Brown case](#)

[Eyes to the sky: Where the tallest skyscrapers of 2015 will be found](#)

[Am I the jerk on your airplane?](#)

More from CNN Video

[Fox News hardly covers Benghazi report](#)

[Critical battle against ISIS in Ramadi](#)

[Revisiting 'Peer Gynt' by Henrik Ibsen](#)

[White House: Secy. Hagel to resign](#)

More from CNN

[Rayo Vallecano: 'Beautiful gesture' from 'guardian angel' towards homeless](#)

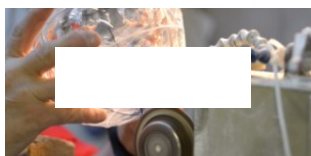
[Hamilton wins Formula One world title as rival Rosberg hits trouble](#)

[Henrik Stenson successfully defends DP World Tour Championship](#)

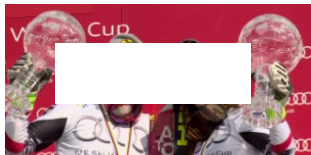
From around the web

Recommended by

Part of complete coverage on



Making the World Cup trophy



Ski champs come full circle



Heat molds your ski boots?



World's most dangerous downhill?

"It's my passion for the sport. Speed skiing is my life. I spend hours in the gym and on the slopes, working on my technique. I try to improve my aerodynamics in the wind tunnel and then the mental aspect is absolutely key. Losing your focus for a split second can be fatal."

Born in the city of Aosta in 1979, Origone hails from a family with skiing in its blood.

Younger brother Ivan, 27, is also one of the world's top speed skiers, setting a junior world record of 250.7 km/h (155.7 mph) in 2006, and also took part at Chabrieres last month.

The older sibling first took to the slopes at the age of three under the tutelage of his father, an experienced coach, and made headway in downhill racing as a teenager before turning his hand to speed skiing in 2003 -- a sport that complimented his daredevil tendencies to a tee.

"It's a very strong feeling. After five seconds you're already at 200 km/h (124.2 mph) on a slope that is up to 98% steep -- that's amazing," he said.

"It's impossible to win a race if you're afraid. Certainly my body and mind tell me you shouldn't be doing this. But in order to be fast you have to overcome your fear and force yourself to go down there."

Read: [The crystal globes that stars covet](#)

That need for speed will have Origone coming back to Chabrieres next April, when the Italian will be praying for perfect conditions to maximize his chances of breaking his own world record for the second time.

"It's all down to the conditions. The snow has to be perfect to break the world record. The latest record was only possible because we had spring snow in Vars (in Chabrieres). In the three previous years the snow conditions were different and a world record was impossible," he said.

"There's only one piste in the world that is long enough to break the world record (Vars). In order to reach over 200 km/h (124.2 mph) the piste has to be long, without bumps and have a long finish area."

From now until next April, though, Origone will return to the day job, where he can be found juggling the roles of ski instructor, mountain guide and rescuer.

For all that two speed skiing world records might bring you, prize money is not one of the luxuries afforded.

"We don't have prize money in our sport, it's all about the passion," he said. "You have to live for it. And I do."

Read: [Uphill Streif: The Super Bowl of skiing](#)

We recommend



Obama's immigration move is a win



The U.S. government thinks China could take down the power grid



Taylor Swift goes crazy in 'Blank Space' video



F1 driver market: Vettel joins Ferrari for 2015 as Alonso leaves

Recommended by

Alpine Edge

The crystal globes that stars covet

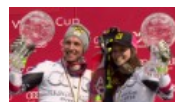
March 31, 2014 -- Updated 1318 GMT (2118 HKT)



Football has its 18-carat-gold World Cup trophy, and ice hockey the silver and nickel Stanley Cup, but skiing's globes are something else...

Ski champs come full circle

March 24, 2014 -- Updated 1822 GMT (0222 HKT)



Austrian skiers Anna Fenninger and Marcel Hirscher reflect on their World Cup triumphs.

Making the World Cup trophy

October 24, 2014 -- Updated 0945 GMT (1745 HKT)



Christina MacFarlane explores how skiing's coveted Crystal Globe is made.

Ghostly lights ... and uphill torture?

February 20, 2014 -- Updated 1404 GMT (2204 HKT)



The ghostly lights wind up from the base of the mountain. Heart rates are also rising. This race is held on a notorious downhill ski course -- but in reverse.

World's most dangerous downhill?

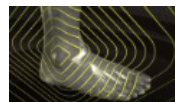
January 29, 2014 -- Updated 1846 GMT (0246 HKT)



CNN's Christina MacFarlane looks back at the history of Austria's Kitzbuhel ski race.

Heat molds your ski boots?

January 29, 2014 -- Updated 1849 GMT (0249 HKT)



CNN's Christina MacFarlane explores a new technology that customizes the entire boot to your foot.

Toe-tingling 'void' at top of Alps

February 4, 2014 -- Updated 0515 GMT (1315 HKT)



If you're scared of heights, then this is not for you -- a glass cube perched at the top of a 12,600-foot peak in the French Alps.

Rescuers keeping slopes safe

December 16, 2013 -- Updated 1127 GMT (1927 HKT)



CNN's Christina MacFarlane goes on patrol with a seasoned ski rescue team in the French Alps.

A masterclass in giant slalom

December 16, 2013 -- Updated 1125 GMT (1925 HKT)



CNN's Christina MacFarlane meets Giant Slalom world champion Tessa Worley in Lyon, France.

Could avalanche airbags save lives?

December 13, 2013 -- Updated 1556 GMT (2356 HKT)



From GoPro cameras to avalanche airbags. CNN's Christina MacFarlane puts the latest skiing gadgets to the test.

The planet's finest slalom skier?

December 2, 2013 -- Updated 1659 GMT (0059 HKT)