



Media Release Schilthornbahn AG | OK Int. Inferno Races

## Arctic temperatures at devilish 79th Inferno Downhill

Stechelberg/Mürren: 21 January 2023

**On Saturday, 21 January 2023, the Schilthorn was once again the scene of devilish action: the 79th Inferno downhill was won by Kilian Rufener from Zweisimmen, who is only 21 years old. In the women's category, Nicole Eiholzer-Bärtschi stood on the winner's podium for the sixth time.**

The devilish bottle of schnapps in the start house on the small Schilthorn not only helped against the nervousness today, but also warmed against the arctic cold from the inside: minus 21 - with a biting breeze it felt like minus 30 degrees - the thermometer showed early Saturday morning when the first racers started this year's Inferno race. The two-man Kilian Rufener with bib number 30 knew how to brave the cold best. By Inferno standards, the very young man from the Simmental was only competing in the race for the third time and was able to record his first victory today. He pushed last year's runner-up and winner of 2020, Ruedi Brawand from Grindelwald, into second place with a best time of 7.08,20. Third-placed Alexander Zöschg from Dorf Tirol was unable to defend his 2022 title. He lost a good five seconds to Rufener.

### Undisputed winner in the women's race

Last year's winner Nicole Eiholzer-Bärtschi from Buttisholz thwarted a Simmental double victory. She crossed the finish line in Mürren with a best time of 8:07.94, pushing Natalie Hauswirth from Gstaad and Arianne Wenger from Zwischenflüh into second and third place. This was the sixth time that Eiholzer-Bärtschi had reached the top of the women's podium.

### OC draws a positive overall balance

The OC of the Inferno races looks back on the 79th edition of the Inferno Downhill with satisfaction. "There were no incidents worth mentioning or devastating accidents," announces OC President Christoph Egger. Of the 1672 participants who started, 1654 were classified. "The cold did not like to affect the perfectly prepared piste," Egger continued. This year's race was held between the start on the Kleinen Schilthorn and the finish in the middle of Mürren due to the uncertain snow conditions that still prevailed last Sunday when the course was defined.