



Lumberjack World Championships Names Three to 2022 All-Around World Champion Titles

Sold Out Crowd Witnesses Historic Tie in Women's Division Amid Fierce Three-Day Competition

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hayward, WI (August 1, 2022) – The 62nd annual Lumberjack World Championships began on July 28, 2022, at historic Lumberjack Bowl in Hayward, Wis with 98 athletes in attendance from five countries around the world and 15 states across the country. For the first time ever, three athletes were named the 2022 Tony Wise All-Around World Champions on July 30, 2022, the final night of competition.

Each of the athletes started the quarterfinal competition on Thursday, with a select group advancing to the semifinals on Friday, and the fiercest competitors moving on to the finals on Saturday. Culminating with Saturday's final competition, the Lumberjack World Championships crowned Matt Cogar (Grafton, WV), Erin LaVoie (Spokane, WA), and Stephanie Naud (Quebec, Canada) the 2022 Tony Wise All-Around Champions. It was the first time in the over 60-year history of the championships that there was a tie for first place in the women's division.

A combined seventeen lumberjacks and lumberjills represented Wisconsin and Minnesota. Each of the countries in attendance were represented in the finals, including athletes Matyáš Klíma (Czech Republic), Sean Yokoyama (Japan), and Ferry Svan (Sweden). Canada had a strong showing in the finals with Stephanie Naud, Maxime Mercier, and Jean-Pierre Mercier all competing in multiple events. The greater Hayward, Wis, area was represented in the finals by athletes Kate Witkowski (Hayward, Wis), Meredith Ingbretson (Hayward, Wis), Deven Blair (Winter, Wis), and Claudia Duffy (Hayward, Wis).

While some athletes vie for the all-around title, many compete in one or two specialty events, like 2022 logrolling world champion Livi Pappadopoulos (Holmen, Wis). Pappadopoulos claimed her fourth straight victory this year in a repeat championship match-up against competitor Ellie Davenport (Hudson, Wis.) Pappadopoulos remains undefeated at the Lumberjack World Championships and has only lost one match since she began logrolling in 2017. Her current record is 25 total wins in 25 events. Caleb Graves (Seymour, TN) competed in three events at the finals, boom running, 60-foot speed climb, and 90-foot speed climb. He took home world titles in both speed climbing events, defeating first-time Lumberjack World Championship participant Sean Yokoyama in the 90-foot speed climb and Cassidy Scheer (Minneapolis, MN) in the 60-foot speed climb.

On the boom running dock, Cameron Pilgreen (Watertown, Wis) took home the men's world championship title posting a time of 13.18 seconds, defeating Anthony Polentini (Hartland, Wis). Polentini came to the boom running finals after seizing the logrolling world title against competitor Tanner Hallet (Hermosa Beach, CA). On the women's side, Claudia Duffy (Hayward, Wis) earned a world title with a time of 15.23 seconds, defeating competitor Abby Delaney (Minneapolis, MN) who finished just .37 seconds behind Duffy. Duffy is no stranger to the podium, earning the boom running world title



for the second year in a row. During the medal presentation, Duffy reminded her father, Brian Duffy, that she plans to surpass the 5 world titles that he holds.

The Lumberjack World Championships are a generational event for several families. In this year's finals Jason and Mel Lentz (both of Diana, WV) represented a generations-deep connection to the competition. Mel took home the 2022 axe-throwing World Title at the age of 63, beating fellow competitor Dave Engasser (Cortland, NY) in a head-to-head throw-off for the title. Lentz capped off his performance with a bullseye, earning him the title of World Champion. His son, Jason Lentz, also took home a World Champion medal in the single buck sawing event with a time of 13.64 seconds. Jason Lentz, the former 2021 all-around World Champion, made it to the finals in six different events in 2022, but fell short of defending his title from last year.

The Lumberjack World Championships have been held in Hayward, Wis, in Lumberjack Bowl for 62 years. Northwest Wisconsin's roots are steeped in the timber industry. What better way to honor the skills of lumberjacks from days gone by than to celebrate timber sports at the annual Lumberjack World Championships event held each July. The next Lumberjack World Championships will be held from July 27-29, 2023. Tickets will go on sale in 2023 at www.LumberjackBowl.com.

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