



Liisa Savijarvi

Inducted CSHF: 1997

Hometown: Bracebridge, ON

Date of Birth: December 29, 1963

Affiliated Discipline(s): Alpine, Downhill, Giant Slalom, Super G

Active Career Date(s): 1979 – 1988

FIS Code: -105120

Club: Blue Mountain, Canadian Alpine Ski Team,

Liisa Savijarvi first achieved prominence as an emerging alpine ski racer in 1980 at the age of 17 with superb performances in the Ontario and Canadian Junior Championships and the Pontiac Cup. She was appointed to the National Alpine Training squad in the same year and two years later, in 1982, she became a member of the Women's National Alpine Ski team. Appointed to the "A" team in 1987, and ranked one of the best ski racers in the world, she was the only Canadian female racer to train in Downhill, Giant Slalom and Super G. Sadly, her promising career ended prematurely on March 17, 1987, when she suffered severe leg injuries and crushed vertebra in a horrendous training run accident at Vail, Colorado. Unable to recover her previous form, she retired from the National Team a year later in March 1988.

Following her retirement she continued to be involved in the skiing world as a Canadian Ski Instructors' Alliance Level II Instructor, a Level III Coach with the Canadian Ski Coaches Federation and co-proprietor of "Ski Escape", an independent travelling ski school with operations in four provinces and 30 programs across Canada.

In 1986, she was named Ski Racing's Alpine Skier of the Year, and awarded the National Alpine Ski Team (NAST) Kodak Award of Excellence in the same year.

Competitive highlights (top 15 placings only)

- 1978** Joined the Southern Ontario Division Ski Team (December 1978)
- 1979 – 80** 1st place, Giant Slalom event, Elbert Series, Winter Park & Steamboat Springs, USA.
2nd place overall, Ontario Championships, Collingwood, Ontario
1st place, Slalom event, Pontiac Cup, Edelweiss Valley, Quebec
3rd place overall, Pontiac Cup circuit final standings
3rd place, Giant Slalom, Canadian Alpine Junior Championships final standings
7th place, Combined events, Canadian Alpine Junior Championships final standings
- 1980 - 81** 7th place, Giant slalom, NOR AM circuit final standings
5th place, Downhill, Canadian Alpine Championships final standings
- 1981 - 82** 4th place, Overall, NOR AM circuit final standings
3rd place, Giant Slalom, NOR AM circuit final standings
2nd place, Giant Slalom, Canadian Alpine Championships final standings
- 1982 – 83** 1st place, Giant Slalom, Canadian Alpine Championships, Stoneham, Quebec
5th place, Slalom event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Le Relais
3rd place, Super G event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Mont Ste Anne, Quebec
7th place, Downhill event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Mont Ste Anne, Quebec
3rd place, Overall, NOR AM circuit final standings
2nd place, Giant Slalom, NOR AM circuit final standings
3rd place, Downhill, NOR AM circuit final standings
- 1983** 13th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Mont Tremblant, Quebec
- 1984** 15th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Megeve, France
3rd place, Combined event, FIS World Cup, St Gervais, France
4th place, Giant slalom event, FIS World Cup, St Gervais, France

9th place, Giant slalom event, XIV Olympic Winter Games, Sarajevo, Yugoslavia
 10th place, Super G event, FIS World Cup, Mont Ste Anne, Quebec
 9th place, Giant slalom event, FIS World Cup, Waterville Valley, USA
 5th place, Slalom event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Relais
 1st place, Giant Slalom event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Stoneham, Quebec
 3rd place, Super G event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Mont Ste Anne, Quebec
 7th place, Downhill event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Mont Ste Anne, Quebec
1985 - 86 12th place, Overall standings, FIS World Cup circuit
 5th place, Downhill standings, FIS World Cup circuit
 2nd place, Super G standings, FIS World Cup circuit
 3rd place, Overall, NOR AM circuit final standings
 6th place overall, Downhill, FIS ranking
 3rd place overall, Super G, FIS ranking
1985 9th place, Combined event, FIS World Cup, Santa Catertina, Italy
 12th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Bad Kleinkirchheim, Austria
 6th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Bad Kleinkirchheim, Austria
 10th place, Giant Slalom event, FIS World Ski Championships, Bormio, Italy
 4th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Banff, Alberta
 13th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Banff, Alberta
 10th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Val d'Isere, France
 1st place, Overall, Canadian Alpine Championships
 3rd place, Slalom event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Fortress Mtn, Alberta
 1st place, Giant Slalom, Canadian Alpine Championships, Fortress Mtn, Alberta
 3rd place, Downhill event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Banff/Sunshine, Alberta
 2nd place, Super G, Canadian Alpine Championships, Banff/Sunshine, Alberta
 1st place, Giant Slalom event, NOR AM circuit, Stoneham, Quebec (April 5th)
 1st place, Giant Slalom event, NOR AM circuit, Stoneham, Quebec (April 6th)
1986 11th place, Combined event, FIS World Cup, Maribor, Slovenia
 2nd place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Badgastein, Austria
 7th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Badgastein, Austria
 11th place, Combined event, FIS World Cup, Badgastein, Austria
 15th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Puy St Vincent, France
 7th place, Super G event, FIS World Cup, Puy St Vincent, France
 9th place, Super G event, FIS World Cup, Megeve, France
 7th place, Giant Slalom event, FIS World Cup, Valzoldana, Italy
 4th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Furano, Japan
 1st place, Super G event, FIS World Cup, Furano, Japan
 4th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Sunshine, Alberta
 4th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Vail, USA
 3rd place, Super G event, FIS World Cup, Vail, USA
 13th place, Giant Slalom event, FIS World Cup, Bromont, Quebec
 5th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Val d'Isere, France
 3rd place, Downhill event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Mont Ste Anne Quebec
 1st place, Downhill event, North American Championships, Mont Ste Anne, Quebec
 2nd place, Super G, Canadian Alpine Championships, Mont Ste Anne, Quebec
 2nd place, Giant Slalom event, Canadian Alpine Championships, Stoneham, Quebec
1987 11th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Mellau, Austria
 9th place, Downhill event, FIS World Cup, Pfronten, Germany
 7th place, Super G event, FIS World Cup, Pfronten, Germany
 8th place, Downhill event, FIS Race, Crans Montana, Switzerland
 3rd place, Giant Slalom event, Europa Cup