

Teller snags 11th in skicross after landing on his head

By Freddy Perryman, U.S. Ski Team

BLUE MOUNTAIN, Ontario -- X Games champion John Teller of Mammoth Lakes finished 11th in Friday's World Cup skicross race at Blue Mountain Resort.

Skiers found a new venue as Blue Mountain completely revamped its skicross course for 2011. The resort increased the technicality of the course by adding quick jump sequences.

In the first round of finals, Teller got off to a good start and won his heat, beating 2011 World Champion and Friday's eventual winner, Chris Del Bosco of Canada, to advance to the quarterfinals.

In the quarterfinals, Teller was in the backseat as he went off a jump, sending him into a near back flip and landing hard. The crash broke one of his bindings and bent his skis. Fortunately, he was uninjured.

"I did about half a back flip and landed on my head and bent a ski," Teller said. "That was the end of the day for me."

Since his fifth place finish last week at the World Championships, Teller has been busy. He went back to Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort to help coach and train 200 kids on its junior team.

Official results, FIS World Cup, Blue Mountain, Canada, Skicross

Men

1. Chris Del Bosco, Canada

2. Andreas Matt, Austria
3. Tomas Kraus, Czech Republic
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11. John Teller, Mammoth Lakes, CA
39. Ethan Fortney, Tenino, WA
40. Randy Detrick, Saylorsburg, PA

Women

1. Anna Woerner, Germany
2. Fanny Smith, Switzerland
3. Jenny Owens, Australia