

# A season in Austria

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Being told that my hips were deteriorating was without doubt the hardest thing that I've ever had to deal with. Not just because I had to go through 2 operations and a year of rehabilitation but because it changed the way I saw my future. Any career in sport seemed dead in the ditch, with a life time behind a desk forcing its cripplingly dull way of life into view. A desk is never something I've willingly been behind, instead my environment of choice was more likely to be a football pitch, a tennis court, or just about anywhere other than school, meaning that during my childhood I had two main passions, Sport and Norwich City FC.



Skiing was something that I was very lucky to have grown up with, starting at a young age the family would go on yearly ski trips to France with every trip creating a bigger desire to work in the mountains, mainly as a ski instructor. The Mason Trust enabled me to fulfil this dream by funding half of the course fees and therefore giving me the opportunity to go to Austria and to become an instructor in one of the most highly respected



associations in the skiing industry. With an easy and sensible application process The Mason trust were brilliantly supportive and were kind enough to give me a chance. From crying kids to being bought drinks by the kids parents at the end of the week, I' ve now

finished my first season with the Landes 1 qualification and a season worth of fantastic friends and experiences that can only be gained by throwing yourself in and although cliché non of this would of happened without the help from The Mason Trust. Their belief in giving young people a chance has given me an opportunity of finding a happy working career and one that means that I can travel and retire one day knowing that I never regretted not doing what I love. The later part of that is for me to do but without them I wouldn' t be able to say that. I' m now already planning my next season with opportunities in Dubai and New Zealand keeping me going through the summer.