

[Bode Miller is Back on US Ski Team](#)



ATHLETES & COMPETITIONS - Alpine

Written by Lori Knowles / SkiPressWorld.com

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Bode Miller is back and ready to race the World Cup again – as a member of the U.S. Ski Team...

In a press conference from the Staples Center (home of the L.A. Lakers) in Los Angeles, Miller and U.S. Men's Team Head Coach Sasha Rearick announced that the star skier will rejoin the U.S. Team immediately.

"I had no intention of coming back three months ago, but after some conversations with Sasha and realizing that everyone is on the same page and excited about moving forward, I realized that this is definitely something that I want to do," Miller said.

Rearick emphasized that Miller will be expected to be a key player in the U.S. squad's "team atmosphere," and that he is excited for Miller's ability and experience to provide a strong basis to help younger members of the team excel.

"To have Bode come back to the family is extremely exciting for us," Rearick said. "I'm looking forward to having Bode come back as a leader."

Despite numerous questions as to whether he regrets his lack of medals at the 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Torino, after which Miller left the U.S. Team to race on his own, Miller was noncommittal, emphasizing instead how much he looked forward to being back on snow.

"I can kind of sympathize with Bret Favre," Miller said, referring to the start quarterback who has twice retired before returning to the NFL. "When you dedicate your entire life to a sport and then decide to walk away, you realize that there's a big hole you have left to fill."

In relation to the upcoming 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games, Miller said that he expects to go through the qualification process, just like anybody.

"It was a huge motivation in this decision, which was really about being part of the team in a way that I hadn't been before," Miller said. "I am back on the U.S. Ski Team, on the A Team, but everyone has to qualify for the Olympics the same way."

Photo credit: US Ski Team