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## Haywood RACE Report: Women's team posts strong 10th place finish at World Championships

March 2, 2017



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The young Canadian women's team has been building momentum all week at the Lahti World Championships and the 4 X 5k relay was a chance to show how much depth there truly is among the woman's program.



Canada has always had some decent relay success when the World Champs roll around to Lahti, with one of, if not the best results, coming in 2001 when the team of Beckie Scott, Milane Theriault, Jaime Fortier, Sara Renner raced to 6th place just a fraction of a second behind Sweden in 5th. [Results](#)

Prior to that in 1989 Canada registered another top performance at the World Championship/Olympic level with an 8th place finish in the relay at Lahti, with a team of Angela Schmidt-Foster, Lorna Sasseville, CCC's Lisa Patterson and Marie-Andrée Masson. The 1978 World Championships were also held in Lahti and Canada finished 9th with Shirley Firth, Esther Miller, Celine Giguere, Joan Groothuysen.



Starting for Canada was Katherine Stewart-Jones, fresh off a strong performance in the 10k classic, 2 days earlier. There was a very fast pace early on as Poland's Justyna Kowalczyk battled for the lead with Maiken Falla of Norway, but Katherine managed to stay with the main pack over the first 2.5 k in 11th place.

On the second half of the leg Katherine began picking off skiers in front, tagging off to Emily Nishikawa in a solid 8th place.



02.03.2017, Lahti, Finland (FIN): Katherine Stewart-Jones (CAN) - FIS nordic world ski championships, cross-country, 4x5km women, Lahti (FIN). [www.nordicfocus.com](http://www.nordicfocus.com). © Modica/NordicFocus.

Emily was passed by the Russian team to hand over to Cendrine Browne in 9th, and Italy managed to catch up and move a few seconds in front by the 3rd exchange when Dahria Beatty took over for Canada.





02.03.2017, Lahti, Finland (FIN): Emily Nishikawa (CAN) - FIS nordic world ski championships, cross-country, 4x5km women, Lahti (FIN). [www.nordicfocus.com](http://www.nordicfocus.com). © Modica/NordicFocus.

Dahria made an attempt to catch the Italians, but was unable to make any progress and at the line Canada came through in 10th, for one of the better results ever at this level, and in particular a great result for a young and developing team.



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Haywood Update: 🇨🇦 best 4X5 results this century Wch/Oly

2001 6 @BeckieScott4 +

2007 16

2010 15

2011 14

2013 dnf

2014 14

2017 10th !!!!!!!

Norway skied away to a comfortable victory from the start, with Sweden passing the Finns over the last few hundred metres to determine silver and bronze.

[Results](#)