



**Bengt Pontén** has been the president of IFSS (International Federation of SleddogSports) since 2006. He was also one of the leaders of the IFSS Nordic Style Training Camp this winter.

Bengt is from Sweden and is still active as a Nordic style competitor, but nowadays he mainly helps his three teenage children train the dogs. He has had a long development in his capacity as a dog driver starting with a small English Setter and some Dobermanns in the early '80s. After driving many different dogs he reached some top results at a more mature age. The best (at the age of 48) being a silver medal in the Mens Long distance (25 km) at the Swedish Championships.

Bengt lives in central Sweden with his wife, three teenage children and four dogs. He works at Dalarna University as a Senior lecturer in working life, work organization, communication. He and his wife Ulla-Kari has for 30 years been greatly involved with the training of youngsters and beginners, organizing training camps and competitions as well as chairing the local club. Bengt has a background as a competitive runner in the 800 m and in orienteering.

Bengt was between 1984-1995 acting secretary of the Board of the Swedish National federation, with special emphasis on making it into a sport and becoming a member of the overall Swedish Sports Federation. He has been Head of the Organizing Committee for the Swedish National Championships and 3 Scandinavian Open Championships in Nordic style.

One of Bengt's favorite mottos is  
*"You are never too old to play,  
but you get old when you stop playing."*