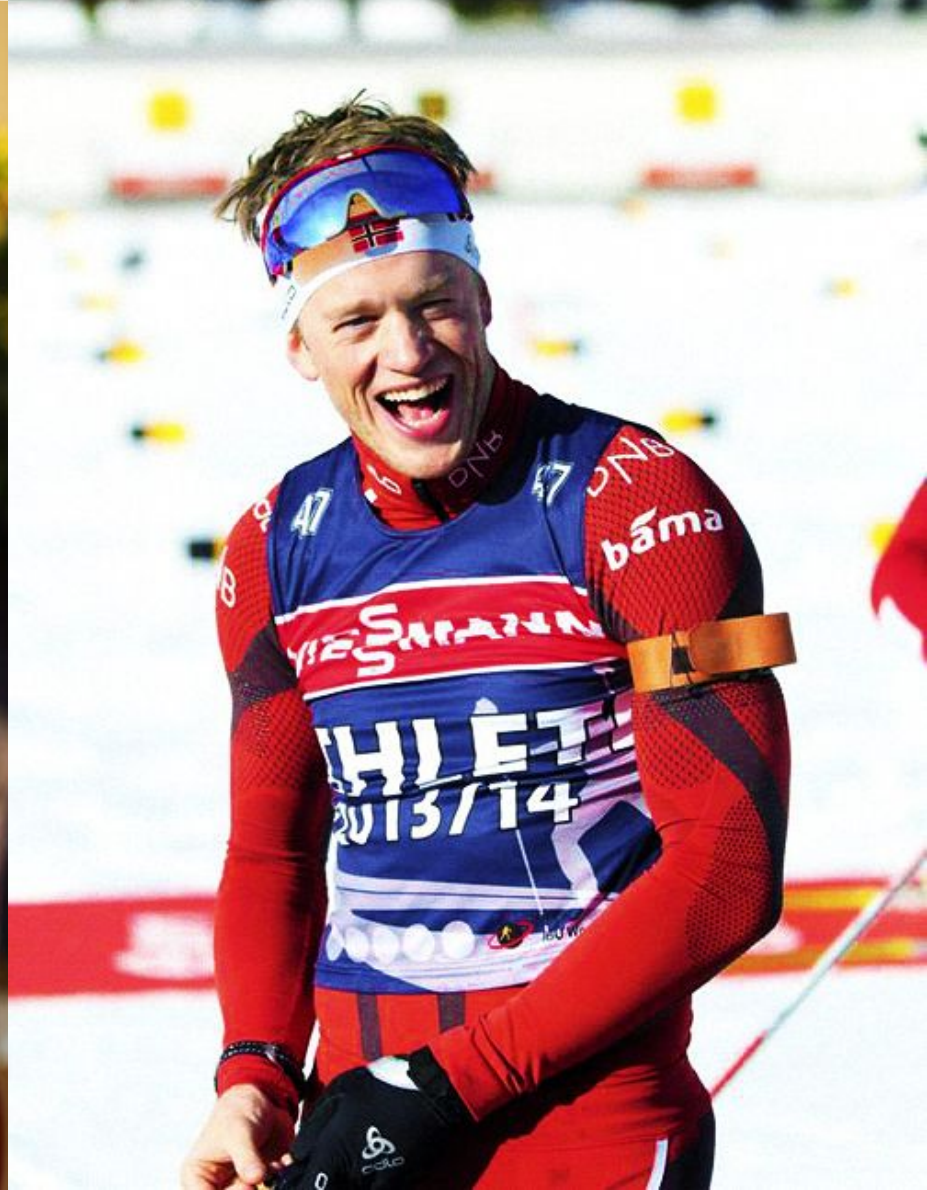


# Tarjei Boe





# Biography

**Tarjei Bø** (born 29 July 1988) is a professional Norwegian biathlete.

Tarjei was born in Stryn in west of Norway. He grew up on a farm in a family of 7. As a young boy he was very active and did several different sports, but at the age of 15 he decided to place all his chips on biathlon and started at the Norwegian College of Elite Sport (NTG) in the Olympic town of Lillehammer. Progress came quickly. Already the first winter as a junior, he won the Norwegian championship gold medal in cross-country and biathlon, and repeated this the following year.





## Early career

In 2006 at just 17, Tarjei participated in his first Junior World Championships and debuted with a Gold Medal in the 20-kilometer. In total he has participated in three Junior World Championships where he has won three silver medals and two bronze medals, in addition to the Gold Medal he won in 2006.

After winning 4 of 4 possible gold medals in the Junior European Championships in 2009, he received his debut in the World Cup. His efforts had paid off, which led to his inclusion to the elite team after this. Having proved himself in the start of the 2009/2010 season, Tarjei was included in the squad for the Vancouver Olympics. When the Norwegian Newspaper VG asked Emil Hagle Svendsen what he thought about his new teammate, he answered the following:

«Tarjei has a unique winners instinct, a greater potential and talent that both Ole Einar Bjoerndalen and I ever had.»





# Career

Tarjei won his first international medal when he won the Olympic Gold Medal in the relay in Vancouver with Halvard Hanevold, Ole Einar Bjoerndalen and Emil Hegle Svendsen. But this Olympic Gold, at the young age 21 was just the beginning.





In March of the same year was the World Championships in Khanty-Mansiysk, where he helped win gold in the mixed relay, before he won the bronze medal in both the sprint and pursuit respectively. His first individual World Championship Gold Medal he won in the 20 kilometers, and finally he skied the anchor leg in the relay and secured victory for Norway. This was his third Gold in these Championships.

After the World Championships began the battle for overall victory in the World Cup between Tarjei and Emil Hagle Svendsen. Tarjei had the lead all season, and even though Emil caught up in the last few races, Tarjei won World Cup with just 5 points. At the age of 21 years Tarjei was one of the youngest overall winners. In the same year, Tarjei was voted the best biathlete in the world by international media through Forum Nordicum.





The season 2011/2012 was marked by illness. Tarjei led the World Cup until Christmas, but became ill and lost thus lead in the chase for the overall World Cup. For Tarjei it was a big step up when he won the World Championships relay with Ole Einar Bjoerndalen, Rune Brattveen and Emil Hegle Svendsen. But even with a troubled season was Tarjei under the World Championships in Ruhpolding voted as the most popular athlete by the fans for the «Biathlon Fan Award».





The training period for the next season didn't go as it should. Tarjei became ill in July and after some time they discovered that he had received Chlamydia Pneumoniae. Then he had to skip training for 3 months, and started with training again first in late October. The first competition he participated in was not until after New Year, where he immediately qualified for the World Championship in Nove Mesto. Even with all the disease problems, the World Championship became a success. Tarjei won gold in the mixed relay, the men's relay, and the concluding mass start. What a comeback!





