

To the

- Members of the Alpine Committee
- Members of the Alpine Conference

For information to:

- Johan Eliasch, FIS President
- Michel Vion, FIS Secretary General
- Sandra Spitz, FIS Sport & Event Director
- Bruno Sassi, FIS Communications Director
- Christian Salomon, Chief Commercial Director

Oberhofen, 21.10.2024

Minutes Alpine Committee Meeting, Friday, 27.09.2024, 14:00 to 18:00hrs.

Dear Ski friends,

We have pleasure in sending you today the Minutes of the 99th Meeting of the Alpine Committee held on 27.09.2024.

You are kindly asked to send any remarks to the FIS Office (<u>flere@fisski.com</u>) no later than 15th November 2024.

We would also like to take the opportunity of informing you that the Minutes are available on the Member Services section of the FIS Website: www.fis-ski.com.

Thank you very much for your valuable contribution.

Kindest regards,

Massimo Rinaldi Chairman Alpine Committee

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Janez Flere Alpine Technical Coordinator

INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION **Alpine Committee**

Invitation Meeting Committee for Alpine Skiing Friday, 27.09.2024, 14:00hrs.

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1. Welcome Massimo Rinaldi

2. Roll Call Janez Fleré

3. Approval of the Agenda Massimo Rinaldi

4. Approval of the Minutes of the 98th meeting held in Portoroz (SLO) May 2024

Janez Fleré

Reports

5.1 Chairman Massimo Rinaldi

Executive Board Massimo Rinaldi

Sub-Committees / Working Groups:

7. Evaluation

7.1. Data and Timing Working Group Daniel Defago 7.2. Classification of Alpine Competitors Jeff Weinman

8. Alpine Courses Elena Gaja des Ambrois

9. Alpine Rules Arno Heikkala

10. Alpine Technical Delegates Markus Malsiner

11. Alpine World Cup

Walter Vogel 11.1. Working Group Coaches Women Paul Kristofic 11.2. Working Group Coaches Men Thomas Stauffer

12. Intercontinental Cups

12.1. European Cup Herbert Mandl 12.2. Nor-Am Chip Knight 12.3. Far East Hiroshi Sawano 12.4. South American Cup Martin Begino Jono Howson 12.5. Australia New Zealand Cup

13. Youth & Children's Questions Stefan Johnsen Havnelid

13.1. World Junior Ski Championships Jordi Pujol

14. Material and Equipment Massimo Rinaldi

15. Athletes Commission Verena Stuffer

Leif Nestvold Haugen

- 16. Reports from Organisers of the next major championships:
 - 16.1. 2025 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Saalbach Hinterglemm (AUT)16.2. 2026 Olympic Winter Games, Milano-Cortina (ITA)

 - 16.3. 2027 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Crans Montana (SUI)
 - 16.4. 2029 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Narvik (NOR)
 - 16.5. 2031 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Val Gardena (ITA)
- 17. Questions, Various
- 18. Next Meeting,

FIS Technical Committee Spring Meeting, 05.-09. May 2025, Vilamoura (POR)

All proposals and decisions of the FIS Alpine Committee are subject to the approval of FIS Council in October 2024

1. Welcome and Opening of the Meeting

The Chairman, Massimo Rinaldi (ITA), welcomed all members present to the 99th Alpine Committee Meeting. He also welcomed FIS General Secretary Michel Vion, FIS Council members and Working Group members.

2. Roll Call

Janez Fleré (FIS) conducted the Roll Call. Apologies were received from Executive Board members, Grega Benedik (SLO); Janka Gantnerova (SVK); Claus Ryste (NOR); David Chastan (FRA); Karin Stolt Halvarsson (SWE); Leif Kristian Nestvold Haugen (Athletes Commission); Elena Gaja de Ambrois (ITA), Chair Alpine Courses; Jono Howson (NZL) Chair ANC Cup and Martin Begino (ARG), Chair SAC Cup.

3. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda, without additions or remarks, was unanimously approved.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the 98th Meeting held in Portoroz (SLO) in May 2024 were, without comments or remarks, unanimously approved.

5. Reports

5.1 Chair (Massimo Rinaldi, ITA)

In our region, summertime means analysing the past and planning the future. In planning I mean about Calendars, new rules, marketing/sponsoring and in analysing, in the last few years we had to deal always with safety and injuries and thanks to the support of the Athletes Health Unit we can look for a safer sport Alpine Skiing is a worldwide sport. This means while in one part of the world the final preparations for the coming winter season are underway, in the other part the high season of skiing comes to an end.

The Winter in the Southern Hemisphere was a good one. Not everywhere, but in most places, we faced great snow and good racing conditions.

We are here all together to be ready for the forthcoming race seasons and we have two exciting highlights with the World Championships 2025 in Saalbach (AUT) and the Olympic Winter Games 2026 in Milano Cortina (ITA). We will listen to the report soon.

Before we go into the different reports of the Sub-Committees, I would like to underline I've attended almost all meetings, and I saw full commitment of the members.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for your great work here in Zürich and during the season.

The next winter is starting soon, and we are looking forward for a great and enthusiastic sport at all levels, over the whole world.

At the end of all reports Massimo Rinaldi (ITA) thanks all Chairs of the various Sub-Committees, the FIS Staff for their work and continuous support.

6. Executive Board (Massimo Rinaldi, ITA)

The Executive Board met twice this week. The agenda was not as busy as it was during the Spring Meeting, however we had a good discussion after the presentation of the

task and ongoing project of the Athletes Health Unit, we knew every concern we have, like an injury, we shall react promptly, and our task is than to propose new rule and make it mandatory.

We approach some new project for the TV graphics in a way to make our sport more attractive

The board approved the request for an exception proposed by Janne Leskinen (FIN) for the injury status of a young female athlete.

We established a working group inside the board to discuss or approach some details useful for the Ethic Commission. We are going to meet online within the next two weeks.

The proposed members will be Karin Stolt Halvarsson (SWE), Janne Leskinen (FIN), Eric Guay (CAN) together with the Chair of the Alpine Committee, Massimo Rinaldi (ITA).

The Executive Board strongly suggest that the FIS Council request the IOC to re-install the Mixed Team Parallel for the Olympic Winter Games 2030 and have the same number of events as in Beijing 2022.

Thanks again to all Executive Board members, I am very proud to lead this Board!

7. Evaluation

7.1 Timing Working Group (Daniel Défago, FIS)

Daniel Défago reported briefly on behalf of the Working Group.

We published a new version of the Timing Booklet with minor changes.

2 new timing devices from Microgate are homologated and one from Seiko is under way.

The timing device companies will experiment with timing tapes digitalization implementation.

7.2 Classification of Alpine Competitors (Jeff Weinman, USA)

Jeff Weinman (USA) noted that his Sub-Committee had spent time reviewing the Special Quotas that have been submitted prior to the meeting and reminded NSAs that requests must be approved at least 10 days prior to the first Team Captains' Meeting.

There were at present no proposals however potential changes to the calculation of the Points List were discussed. The changes instituted a few years ago have created a large group of competitors at the 23-point level. A working group will be formed to review and discuss potential changes to the calculations.

The Chairman remarked that when reviewing this point, he believed that projections covering the next two/three years should be analysed as it was important to see what any change might do in coming years.

8. Alpine Courses (Elena Gaja des Ambrois, ITA)

The Chair was excused, and a written report was read.

Alpine Courses met on Tuesday 25th September with 9 out of 15 members present or represented, together with some inspectors.

Since the previous meeting in Portoroz (SLO), 58 reports were received and related Homologation Certificates issued; now there are still 333 requests for homologation or re-homologation in the system: the list has been shown and amended, reporting all the assignments to be taken care of during the forthcoming few weeks before the winter season.

The core of the meeting was dedicated to the analysis of a first draft of the new "online form" that will allow the digital upload of the Homologation data and documents: the plan is to implement a test version to be used during next winter to have a final version

to work with for the next spring/summer. I thank once again the FIS IT department for their excellent cooperation in this project

9 Alpine Rules (Arno Heikkala, FIN)

The Chair welcomed the new Chair of the Sub-Committee for Alpine Rules, Arno Heikkala (FIN), who then introduced himself to members. He outlined his professional and sporting backgrounds and that he is honoured to take on this new and demanding position. He noted that Alpine Rules is primarily a technical matter and that he sees himself therefore as a technical person. He has already worked with the new vice-chair of Alpine Rules and welcomed four new members Jan Fielder (CZE), Jean Francois Rapatel (CAN), Paul van Slyke (USA) and Hiroshi Sawano (JPN) to that Sub-Committee. As the Sub-Committee embarked on a new chapter under new leadership, the newly appointed Vice Chair, Mrs. Alexandra Zemsauer (AUT), introduced herself and expressed her enthusiasm for her new role.

In my capacity as Chair, I noted that the collaboration between myself and my vice-chair has been excellent from the outset. We share a common vision and values for the Sub-Committee's work, which is strengthened by our shared experience as active Technical Delegates. There are currently no real concerns, and a small working group will be established to look at several proposals about Quota changes. There was some consideration given to the matter of Inspections, how often and in what manner, and support for a proposal regarding the nationality of the Chief of Race, however here the Sub-Committee wished to change a word, "must" to "should be". The new Chair noted that there was much to grasp about this new role, and he was grateful for all the support that he had enjoyed.

ICR –rules discussions and outlook

During the "ICR—Rules Discussions and Outlook" segment, the Sub-Committee addressed three proposals from Kyriacos Kyriacou (CYP) that focused primarily on language rather than technical rule changes. The discussion then broadened to encompass the overall state of the ICR and the Sub-Committee consensus was that the ICR's wording and clarity regarding conflicts between different rules are generally sound.

However, it was suggested that a review of the ICR 600 section might be beneficial. A small working group, including at least one native English speaker, could be formed to undertake this review. The Sub-Committee has a history of utilizing such working groups as 'development groups' prior to the spring meeting. I would be happy to lead this group if the opportunity arises.

Under the 'Miscellaneous' section, three brief topics were discussed:

Wim Rossel (FIS, EC Men Coordinator) proposed the concept of an 'no edge change' during athlete inspections. The question raised was how to minimize unnecessary wear on the slope during course inspections. He suggested that while a strict 'no edge change' rule might be difficult to enforce he believed that educating coaches and athletes about proper inspection techniques could help preserve the snow for the race. Jana Palovicova (SVK) expressed gratitude to Michael Huber (AUT) on behalf of all Sub-Committee members for his contributions to the Sub-Committee.

I informed members that I would be attaching a Google Forms questionnaire to the meeting minutes. This questionnaire will collect information on the Sub-Committee members' backgrounds in alpine skiing, their motivations for serving on the Alpine Rules Sub-Committee, and their ideas for improving the rules and the Sub-Committee 's work. The results of this questionnaire will assist us in planning our future direction for the Sub-Committee.

The following proposal was presented to the Alpine Committee for approval:

ICR 601.4.2.4

The Chief of Race <u>must-should</u> belong to the organising National Ski Association.

Proposal was supported by the Alpine Committee

10. Alpine Technical Delegates (Markus Malsiner, ITA)

Markus Malsiner (ITA) reported on a visit by Cornelia Blank, (FIS, Education Manager) who noted that a common education system will come into force. There was a brief discussion on a new tool that will permit a generated Times report to be attached to the official TD Report. In summer two TD Updates were held in the S. Hemisphere. Based on a request by Council nominations for Jury were adjusted for both OWG 2026 and the WSC 2027; these names are now available.

The new TD Exam document was briefly discussed; there were few changes, and the new document will be circulated shortly.

Commissioners are facing challenges in recruiting new TD candidates in order to achieve the gender balance as requested by the FIS Council for the period 26/28, reaching 60/40%. It is an important matter for the Sub-Committee as the subject comes from the IOC.

The Chair noted that the TD holds a very important role in alpine ski racing and welcomed the attention to detail.

11. Alpine World Cup (Walter Vogel, GER)

The meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Alpine World Cup focussed on Calendar planning. The men's and women's Calendars for 2024/2025 were confirmed and the events in Semmering (AUT) and Sun Valley (USA) will be finalised in time for the start of the season.

The Chair is pleased with the changes at the start of the season and the measures taken (no double events, no three speed weekends in a row and a few more), with which the Sub-Committee is reacting to the discussions about overloading racers, injuries and cancelled competitions.

The drafts of the mid-term Calendars for 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 were shown. Some adjustments will probably be necessary before finalisation.

The Chair provided information on the wildcard process for the World Cup, which is still ongoing between the athletes' representatives and the FIS Executive Board. The athletes' representatives can submit proposals directly to FIS Council. The finalised regulations can be found in the update of the World Cup rules.

The Sub-Committee has unanimously decided to clarify Article 4.2.1. of the World Cup rules regarding the no-show regulation and will forward this proposal to the Alpine Committee.

4.1.2 Arrival/Departure

The Organiser only has to pay for the accommodation and full board according to the World Cup rules.

Only if an earlier arrival date is requested by the team leader according to art. 4.4, an agreement may be made with the Organiser regarding the duration. In any case the above-mentioned precisions cannot be extended. Additional costs due to an early arrival or a late departure have to be paid by the teams.

In case of late arrival or early departure there is no right of compensation. In necessary cases, the Chief Race Directors can decide special agreements.

Late arrivals, early departures of athletes (according 3.3 – 3.5) and officials (according 4.2) can't <u>not</u> be charged <u>if</u> to the Teams <u>inform the Organiser</u> in written form latest 2 days (48 hours) before the official arrival day (which

are published on the FIS Website) of teams to hotel, or 2 days (48 hours) before departure from hotel. during the duration of payment of expenses (according 4.1.2) if announced within 2 days to the LOC.

Actual no shows will be charged to the team.

Upon request of a Team Captain the Organiser (or Hotel) must hand over a corresponding confirmation after regular settlement is made. The confirmation is valid for the group of persons registered trough the FIS online system.

Proposal was supported by the Alpine Committee

11.1 Working Group Coaches Women (Paul Kristofic, USA)

Peter Gerdol (FIS) reported on behalf of the Working Group Coaches

At the meeting almost all head coaches were present and reported on summer activities, the 24/25 Calendar was reviewed.

The Organisers present were able to pass on first information. FIS Travel Office was also present and able to discuss travel arrangements as well as transfer of equipment from the last event to the Finals.

There were some interesting reports, one on Fluor, and there was an open and free discussion on World Cup Rules.

Course Setters and Connection Coaches for the season were defined and some organisational aspects were discussed.

11.2 Working Group Coaches Men (Thomas Stauffer, SUI)

Markus Waldner (FIS) reported on behalf of the Working Group Coaches Men. He noted that it was a successful meeting with Thomas Stauffer (SUI) confirmed as the Chair and with Christian Schwaiger as the Vice Chair.

The agenda was similar to the Women Working Group and he noted that it was important that Organisers can connect and discuss common issues, accommodation etc.

There was a short presentation of the World Cup Finals at Sun Valley (USA).

12. Intercontinental Cup

12.1 European Cup (Herbert Mandl AUT)

A short report on the meeting where good Calendars for the 24/25 season were presented. The European Cup is still struggling with some issues, one is improving media interest. Many Organisers still experience sponsorship difficulties on the speed side and the Cup is extremely grateful to those World Cup Organisers that step in to provide speed events. Organising speed events continues to be difficult as there is often a conflict between resort use of a slope and Europa Cup use. The Chair was grateful to new Organisers, Kitzbuhel (AUT) and Wengen (SUI) as well as Kvitfjell (NOR) and hoped for their continued support. The Chair believed that for the future it will be challenging to identify speed event Organisers. The Sub-Committee discussed ways of making European Cup more attractive and how to better prepare athletes for the transition from European Cup to World Cup events. He felt that the group was always striving for high standards and had reached a good level already.

The Chair noted that it was challenging to find sponsors and welcomed the continued efforts of the Europa Cup Coordinators in improving standards.

12.2 Nor-Am Cup (Chip Knight, USA)

The Chair was excused, and a short report was given by Jeff Weinman (USA). The group met a few weeks ago and the Calendar for this season was finalised.

There has been work on Injury Protection for athletes and the proposed rule should clarify this matter. He was most grateful for the advice and support that Janez Fleré (FIS) gave during consultations

The NAC Sub-Committee proposed the following change to actual Continental Cup rules:

NAC. 3.1.1 Validity of Cup points

The final NASL (NorAm Starting List) is used with a validity defined in art. 3.1.4. in the next season. This will be the ranking valid for the first race. The Cup points achieved from the first race onwards in each event will be added to remaining NASL points from the past season. If a competitor has not started in any race during the period from October 15th to April 15th due to injury, the National Ski Association may apply for the approval of a status as injured in the NASL for the upcoming season; the application to be submitted by 30th April latest. If the status as injured is approved, the competitor will be added in the NASL of the respective event(s) for the coming season (in the final position achieved in the previous season). If a competitor's status as injured is approved according to Rules for the FIS Alpine Points 4.6.1 and 4.6.1.1 and the injury dates to a point in the season when article NAC 3.1.4 and the Basic List (NASL) was still valid, the competitor will be added to the NASL of the respective event(s) for the coming season in the position occupied at the date of the injury.

Proposal was supported by the Alpine Committee

12.3 Far East Cup (Hiroshi Sawano, JPN)

A short report was given by one of the FEC members since a new Chair will be nominated during the next FIS Council meeting.

Kind words and gratitude expressed to the Former Chair of the Far East Cup Sub-Committee, now retired, Michihiko Nakamura (JPN).

12.4 South American Cup (Martin Begino, ARG)

The Chair was excused, and short report was given by Stefano Pirola (CHI) A lot of snow brought an early start of the winter season, more good weather than bad weather, amazing races, lot of teams present, athletes from more than 35 countries, this is the general picture of the 2024 SAC season, that has not yet finished because the Speed Finals for the SAC in Corralco (CHI), are still being carried out.

At the current time 38 races in all events: 2 GS, 10 SL, 8 DH and 8 SG, have already been carried out to date, among 63 more events as FIS, NC and NJC races, allowing also a big participation for young racers from all over the world. Regarding the organisation of our events, big improvements were done in ARG and CHI in terms of improving the athletes' experience during the races including catering and live timing with screens at the Start and prize-giving events with local food at the end of the series.

Fluor Control was carried out during the SAC Speed Events in La Parva (CHI) by Augusto Giglio (FIS) and Sue Schwartz (FIS). This went very well and gave the opportunity to all coaches and racers to get to know the process and be prepared for the future.

The excellent conditions that we had this season allowed high level training for all the Teams from the Northern Hemisphere, especially World Cup Teams, but also for Ski Clubs, Ski Academys, etc. with places like La Parva, El Colorado, Valle Nevado and Corralco in Chile and Cerro Castor and Perito Moreno in

Argentina, full of teams and small nations that seek points for Olympic Qualification.

At the end of this report, I would like to thank the NSA of Argentina and Chile and to the Organisers for their big contribution to the development of our sports in our Region and last but not least, to all the staff at the FIS Office, specially Janez Fleré (FIS), for their constant support

12.5 Australia / New Zealand Cup (Jono Howson, NZL)

Jordi Pujol (FIS), the FIS Continental Coordinator gave a report on behalf of the ANC Sub-Committee. Unlike South America there were very poor conditions and in AUS all events were cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. In NZL it was not much better, very warm conditions leading to many events being cancelled. They did manage to run four SL and one GS. Trying to establish a Calendar for next season with more events and hopefully a contingent of speed events.

13. Youth Questions (Stefan Johnsen Havnelid, NOR)

Jordi Pujol (FIS) raised several points that were discussed in the meeting, and he excused the Chair of the Youth & Children's Sub-Committee, Stefan Johnsen Havnelid (NOR).

The proposal to limit the number of starts for U18 competitors presented in Portoroz (SLO) last May by the Youth & Children's Sub-Committee, was rejected by FIS Council. It was agreed to establish a Working Group together with AHU and SRS to study more closely injuries in young athletes.

There is a good Calendar for the coming winter for U14-16 and good proposals for Organisers for future events.

The last point to mention was the speed clinic organised in Val Gardena (ITA) next December for women U18 (born 2007 / 2008).

Tarvisio (ITA) as the organiser of the next Alpine World Junior Championships showed a short video confirming that they are ready to start.

13.1 FIS Alpine Junior World Ski Championships (Jordi Pujol, FIS)

Jordi Pujol (FIS) reported that the organiser for the 2026 Alpine World Junior Championships is still not confirmed, and some NSA showed interest to organise the event in 2027 and 2028. More details will be given at the Spring meeting in May 2025.

14. Equipment (Massimo Rinaldi, ITA)

We met last Wednesday 26th September with the representatives of all FIS disciplines, and there were many guests present as well.

Information was given regarding the mandatory use of the airbag for the speed events in World Cup competitions from this season.

Also discussed was the recommendation to use the cut resistant undergarment for the legs with level 3* as the minimum standard. We were informed that more and more producers are finalizing the product fulfilling the 4* FIS requirements

Some athletes are using carbon socks or carbon shin pads and thanks to the support and the ongoing project of the AHU we will soon have more answers and information just to define the limit where the use could be an advantage or improvement of performance and on the other side thanks to the support and remarks from the Medical Committee we know that the use of socks or pads can reduce the pain after injury such as broken bones or inflammations of the shin. More information in regard to this issue will be given at the Spring meeting.

15. Athletes' Commission (Verena Stuffer, ITA-Leif Kristian Nestvold Haugen, NOR) Calendar Planning

The confirmed Calendars for the forthcoming season 2024-25 have been significantly influenced by athletes' input, and there is satisfaction with being involved and heard. No more double events or replacements for classic events. Reduced evening programmes are welcomed by the athletes. The balance between tech and speed races both on men and women's side is still a wish from the athletes. Exploration of alternatives to evening events at venues, such as prize-giving ceremonies, bib draws and meet-and-greet sessions without unnecessarily exhausting the athletes.

Fixed replacements for cancelled races make it easier to programme, so well appreciated.

Safety Measures

Positive dialogue with the athletes' health unit (AHU) was noted, recognizing the importance of their work and data collection in determining the necessity and timing of safety measures.

Broadcasting Improvements

Satisfaction was expressed with the improved and engaging broadcasting features with the introduction of "team radio" and onboard camera during some events. There is the desire to continue this path to further development.

Wishing the athletes all the best for the forthcoming season, the Athletes' Commissions thank all the stakeholders for their job.

16. Reports from Organisers of the previous and next major Championships:

There followed a series of short presentations by representatives of the venues briefing Committee members on the final reports or current states of preparation.

- 16.1. 2025 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Saalbach Hinterglemm (AUT)
- 16.2. 2026 Olympic Winter Games, Milano-Cortina (ITA)
- 16.3. 2027 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Crans Montana (SUI)
- 16.4 2031 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Val Gardena (ITA)

17. Questions, Various

The Chairman thanked all Committee and Sub-Committee members, Working Groups and the Executive Board for the hard work carried out during this week and wished all the best for the next winter season.

For more details regarding all Sub-Committee meetings see www.fis-ski.com under Members Section.

18. Next Meetings

The FIS Autumn Meeting will be held between 05th and 09th May 2025, in Vilamoura (POR).

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 16.00hrs

For the Minutes, Martin Leach (GBR) & Janez Fleré (FIS) Read and approved by Massimo Rinaldi (ITA), Chair of the Alpine Committee