

To the

- Members of the Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup
- Peter Gerdol, Chief Race Director World Cup Women
- Markus Waldner, Chief Race Director World Cup Men
- Alberto Senigagliales, Race Director World Cup Women Speed Events
- Markus Mayr, Race Director World Cup Women Technical Events
- Hannes Trinkl, Race Director World Cup Men Speed Events
- Raimund Plancker, Assistant Race Director Men Speed Events
- Janez Hladnik, Race Director World Cup Men Technical Events
- Emmanuel Couder, Alpine Operational Event Coordinator

For information to:

- Johan Eliasch, FIS President
- Michel Vion, FIS Secretary General
- Urs Lehmann, FIS CEO
- Massimo Rinaldi, Chairman Alpine Committee
- Bruno Sassi, FIS Communications Director
- Stefan Brüttsch, Commercial & Partnerships Director
- Sandra Spitz, FIS Sport & Event Director
- Janez Fleré, FIS Alpine Technical and Administrative Coordinator

Oberhofen 18.05.2026

Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Alpine World Cup, Thursday, 07.05.2026, held in Portoroz (SLO).

Dear Ski friends,

we are pleased to send you the minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Alpine World Cup, which was held on 7.05.2026.

We kindly ask that you to send any remarks to the FIS Alpine Office in Oberhofen by the **29.05.2026** (luessy@fisski.com).

We would also like to take the opportunity to inform 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,



Janne Leskinen
Chair Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup

INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION
Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup

Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup
Thursday, 07.05.2026

All proposals and decisions of the Sub-Committee are subject to the confirmation of the Alpine Committee and to the approval of FIS Council in June 2026

AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting

The Chair of the Sub-Committee Janne Leskinen (FIN) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Roll-call

Janez Fleré (FIS) made the Roll-call (see enclosure).

3. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved. The proposal regarding item 6.1 was withdrawn and will be presented at a later date.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held in Zürich (SUI) on 26.09.2025

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

5. Reports

a) from the Chair Janne Leskinen

Chair Janne Leskinen (FIN) began by extending his gratitude, particularly to the Race Directors and FIS office staff for their efforts, as well as all the organisers and SRS for a successful season. Janne Leskinen extended congratulations to the globe winners and commended Franjo von Allmen (SUI) for his remarkable success at the Olympics. He indicated that further discussions regarding athlete safety would follow, with an emphasis on the AHU report that would provide a comprehensive view of the improvements made in this area.

He proceeded to update on two important decisions that had been made between the meetings: the retroactive implementation of injury status for the current season, and the approval of the December/January calendar. He emphasized the need for long-term agreements with organisers to enhance stability, particularly surrounding financial aspects such as prize money. One pressing concern discussed was the request from the Ski Federation Netherland regarding the Wild Card and additional starts for Marcel Hirscher, which had not received support from the Executive Board.

b) from Markus Waldner, Chief Race Director World Cup Men

Markus Waldner (FIS) followed with a detailed report assessing the season for men's events. He noted that there were 38 races scheduled, with only two cancellations. He stressed the concept of flexibility, which has proven essential in adapting to varying conditions across the circuit. While some locations faced strong winds, others dealt with unseasonably warm temperatures, such as Levi (FIN), Copper Mountain (USA), and Beaver Creek (USA). He commended Copper Mountain and Beaver Creek's efforts to maintain successful race conditions and

highlighted Beaver Creek's investment in snowmaking and cooling systems to ensure consistency.

The calendar ran smoothly leading up to Christmas, with Livigno (ITA) successfully stepping in as a host instead of Bormio (ITA). A successful test event took place in Crans Montana (SUI) in preparation for the 2027 World Ski Championships, although flexibility will be needed due to potential weather issues.

Reflecting on the Olympics, Markus mentioned logistical challenges but praised the high-quality races delivered, despite some athletes expressing a lack of the traditional Olympic atmosphere. He noted that warmer temperatures required snow manipulation in four races after the Olympics, illustrating the need for adaptation due to global warming.

He also reported a significant reduction in injuries this season, with fewer than 10 injuries among the top 60 WCSL athletes, attributing this success to strategic collaboration, improved safety measures, and enhanced snow preparation. He reiterated the importance of investing in the Europa Cup to develop future talent.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) sought clarification on the Europa Cup strategy and the development of a "second league." It was clarified that this is a long-term project requiring support from World Cup LOCs, with discussions ongoing regarding a unified points system. A stronger platform is needed before making structural changes.

Urs Lehmann (FIS) mentioned that a holistic approach is in progress, but World Cup start numbers cannot be reduced until the second league is strengthened. He stressed the increasing importance of the commercial side in enhancing the sport's value. Patrick Lang concluded by emphasizing the necessity of sponsorship and financial support for the Europa Cup organisers.

c) from Peter Gerdol, Chief Race Director World Cup Women

Peter Gerdol (FIS) reported the successful completion of all 37 races scheduled for the women's season, highlighting generally favourable snow and temperature conditions. He noted warmer days in Colorado (USA) and ideal weather in Quebec (CAN). Although two races Zauchensee (AUT) Super G and Crans Montana (SUI) Downhill) were cancelled, they were successfully held at replacement venues in March: Soldeu/El Tarter (AND) and Val di Fassa (ITA).

The season started with four joint race weekends with the men in Sölden (AUT), Levi (FIN), Gurgl (AUT), and Copper Mountain (USA). Despite some challenges in Levi, the events were successful, with a notable weekend in Tremblant (CAN). December saw generally favourable conditions and excellent performances, including several strong races.

Semmering (AUT) presented significant challenges, but subsequent races were conducted under improved conditions. Tarvisio (ITA) made a successful return to the calendar after 15 years, replacing Cortina (ITA), which was preparing for the Olympics. Successful events were also held in Kronplatz (ITA) and Špindleruv Mlýn (CZE).

Crans Montana (SUI) was important for the preparations for the 2027 World Championships. Despite difficult conditions for the downhill, cooperation among all parties was constructive.

Discussing the Olympics, Peter noted that the event's spirit remained strong in Cortina due to the presence of athletes competing in other sports. The performance of the LOC in Cortina was outstanding, thanks to the long experience of a proven organiser.

Season highlights included Mikaela Shiffrin (USA) winning nine slalom races, the unexpected Downhill victories from Laura Pirovano (ITA), Sofia Goggia's (ITA) success in Super G and Julia Scheib's (AUT) in Giant slalom. Emma Aicher (GER) competed closely against Shiffrin for the Overall Globe until the last run of the last slalom race. Lindsey Vonn (USA) also delivered several strong performances before suffering an unfortunate injury at the Olympics.

The season saw a lower number of injuries compared to previous years, although significant injuries still occurred, mostly during training. The Steering Committee worked on equipment and course preparation to enhance safety, with further details to be shared later.

Gerdol emphasized the importance of cooperation among organizers, volunteers, teams, and National Ski Associations, along with the support from TV partners, SRS, Longines, and the FIS team in delivering high-quality races.

d) from Stefan Brüttsch, Commercial & Partnerships Director

Andi Marugg (FIS), who presented on behalf of Stefan Brüttsch (FIS) and the commercial team, offered updates on partnerships, particularly with longstanding sponsors like Audi and Longines, ensuring their commitment to a further Olympic cycle. He pointed out stable media engagement metrics, reporting positive growth particularly in Germany linked to the performances of rising star Emma Aicher (GER).

In addition to traditional media, Andi Marugg highlighted the strong growth in social media engagement, noting that the reach had expanded to 1.6 billion during the Olympic season – a notable achievement given the challenges of content creation during this time. This increase in social media followers and interactions underscores the relevance of digital platforms in amplifying the presence of the Alpine World Cup. Jeremy Thum was introduced as the new Digital & Innovation Director, succeeding Benjamin Stoll.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) pointed out the lack of TV figures from markets such as Scandinavia, USA, Japan and China. In response, Urs Lehmann (FIS) indicated that there are ongoing efforts to address this underdeveloped market in the US, highlighting collaborative work between U.S. Ski, Infront, and FIS to improve the situation. Recognizing the challenges, efforts are being intensified to enhance visibility and engagement in these key international markets.

Andi Marugg acknowledged challenges in improving viewing figures in additional markets like Japan and China, leading to discussions about strategies to enhance visibility and promotion within these regions. He emphasized the need for active

collaboration with media partners and explored opportunities to leverage social media further in promotional efforts.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) then expressed that it was a good sign with Audi as a long-term partner; however, he also mentioned the limited promotion of the World Cup in Alpine skiing by the brand. In reply, Urs Lehmann (FIS) noted that following the long contracting process, there is now more space to promote events, allowing the commercial team greater opportunities to push for activations and promotional efforts.

e) from Athletes' Commission

The Athletes' Commission representative, AJ Ginnis, expressed gratitude for the new injury status rule, highlighting its significance for athletes' well-being. He also touched on ongoing challenges with the calendar, reiterating the need to make the scheduling process more accommodating for athletes and acknowledging that some adjustments had already been made.

6. Rules season 2026/27

6.1 Club 5 Proposal_Art. 4.3.2 Service Personnel

Was postponed for future developments.

6.2 NSA ESP, Quota Periods

The proposed rule from the Spanish National Ski Association was dismissed due to a lack of consensus from the Executive Board and not to be handled in the Sub-Committee.

6.3 FIS Communication, Media Obligations

Emmanuel Couder (FIS) presented the proposed rule that outlines the operational aspects related to participation in media operations, establishing obligations that are integral to product development. It was noted that violations of the rule will incur sanctions; however, prior warnings will be issued before any sanctions are enforced.

To support stakeholders, a reference for the product needs to be established as an administrative step. The objective is to create a foundation today that will protect future developments, reflecting insights gained from the last season. There is a recognized need for more structure, as the current proposal lacks sufficient details.

During the discussion, the rule was officially presented. Athlete representative AJ Ginnis voiced opposition to the rule, leading to a vote on the proposed media obligations. The vote was conducted, and the rule ultimately passed, despite some dissent and a few abstentions.

The Sub-Committee approved the proposal.

Update on World Feed and projects (FIS – Emmanuel Couder)

Team Radio

The Team Radio project saw a successful implementation and good collaboration in the US with NBC, with the next step being a business model for a proper development in the domestic territory.

TV Graphics

A significant development in TV graphics involved the successful integration of augmented reality to enhance viewer engagement without causing distractions during broadcasts. More projects on providing a more immersive broadcasting and ghosting are being tested and improved.

Alpine Data

For Alpine Data, the upcoming season will feature improved flexibility in evaluating mistake gaps and critical sections, leveraging a full season of robust data. GPS-based calculations will also be introduced in speed events, allowing for detailed performance displays across critical segments of the courses.

Lastly, the audience was reminded that the annual TV workshop is scheduled in mid-May that will serve as a platform for a detailed debrief of the past season, incorporating documentation, surveys, and discussions on graphics renewal and operational procedures. Stakeholders are encouraged to participate and address specific topics for ongoing product development.

7. Calendars 2026/27

The calendars for the 2026/27 seasons were presented.

Men's Calendar

The men's calendar begins with the traditional opening block of Sölden (AUT), Levi (FIN), and Gurgl (AUT), which remains unchanged for the season.

In North America, Copper Mountain (USA) will host one Super G and one Giant Slalom race. Beaver Creek (USA) is set to hold four races: two Downhills, one Super G, and one Giant Slalom. There are ongoing discussions regarding the potential return of Lake Louise (CAN) for future speed races.

Additional updates include:

- Alta Badia (ITA) has installed floodlight for a men's night slalom event.
- Bormio (ITA) will return to the calendar during the Christmas period.
- Åre (SWE) has been added to the men's calendar before the Finals, while Kranjska Gora (SLO) has been moved to early January.
- Saalbach (AUT) returns at the end of February.

Finals: Sun Valley (USA) is designated to host the 2026/27 World Cup Finals with the same program that was used at the finals 2025.

Official Replacement Venues: Val Gardena (ITA) as speed venue before Christmas, Kvitfjell (NOR) for speed races cancelled after Christmas.

Patrick Lang (AUT) raised the question of whether Beaver Creek (USA) hosting four races was per skier recommendations. Markus Waldner (FIS) clarified that while this is not ideal and not what was previously agreed upon regarding the guidelines, double events are more manageable early in the season.

Women's calendar

The women's calendar also starts with the traditional opening block of Sölden (AUT), Levi (FIN), and Gurgl (AUT). For the North American leg, Killington (USA) returns after

missing last season due to infrastructure upgrades. Tremblant (CAN) retains its traditional Giant Slalom double-header, and Beaver Creek (USA) will feature two Downhills and one Super G after a two-year absence.

Key updates:

- Cortina (ITA) returns to the women's calendar in January, featuring two Downhills and one Super G.
- Soldeu (AND) will replace Åre (SWE) for women's technical races in early March.
- Gosau (AUT) replaces Lienz (AUT), marking its first World Cup appearance.
- Flachau (AUT) has installed new floodlight adding a Giant Slalom night race.
- Jasná (SVK) and Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER) to the women's calendar.
- St. Moritz (SUI) will host two Super G events and one Giant Slalom.
- Lenzerheide (SUI) will host two Super G events
- Narvik (NOR) remains on the calendar, with ongoing considerations for infrastructure work and logistical arrangements ahead of the 2029 World Championships.

Official Replacement Venues: Narvik (NOR) has been designated as the official replacement for women's speed races. Decision-making regarding open dates for the women's calendar – specifically the French December event between Méribel (FRA) and Courchevel (FRA) and the January 9th-10th slot - is pending.

Rudi Huber (SRS) inquired about the logistics involved in traveling from Narvik (NOR) to Sun Valley (USA) for the World Cup Finals. In response, Peter Gerdol (FIS) indicated that the involved parties, including the NSA (National Ski Association), LOC (Local Organizing Committee), and FIS Travel, are currently evaluating travel options. The first training session for the finals is scheduled for Thursday, which provides adequate time for athletes and their equipment to arrive in Sun Valley from Narvik.

The calendars are still subject to approval of the FIS council.

8. Report Club 5 – Key Operational challenges faced by Organisers

Rainer Senoner (Club 5) presented the letter. The reason for the proposed letter by Club 5 was of informative nature to highlight about problems faced by stakeholders, especially LOCs.

Key problems identified:

- Travel money: to use in more fair way; proposal to find what can be changed. Committee will meet and present a proposal in September.
- Accommodation
- Accreditation

Rainer Senoner's suggestion to find out in the next months what possible suggestions for solutions and changes of rules would be helpful. Club 5 will work a package of proposals in the next months.

9. Report on safety of the athletes (AHU)

Michael Lasshofer (FIS-AHU) led a discussion on the ongoing safety initiatives for athletes. The focus on safety enhancements included the introduction of smart bindings and equipment compliance processes aimed at reducing risks during competition. The committee recognized the necessity of continuous improvement in safety standards as a critical focus area.

Rudi Huber (SRS) raised one concern regarding athlete safety, noting that the weight of skis has not changed in the last ten years. He explained that heavier skis are necessary for managing the forces and resistance encountered during competitions. Rudi did not agree to decrease the weight of skis, and it was decided instead to freeze the current ski weight regulations. This matter will be discussed further in specific FIS Committees that are not solely focused on the Alpine World Cup.

10. Miscellaneous

10.1 Accepting SRS as a voting member

The Sub-Committee briefly discussed the acceptance of SRS as a voting member, recognizing the vital role of equipment in ensuring the efficacy of the competition ecosystem.

The Sub-Committee approved the proposal to add SRS as a voting member.

10.2 Clarification about the role of the Sub-Committee in the future

This part was moved earlier in the meeting, after the athletes' commission update.

The Sub-Committee has been responsible for overseeing all World Cup-specific rules, matters, corporate relationships, and calendars. Requests for the future calendars have been addressed collaboratively by the committee members. Additionally, an Executive Media Board structure has been established to enhance product development.

Urs Lehmann (FIS) stated that the way of working will slightly change, with a shift towards centralization aimed at increasing the value of the product. As a consequence, Media Rights Centralization Agreements (MRCAs) will include minimum guarantees for races. FIS will take on more responsibility – not only in technical support but also in commercial support by implementing a Media Rights Executive Board to oversee engagements and ensure respect for the sport while enhancing its value. In terms of decision making, FIS management will assume a more coordinating role. The transition in the 2026/27 season will focus on fulfilling all MRCA requirements, and after that implementation, all standards will be met. Decisions regarding these changes will be coordinated among all stakeholders.

Rainer Senoner (Club5) emphasized the importance of taking the time to explain matters in person to the organizers and their teams. He noted the necessity for personal contact through meetings once or twice a year and requested a solution to allocate time for this interaction.

Urs Lehmann (FIS) acknowledged the need for such contact. He expressed his understanding that collaboration is essential and that it is important to dedicate time to sitting down with members to discuss issues and build trust in the leadership.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) inquired about the open role of the Alpine Director, to which Urs Lehmann (FIS) provided an update and explanation. The new role will be responsible for overseeing the big picture of the alpine events at all levels, extending beyond the World Cup framework.

11. Next meeting, 29.09.-02.10.2026 in Geneva (SUI)

12. Closing of the meeting