

To the

- Members of the Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses
- Alpine Courses Inspectors

For information to:

- FIS Alpine Race Directors
- European Cup Coordinators
- FIS Management
- Daniel Defago, IT Manager

Oberhofen, 28th October 2022

**Minutes Meeting Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses in Zurich (SUI)
Wednesday, 29.09.2022, 10:00 – 12:00 hrs**

Dear Ski Friends,

We have pleasure sending you today the Minutes of the Meeting of the Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses held in Zurich on 29th September 2022.

You are kindly asked to send any remarks to the FIS Office in Oberhofen until **30th November 2022** (aschhoff@fis-ski.com).

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 and good luck for the upcoming winter!

Kind regards,

INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION



Chair Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses

Enclosures:

- Presence List
- Updated Homologation Requests list as of 26.10.2022

INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION

Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses

Minutes Meeting Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses Thursday, 29.09.2022, 10:00 – 12:00 hrs

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting

Elena Gaja (EG) welcomes all members, inspectors and guests and opens the 114th meeting of the S.C. Alpine Courses at 10:00h.

A hearty welcome to Race Directors with a special introduction of Alberto Senigagliaesi (ITA) who took over from Jean-Philippe Vulliet (FRA) as Race Director Speed events on Women side. Elena is happy to see everybody in person again.

2. Members present

The roll is called, list of excused members was received, see enclosed list of presence. Elena announces two retirements: Jordi Carbonell (ESP) and Nils Dregelid (NOR) and thanks them for their commitment over the past years.

3. Approval of the agenda

The Agenda was sent out by email on September 1st and everybody received it. The Agenda is unanimously approved.

4. Approval of the minutes of the 113th meeting in spring, 11.05.2022

Minutes were sent out on June 9th 2022. No remarks have been received nor done during the meeting. The Minutes are unanimously approved.

5. Reports

FIS Race Directors

Hannes Trinkl:

Hannes Trinkl is the first Race Director to report due to overlapping meeting. The new challenge are speed races on the glacier in Zermatt/Cervinia, as much more space than usual is needed. Moreover, A-nets cannot be installed due to strong wind and there are lots of rocks on the sides. Hannes and his team are working with a new system with many rows of Bnets in multiple series, but it remains a challenge for everybody. In general, Organizers try to improve their security every year. A recent example are A-nets at Mausefalle (Kitzbühl) that have been improved.

Chair

Elena reports a very quiet summer with only 55 certificates issued since the spring meeting; there are still over 400 pending requests currently in the FIS DB, for which she's waiting the papers: only half of these requests were presented in 2022 so she thinks that a good cleaning up should be done by the inspectors; each request older than 5 years will be deleted by end of the year.

No other major issues, unless still many reports not in English: Elena reminds, as everybody know, that since last October all FIS documents must be in English as per the new FIS statutes, therefore to those who were asking how to behave, she suggested to leave the local language too, while adding the translated mandatory English version; this way the local Organizers are supported and the FIS rule is respected. This is the more and more valid and especially suggested if the local language is not a FIS language. From 2023 this rule will be strictly respected. She thanks everyone for the cooperation!

It has been discussed within FIS the restructuring of the Sub-committees and committees. FIS Management explained in a conference call end of August that some (sub-) committees became too crowded and inefficient. Therefore, the restructuring is

necessary although this regards only a few committees. The main idea is to introduce an Executive Board of 10 people in order to take care about the daily administration. This proposal is not specifically addressed to the S.C. for Alpine Courses as it has only 15 members and so far there were no major issues. The restructuring process is outset for the moment and FIS Management will get back to committees soon. No questions or remarks.

FIS Race Directors

Alberto Senigagliales:

Happy to have met all WC organizers during the summer, still very motivated despite the difficult situation and raising costs, good maintenance of the world cup competition courses with brushing and trees cutting, he looks forward for a good racing season.

5.3 Continental Cups Coordinators

The Continental Cup Coordinators are excused. Elena reports that there were no major issues during the summer inspections.

6. Exceptions' requests

6.1 Exception information: concerning an exception for the World Cup Super-G in Wengen (SUI), start will be at the AC Start so +88m of Vertical Drop (above the max); the exception was approved by the FIS Management and FIS General Secretary.

6.2 Exceptions Request from CAN:

Doug Campbell (CAN) asks for a general exception and explains the situation: in September 2019, the Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses considered and approved a request from Canada to grant an exception for ENL GS at 2 venues in Ontario where the vertical drop is 10 to 15 metres lower than the minimum of 200m; the management of those 2 venues, very far from the only one FIS approved GS in the region, were ready to make investments in order to promote ski racing in that region and avoid some 10 to 20 hours drive to the homologated competition course. The proposal was recommended to the Alpine Committee and was subsequently supported by FIS Council.

Now they are requesting the same exception for ENL GS at Loch Lomond Ski Area in Thunder Bay, Ontario. The inspection recently conducted at Loch Lomond Ski Area revealed that the slope would be suitable for ENL GS except that the vertical drop is 185m, so lower than the minimum of 200m.

The proposed ENL GS homologation at Loch Lomond Ski Area would benefit not only the northern Ontario region but could also benefit alpine ski programs in the USA including the states of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. There is currently only one FIS homologated GS slope serving this entire region located in Lutsen, Minnesota USA which is a 2 hour drive from Loch Lomond Ski Area. The next closest GS slope in the USA is in Colorado, 2000 km west of Lutsen.

So, before making any investments, such as tree cutting and slope widening, the owners would like to know if we are supporting their exception's request.

Elena explains to the Committee that the exceptions in 2019 were approved mainly to improve and support skiing in lower regions. Elena asks for the opinion of the members: Walter Hlebayna (AUT) says that the SC should be careful with exceptions to lower down the starts but in this case he understands the situation in Canada.

Elena also agrees with him, but explains that the purpose of ENL category was to help areas that do not meet the requirements; since 2014 Elena has made only 4 exceptions out of more than 3200 certificates signed: she thinks that exceptions were done only when they were really needed.

Peter Krogoll (GER) agrees with Walter: he is in favour of the exception for Canada.

Robert Lehmann (SUI) also agrees of being careful with granting exceptions, but he is in favour in this case.

Jean-Lou Costerg (FRA) also agrees with the exception as it is a reasonable one.
The exception is approved unanimously!

7. Requests for homologation inspections: updated list

Elena shows the list of homologation requests, for check and amendments.
The latest list (as of 26.10.22) is attached to the minutes

8. Miscellaneous

Dusan Gorisek (SLO) wants to know what was the outcome last spring for the proposal of SG in 2 runs. Elena explains that in autumn 2021 no one in this Sub-Committee was in favour, and this opinion was forwarded to the S.C. for Alpine Rules; then the S.C. for Rules during his spring 2022 meeting voted in favour but without setting the detailed procedure because there were still many important aspects to be clarified.

Dusan Gorisek (SLO) is worried that if the SG in 2 runs is approved then we need to know if homologation certificates need to be changed.

Walter Hlebayna (AUT) reconfirms that he is against for the same reasons (see minutes fall 2021).

Arno Heikkala (FIN) thinks that such a change could affect many Sub-Committees (Youth&Children, Classification, Courses, etc) with consequences that may be huge and should be better considered.

Everybody is thinking that the effects are not known, so it should be more coordination.

Jeff Weinman (USA), chair of the Classification SC, thinks that this is the job for the Alpine Executive Board.

(the Alpine Executive Board didn't support this proposal later the same week)

Walter Hlebyana (AUT) wants to know more regarding the situation of Patrick Riml (AUT) who is inspector for AUT but moved now to USA: Paul Van Slike (USA) reports that Patrick agreed to be an inspector for USA: Elena says that AUT may ask for another inspector, if it's needed, replacing Patrick Riml.

9. Next meeting

FIS Spring Meetings Dubrovnik (CRO), 03. – 05.05.2023

10. Closing of the meeting

EG thanks everybody, principally the Inspectors, for their cooperation and attendance, and the FIS office for their help and assistance. She wishes everyone a successful season! Meeting is closed at 11:15 hrs.