

To the

- Members of the Sub-Committee for Alpine Rules

For information to:

- Johan Eliasch, FIS President
- Michel Vion, FIS Secretary General
- Niklas Carlsson, FIS Deputy Secretary General
- Massimo Rinaldi, Chairman Alpine Committee
- Janez Fleré, Alpine Coordinator
- Jeff Weinman, Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Alpine Classification
- Elena Gaja, Chair of the Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses
- Markus Malsiner, Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Alpine TD's
- Tommy Eliasson, Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Alpine Ski Cross

Oberhofen, 15.5.2025

Minutes Sub-Committee Meeting for Alpine Rules, Thursday, 04.05.2023 held in Cavtat-Dubrovnik (CRO)

Dear Ski friends,

We have pleasure sending you today the Minutes of the online Meeting of the Sub-Committee for Alpine Rules held on 04.05.2023.

You are kindly asked to send any remarks to the FIS Alpine Office in Oberhofen no later than **23.05.2023** (flere@fisski.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.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Huber'.

Michael Huber
Chairman Sub-Committee for Alpine Rules

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION Sub-Committee for Alpine Rules

**Meeting Sub-Committee for Alpine Rules
Thursday, 04.05.2023, 12:00 – 13:40, Conference Room Ragusa**

AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting

Chairman Michael Huber (AUT) opened the meeting by welcoming members, FIS staff and guests to this Meeting in presence of Alpine Rules.

2. Roll call

Janez Flere (FIS) called the Roll. Some members were absent and excused, their substitutes named. A special welcome was made to the honorable former members attending.

3. Approval of the agenda

A request of the chairman asking about items to be dealt with was forwarded by email on March 19th. The official invitation was sent out on April 5th in compliance with the Sub-Committee Rules. It also included the agenda and enclosures. No other items were asked to be included, so the agenda was adopted as approved.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held in Zurich on 29.09.2022

The minutes were sent out on Oct. 10th. With no additional remarks, the minutes were approved.

5. Report of the Chairman

- Michael Huber stated, that this is the earliest scheduled date of our Technical Meetings for many years and presents an overlook of the dates from the past 11 years. Additionally, the Technical Meetings are split from the Congress, which takes place end of May. He asked the members to be aware, that this will be in the future as well. So be prepared to work on rules items already during the winter, as the agenda including proposals for our sub-committee have to be ready by the end of the racing seasons.
- The Chairman thanked those members invited to a workshop at the end of March to prepare the agenda and enclosures for today. Without this workshop, this would not be possible.
- About 2.800 Alpine Races were to be considered during the 2022/23 season for FIS point calculation. A little less than the long term average of about 3.000 competitions. 84 % GS and SL were counted, 5 % DH and 9 % SG Events, and small numbers for AC (1 %) and PAR (0.4 %) in all levels. As a side note, it would be interesting to survey, how many races take place in the winter season by Ski Schools for regular Guest Races. In Austria estimated 7.000 !!!

- Finally a letter of Alpine Chair Massimo Rinaldi (ITA) from Oct. 9th 2022 is mentioned by Michael Huber. This letter says “Thank You” to everyone within the FIS Alpine Organisation for their constant support to improve Alpine Racing.

6. ICR – items from the last meeting

6.1. ICR art. 1001.1.1 and 1001.1.2 (Super-G in 2 runs)

- As laid down in the minutes of the Fall meeting, Alpine Rules, the opinion of the Alpine Executive was to be requested. The letter of the Alpine Chair Massimo Rinaldi was sent as an enclosure and was read by the Chair. The clear opinion of the Alpine Executive is against a Super-G in 2 runs, as it does not follow the “DNA” of this type of alpine event. So no further plan to work on it moving forward.
- No additional questions were asked for.

6.2. ICR art. 1232.2 (Parallel penalty time)

- As laid down in the minutes of the Fall meeting, Alpine Rules, the request was to bring forward a proposal for another penalty time rule, based on a calculation utilising “real time”. At the workshop and after long and intensive discussions, no solution could be found. The Chairman repeats his letter which was an enclosure to this meeting and informed again about the problem that the average difference at first run of a Parallel heat differs between 3 % and 0.3 % in time. So no real proposal about a penalty time calculation could be proposed to secure “fairness” and “excitement”. So the present rule with max. 0.5 sec stays valid.
- No additional questions were asked for.

7. ICR – major rule proposals

As an introduction to this item, Chair Michael Huber informed the Sub-Committee, that looking at all the FIS Congress proposals, he did not find any specific proposal about the ICR mentioned. All the following proposals came from the Rules Workshop which took place at the end of March. Each of the following items will be introduced by the Chair, “why” the proposal is given, then presentation of the proposal, then followed by an open discussion and decision.

7.1. ICR art. 614.2.3, 661.4.1, 804.3 (Stepping back prohibition)

- Why ? There were requests for rules precisions highlighted by incidents at Slaloms in Levi (FIN) and Semmering (AUT). It was about stepping back, which is in principle not permitted after a gate fault (art. 614.2.2.), with the only exception being to step back after a complete stop (but without a gate fault) as in art. 614.2.3. This fact caused different rules situations with discussions, especially in single pole slaloms, when stepping back and turning around from

several directions without crossing the next “line” from gate to gate a second time followed and were discussed by Race Juries.

- Solution ? The proposal to delete all wording regarding stepping back in the art. referred to were presented. The common opinion of the workshop was, to prohibit stepping back in general. It is the wish that our sport should be easy to understand and learn. No stepping back in future, doesn't matter if it is a gate fault or a complete stop. And therefore, no questions regarding which side to turn around the missed slalom pole. The only exception is, as long as the competitor is in motion, he might try to catch the correct sequence of gates.
- Questions ? Strong discussion followed after this introduction. Arguments against were given from the members about education (fight to complete a race), about image (why not), about exception (only 1 gate step back), about permit it generally (also after a gate fault). Also additional arguments in favour (no FIS point advantage).
- Decision ! As no common opinion could be found, a vote took place: 15 votes YES, 6 votes NO. So the proposal was adopted.

7.2. ICR art. 617.2.3 (Official notice board option)

- Why ? There were discussions, about “protests”, if the original rule about the “black board” was not kept. But a “notice board” in many times is replaced by modern types of communication, like Email, WhatsApp etc. This proposal was made to avoid discussions and misunderstandings and to support and enable better solutions for the Juries if applicable.
- Solution ? The rule proposal art. 617.2.3 was presented. The rule proposal includes the possibility, to be decided at the first Team Captains Meeting, to keep the notice board or to enable a modern type of communication.
- Questions? No.
- Decision ! Unanimously adopted.

7.3. ICR art. 618.1 (Category / Level introduction)

- Why ? The common opinion at the last fall meeting was, to have a “glossary” to define the terms and acronyms in the ICR.
- Solution ? The proposal art. 618.1 is presented. The proposal was coordinated with the Sub Committee Alpine Classification and they will put the list of the categories, grouped into levels, as an enclosure (last page) in the FIS POINT RULES BOOK. The proposal is art. 618, because this was the original place of the point rules before they were transferred into a separate booklet.
- Questions ? No.
- Decision ! Unanimously adopted.

7.4. ICR art. 621.12 (Double Entries clarification)

- Why ? Always questions from Teams and Organisers to the FIS Office Alpine. ICR overall discipline art. 215.2 states “National Ski Associations are not

permitted to enter and draw the same competitor in more than one competition on the same date"! But the development in the FIS calendar proves, that this is a common situation, depending on the number of athletes on the start list, to have 2 competitions on the same day at the same site. The "old rule" about double entries was connected to specific situations in DH.

- Solution ? As the rules art. 200 are not in our gift to change, the proposal is to deal with this question in the Alpine part (600) of the rulebook. The proposed wording in art. 621.12 is presented and indicates a precision for Alpine.
- Questions ? No.
- Decision ! Unanimously adopted.

7.5. ICR art. 623.2.6 (Re-run clarification)

- Why ? Everybody involved in the ruling of Alpine Racing was aware of the discussions and DNF (without re-run) in the "Strolz" case in Madonna di Campiglio (ITA) last winter (a broken gate pole crossed the racers line and caused a DNF). Many rules experts sent Emails back and forth to find the "right answer", whether the DNF without re-run was right or wrong. For sure this situation is not acceptable and needs to be clarified.
- Solution ? A long and intensive discussions within the rules workshop included the FIS Race Directors view on this case. Note the important fact that the basic principle of the rule comes from a long time ago, when wooden or bamboo poles were used. The principle was, that "bad luck" can happen for the racer in action and that this is part of the sport. Many races might never be finished in time, if a number of broken poles would lead to re-runs in every case. If the "bad luck" was caused by a third party, then this has to be treated differently (Re-run yes). So what followed, is the wording proposal which was presented. It includes the precision, that there is no re-run in two cases.
- Questions ? Strong discussion followed after this introduction. Arguments against and in favor were given from the members, based on different interpretation of the rule art. 623 by Race Juries in different levels. In summary, the majority would like to keep the rule as it is, to enable flexibility to be decided by Juries based on each individual case.
- Decision ! As no common opinion could be found, a vote took place: 13 votes NO, 8 votes YES. So the proposal was not adopted.

623.2.6

Other similar incidents beyond the will and control of the competitor, which cause significant loss of speed or a lengthening of the racing line and consequently affect the competitor's time. ~~*If the interference is caused by the racer by loss of own equipment or breaking a pole, then it is not considered as grounds for a re-run.*~~

7.6. ICR art. 801.2.3 (Delayed combination clarification)

- Why ? At Slaloms in all levels the question was raised about the detail in course setting regarding “delayed gate combinations”. So it was the wish to clarify at our Fall Meeting
- Solution ? The proposal with a corrected wording and an addition to the diagram related to it, was read out and presented.
- Questions? No.
- Decision ! Unanimously adopted.

7.7. ICR art. 1001.3.2 (Super-G panel colour)

- Why ? In Downhill there is the possibility, in art. 701.3.2. to adjust the gate color for safety reasons (improve visibility against the backdrop e.g. red net). As Super-G is considered as an “Alpine Speed Event”, the request was to enable the same possibility for Downhill and Super-G. This was supported at the Rules Fall Meeting. A similar wording, but with the detail, that this exception shall be for “specific” gates only AND only meant for the panel. So the gate color of the poles remain in the correct sequence blue – red – blue. And as a specific memory, following the development starting some years ago, to use “orange” for better visibility in Downhill instead of “red”, is an additional support.
- Solution ? The proposal with a corrected wording was read and presented.
- Questions ? No.
- Decision ! Unanimously adopted.

7.8. ICR art. 1211.f (Team Combined renewal)

- Why ? Chair Michael Huber started into this item of the agenda with some preliminary remarks.
 - 1930 RULES. Reading the first official rules of the FIS ICR Alpine, the original intent of the Alpine Combined was to have it as a “Team Event”.
 - ATHLETES. Important to say, it came from the Athletes side two years ago during the process of the “Alpine Future Vision Group”, to replace the “old styled” Alpine Combined for individual athletes at Major Events with a Team Combined. The IOC gave the outlook, that they will not accept the traditional Alpine Combined for the Olympic Winter Games Program 2026 in Italy (after repeatedly negative experiences in Beijing (CHN) 2022).
 - EXPERIENCE: A first motivating and promising experience had been at the Alpine World Ski Junior Championships in St. Anton (AUT) 2023. A first “draft” of rules referred to was published and put in place for the event from Janez Flere. The proposal is based on this first rule.
 - OUTLOOK: The IOC will decide on the Alpine Program 2026 this summer, if this event will be included. So it is of great importance to bring this “Team Combined” officially into the ICR as an “overall” rule. The World Cup will follow with an additional Cup Rule.
 - TWO DIFFERENT TEAM EVENTS: Please be aware to use the right name, as coordinated with FIS IT Daniel Defago (FIS), to maintain consistency. The TEAM COMBINED is a Downhill (or Super-G) and a

Slalom (one run) for two Athletes of each gender, each one only competes in one run. The TEAM PARALLEL stays as well, intended as a mixed Team Event.

- Solution ? In discussing the item by the workshop, the first decision was, to delete the present rule in ICR art. 1210 – 1213 to avoid possible misunderstanding and to replace it with the new proposed Team Combined. All proposed rule articles are presented and read.
- Questions ? Chair Michael Huber asked for broad support, especially in public, to get the right image from the beginning on. Athletes representative Verena Stuffer (ITA) repeated the importance of the support, to keep the chance for Athletes, not losing two Medals at Major Events.
- Decision ! Unanimously adopted.

Finally, the Chair Michael Huber reminded to the Flour Wax Ban starting mandatory during the upcoming season. The basic rule is in art. 222.8 (since summer 2020 !).

8. ICR – minor rules clarifications

8.1. ICR art. 611.3.2.1 (Time of day)

- Why ? Coming from a TD Update in Austria. There was a possible different reading of ICR and the TIMING BOOKLET regarding this specific question. In discussion with Daniel Defago, FIS IT and Chair Data & Timing workgroup, this precision was coordinated (not a rule change, only to avoid misunderstand about the word “time” vs “time of day”).
- Solution ? The proposal was presented.
- Questions ? No.
- Decision ! Unanimously confirmed.

8.2. ICR art. 1232.4 and 1232.5 (Parallel tie)

- Why ? It was proposed by the FIS IT and Chair of Data & Timing workgroup Daniel Defago. This precision was requested to allow for easier reading in the corresponding article and to add missing detail. It is not considered as a rules change, but a helpful precision for Parallel.
- Solution ? The proposal was presented.
- Questions ? No.
- Decision ! Unanimously confirmed.

9. Other Rules changes / Reports

9.1. ICR related items from other Alpine Sub-Committees

With regard to Rules related Sub-Committees as indicated in the agenda, no special remarks were mentioned concerning items in the ICR. Only in Sub Committee Alpine Courses, the ICR article 650.5.4 is on the agenda this afternoon, to delete the final wording regarding paper copies of the Homologation Certificate

and them being sent by standard mail. This will be done by electronic means in future. From the Sub Committee Rules, no comment was given to that, so it is up for Alpine Courses to decide on that this afternoon. The Chairman thanked all colleagues for their contribution to this meeting.

9.2. Appeals Commission

Report by Josef Zingerle (ITA) as Chairman. There was no case to work on for the Appeals Commission Alpine. The ICR seemed to work very well.

9.3. Precisions (Southern Hemisphere)

Janez Flere as FIS Alpine Coordinator informed that after the FIS Council meeting end of May, all adopted proposals will be included in the ICR, which will be available online only (no printed version). In this context, Chair Michael Huber informs about a Congress proposal, that the ICR will be available in English only. All language translations then have to be dealt with by the corresponding National Ski Federations (or NSA of same language group).

10. Miscellaneous

No item.

11. Next meeting, 27th-29th September 2023, Zurich (SUI)

Janez Flere informs, the FIS Fall Meeting is scheduled for the last week of September. As there were no remarks to add, Chairman Michael Huber closed the meeting at 13:40 h. and thanked everyone for their involvement which enabled the delivery of a first class online meeting! Thank you and have a good summer.

ENCLOSURES: Rules Proposals