

- To the
- Members Sub-Committee for Alpine Ski Cross
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Oberhofen, 25th May, 2022
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**Provisional Minutes - FIS Sub-Committee for Alpine Ski Cross
Zoom 13.05.2022**

Dear Friends,

Please find enclosed the “**Provisional Minutes**” for the Online Zoom Meeting Sub-Committee for Alpine Ski Cross.

We would also like to take the opportunity of informing you that the meeting documents are available on the FIS Cloud:

<https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/A39mTGUGHMvOtMW>

and

<https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/NZIJCzWSQzWV0ax>

With kind regards,

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION



Tommy Eliasson
Chair



Heli Herdt
Vice-Chair Chairman

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION

FIS Sub-Committee for Alpine Ski Cross

**Agenda – for the meeting of the FIS Sub-Committee Alpine Ski Cross
Friday 13.05.2022, 09.00 – 12.00 CET**

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
 - 1.1 Identification of Voting Delegates
 - 1.2. Approval of Agenda
2. Reports 2021/22 from FIS Ski Cross Race Director
3. Report Chairman from Rules Advisory Group
 - 3.1 Proposals from FIS
 - 3.2 Proposals from NSA
 - 3.3 Proposals from SX Advisory Group
 - 3.4 Ski Cross Rules ICR
4. Others Reports
 - 4.1 Athletes Report
 - 4.2 Junior World Championships 2022 Veysonnaz Report
 - 4.3 Europa Cup Report
 - 4.4 Media Report
 - 4.5 WSC Bakuriani 2023 Report
5. FIS Ski Cross Calendar
 - 5.1 World Cup Calendars
 - 5.2 Long Term World Cup Planning
 - 5.3 Continental Cup Calendar
 - 5.4 Junior World Championships
 - 5.5 Youth Olympic Winter Games Gangwon 2024
 - 5.6 Others
6. Other Business
 - 6.1 2022-2026 Perspectives
 - 6.2 Flour Ban
7. Next Meetings
 - Zurich (SUI) Last week September 2022

ITEM 1

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to provide the reports and the agenda for our online conference for our 2022 spring meetings.

The Olympic season 2022 has come to an end and I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their cooperation during the season. Our community continuously proves that we are hard-working collective and our efforts are well proven when watching the development of our world cup and the games.

During the season we have started to undertake major projects with the standalone ICR being a massive task spearheaded by Vice-Chair Heli Herdt.

The main goals for the ICR SX are:

- More law, less specification of tasks
- Simplification of the ICR
- Alignment of the jury staffing
- Alignment of the TD education within the alpine structure without losing our own well equipment TDs
- Ready for Council approval during fall of 2022

Vice-Chair Heli Herdt gave you all a status report regarding the development of the work during our meeting.

As we approach the season 2022/23 we will be facing a new situation with Audi leaving its role as Title Sponsor for FIS Ski Cross World Cup. There will be challenges with this but also opportunities so if we keep a cool head, warm heart and a helpful attitude I am sure that we together will be able to make sure our athletes, LOCs and fans are contemptuous with our delivery and development.

1.1 Identification of Voting Delegates

Ordinary Members:

Chair: Tommy Eliasson	SWE	Present
Vice-Chair: Heli Herdt	GER	Present

Members:

Dave Ellis	CAN	Present
Shawn Fleming	AUS	Present
Filip Flisar	SLO	Absent
Tomas Kraus	CZE	Present
Bartolomeo Pala	ITA	Present
Ralph Pfäffli	SUI	Present
Rémi Sella	FRA	Present
Sabine Wittner	AUT	Present

Conference:

Yongjun Cai	CHN	Absent
Jun Woo Kim	KOR	Absent
Vakhtang Kopadze	GEO	Present
Jorge Mandru	CHI	Absent
Tomas Murgac	SVK	Absent
Masaru Nakamura	JPN	Present
Guillaume Nantermond	GBR	Present
Juli Sala	ESP	Present
Stijn Urkens	BEL	Absent
Rudi Huber	SRS	Present

FIS Staff:

Klaus Waldner	FIS	Present
Christian Crétier	FIS	Present
Uwe Beier	FIS	Present
Julia Ziemska	FIS	Present

Athletes Representative:

Alex Fiva	SUI	Present
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Guests:

Michel Vion	FIS	Kara Delaney	CAN
Philippe Gueisbuhler	FIS	Levan Metraveli	GEO
Chris Robinson	CAN	Lukasz Ligocki	POL
Iain Mackay	GBR	Markus Malsiner	ITA
Nicola Colli	Swiss Timing	Fabio Fileri	Swiss Timing
Daniel Defago	FIS	Gregory Sage	Swiss Timing
Reetta Reuhkala	Infront	Cai Yong Jun	CHN
Anna Banach	Infront	Grace Qui	CHN
Stefan Leitner	Swiss Timing	Michael Huber	AUT
Tobie Jacquemoud	FRAU	Jan Jakubco	SVK
Uldis Brize	FIS		
Nuriddin Pazylov	RUS		
Pavel Kolgotin	RUS		
Peter Krogoll	GER		

1.2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda has been approved as presented.

ITEM 2

Reports 2021/22 from FIS Ski Cross Race Director

The Ski Cross season 2021/22 started with the test event for the Olympic Winter Games 2022 in Zhangjiakou. After an enormous intern workflow together with the whole FIS Cross Team, which started already in May 2021, we were able to make the test event for Ski Cross and Snowboard Cross happen on the Olympic venue. The test event was the cornerstone for a successful Olympic Winter Games in February 2022. Through the test event a lot of fundamental problems (Travelling, course build, competition management on site and so on) could be solved for the Games.

After the test event the world cup continued with the traditional December tour through the Alps. We were able to finish all 6 scheduled races in this short timeframe. In Val Thorens we needed again a reserve day but with this additional effort we got a bluebird race day. Arosa has delivered as usual a single and the first team competition on a short course.

After Arosa we were able to finish the December tour with a double race on the traditional race slope in Innichen, where we were back after a covid 19 break in the last season.

After the Christmas break the season continued with a back to back competition in Nakiska. Nakiska was also back on the calendar after a covid 19 break in the season 2020/21. Idre Fjäll was the last event on the calendar before the Olympic Winter Games. Idre Fjäll delivered as usual with two well organised races in northern Europe.

In February it was time for the Olympic Winter Games. After the Snowboard Cross competition we took the time for 1 ½ day of rebuilding to optimise the Ski Cross line on the cross course. Due to the experiences of the test event from November we were able to build the slope in Zhangjiakou on point. After two training days the women started first with their competition on a cloudy snowy day. The course worked out perfectly for the women also on slower condition and so we ended the races with a tight final heat and no injuries.

The next day the men's competition took place on a bluebird day. Also the men's competition went down without any problems and injuries.

Straight after the Olympics we flew with a charter flight from Beijing to Chelyabinsk, organised by the Russian freestyle ski federation. The organisers in Sunny Valley were really well prepared and we already finished the second training day as the war between Russia and Ukraine started. On Friday the competition was officially cancelled by the jury and the whole ski cross family tried to go back to Europe as fast as possible. FIS Travelling did a tremendous job to organise our departure from Russia as fast as possible. Until Sunday night more or less all teams were able to depart from Russia.

After a break of 10 days the Ski Cross tour resumed with the final race weekends in Reiteralm and Veysonnaz. Both weekends were combined with Snowboard Cross. The course building and organising team in Reiteralm developed the course in the right direction. With some course splitting elements between Snowboard Cross and Ski Cross the race was much better than in the last year's edition. To achieve this result a lot of compromises and discussions on site were

needed. Nevertheless, a really good race and TV show were the results, which was also caused by amazing drone pictures from ORF.

The same situation continued in Veysonnaz where the course building, caused by a lack of snow on some parts, soft spring snow on others, led to intense racing with a lot of contact between the competitors during the final competition of the year. The competition went down without major injuries and so we finished the season 2021/2022 with a good race on a sunny day in Veysonnaz.

All in all we were able to hold all races which were scheduled on the calendar 2021/2022, with the exception of the Russian back to back races. The tour finished with 12 single races, 1 team event and the races at the Olympic Winter Games in China.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to all our organisers which put a lot of effort into our sport and have made this season happen, under the world wide covid 19 situation. On top of that I want to mention that all our organisers will be with us also in the next season in which we expect no tour sponsor. At this stage I want to say a big Thank you to Audi for the tremendous support over the last years, which built the base for the largest tour ever in the upcoming season.

Season report per Venue:

Location	Outcome	Course	OC	Logistics / Covid 19
Secret Garden / Olympic Test Event	good TV show on a completely new track/ first cross race transmission for CCTV, not that flexible in pushing cameras	The building phase was a real struggle due to no respect of the agreement of Covid measures, we had to do extralong hours every day to get the course ready on time. Start section worked out perfectly, good separation, new layout for the Olympics 1 st and 2 nd negative turn, some elements will be changed after the second negative, average speed 65 km/h, the track needs two parts where the speeds slow down	Chief of Comp / Chief of Course not English speaking, lack of experience in skisport, translator needed, after hours of education it was better every day,	All Covid-19 measures were really tight, big mess at the arrival and shuttle to Zhangjiakou, around 6-8 h in the bus without toilet and so on. PCR Test every day, no movement outside the hotel possible
Val Thorens	Cancellation of the first race, due to heavy snow falls, Challenging conditions for the first race on Saturday, great effort from the OC to make the first race happen, tough condition, 2 nd race, great conditions, great tv show, reserves day was needed, but not planned by INFRONT!	Start section was better, could be still more tricky, Bovo Jump was not in place on Sunday, adjusted after men`s training, new line works really good, more or less no b-fences needed, try to estimate new line before big negative, roller section into the finish works better than the big jumps, finish coral as long as possible!	Very good race organisation, good amount of volunteers, colouring can improve, Radios system has to improve, 1,5m snowfall in three days, able to keep the schedule with the OC Staff, which is running the competition	Swiss Timing on day 1 to late, no intermediate times first training, Covid 19 protocol ok, no cases. Testing procedure went really well. Start gate worked out properly.

		Bigger shaper Team is needed! Cat driver has to be ready in the morning / jury meeting on the slope !	needs early breakfast possibility in the hotel and consideration of FIS officials	
Arosa	Very good tv show, single and team event, 150000 first day, 90000 second day	New set up, positive bank first turn, not slow down, average speed too high for overtaking, needs a point to slow down the speed after the negative turn. Try a new line, 1 st jump more straight and left, ski the negative on the bottom, will try 2022	One of the best OCs on the Tour, good and motivated volunteers, great organisation, working all day long, start gate not opening properly, issue at the team event, needs maintenance	Covid-19 protocol worked out really well, test procedure without any issue
Innichen	First race Infront (production team) was not ready, lost 3 cameras due to homemade technical problems, which affected the tv show! Second race, much better, Infront was able to solve the camera issue due to an enormous support from the OC, really good race on the second day! Meeting with Infront already happened on the day after the competition.	Course was to mellow, as the course designer followed 100% the data (2019 edition) from the leica system, which was to mellow, during the building, needs improvement and flexibility, following 100% the leica system is not the way, as we don't want the exact same course every year! Good amount of snow, injection bar worked really well! Course builder has to follow FIS instructions!	Very good organisation team, big support to Infront, good amount of volunteers Communication between FIS Staff and OC needs improvement, OC is making decisions concerning the course preparation on their own, without asking / checking with FIS Staff, not possible! Old color bibs!	Covid-19 protocol worked out really well, Very flexible with the injection bar. Very good support with cable and electrician support for Infront, otherwise some cameras didn't run, big screen in the finish area didn't run and so on!
Nakiska	TV show improved to the year 2020, due to the slope (steep / tight) hard to film,	The current slope is not ideal for a Ski Cross race, to steep, to tight, which causes problems in the building schedule, course builder was a least one day late which affect the all week to a point we can lose a race, we had to postponed one qualification (snow does not set and hard	Organisation was good, volunteers needs more support from lead shapers / shapers to maintain the slope, technical support from the OC / Venue has to improve, Transport for TV / Generator and so on was made	Covid-19 protocol worked out really well, Covid Officer helping, good separation from the double amount of athletes and staff members, PCR Test available for departure, No skidoo`s for finals available,

		to maintain, technical road through the course ?), athletes just see trees at every turn, hard to control the speed, which is a big safety issue, as on the current slope are more or less no spill zones. Just one straight in the middle and a too short finish straight, not a good slope for a race. Meeting with Alpine Canada, search for another slope in the area already under consideration	by the lead course builder, which caused problems in the preparation on the course on the training day (maybe a cat support from the resort)	extended the TV Show!
Idre	Really good tv show, Idre delivered like every year, that's the way we have to promote and sell ski cross	Really good start section, different to the year before, flat turn 1 was good, new negative turn (more belly, more to the left) worked out really well, better to control the speed to the bottom section, well shaped, amazing work by David Ny and his team	Organisation worked really well, really good amount of volunteers, good service for the teams, food and beverage in the finish tent and at the start area, best set up on the tour	Very strict Covid-19 protocol, testing every 72h to FIS requirements, bubble system worked around an open environment in Sweden, set up for timing was well prepared
Olympic Winter Games	Good TV show, OBS was not that flexible to short changes in camera positions, Test event was really important for a spectacular and safe course.	Ski Cross course worked out really well, good rebuilding after the snowboard cross race, Course worked out also by changing conditions (snow / sun). Enough spill zone around the course.	OC made a really good job, a lot of man power, translator worked really well, without test event the organisation of an olympic race would have been really hard, medical service was ok,	Traveling was good, no delays at the airport and on the shuttle to the venues! Covid 19 protocol worked out perfect, test every day.
Sunny Valley	No TV show, Race was cancelled due to the war !!	On arrival the course was on a better level than the year before, really good start section, less snow at the straight between turn 3 and 4, last turn the course designer built 2 lines, which was not good, but the idea to have a second line for the second race is good! Rebuilding from the finish turn was needed, agreed on one good line! International Course Builder is recommended	OC worked really well, like every year. Russian Ski Federation organised the charter flight from Beijing to Chelyabinsk, and it worked out really well! Thank you for this work!	Covid-19 protocol worked out well, Covid test after 48h, PCR Test available on the venue, no positive cases! Big support from FIS Travelling for all the teams on their departure flights!

Reiteralm	TV show was really good, amazing drone pictures, the course is developing into the right direction, better every year!	Course is improving. Start section was rebuilt and new, good changes in the turn 1 and turn 4! Finish coral was much bigger and leveled. Due to the combined snowboard cross event the ski cross course was in the average speed of 20,3 m/s way too fast!	OC did a really good job, with a good amount of volunteers and snow, all good in time and always motivated, long time on the slope for volunteers on training days because of the double event SX/Sbx!	Perfectly worked out Covid-19 concept, good accommodation! No Covid-19 cases like the whole season
Veysonnaz Finals	TV show compared to other venues are not ok, just 13 cameras available, some blind spots, not easy for the TV Director! Not easy to judge with all these blind spots, no drone	Start section was smaller but had a good width, lack of snow! More or less no separation at the start, a lot of contact during the heat racing between bank turn 1 and 2. Two bank turns in a row within this distance is not ideal. The rest of the course was better built than the year before, but to fit SBX, the average speed was again too fast for SX, 20,8 m/s! Fastest course of the season. Late Tv start time with the hot spring temperatures and not possible to use salt made it more difficult and dangerous.	OC made a really good job, good amount of volunteers (military), all good in time and always motivated, long time on the slope for volunteers on combined training days SX/SBX	Good worked out Covid-19 concept, good accommodation with short ways for the team! Finals festivities???

Link to season Analyses:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_MoaVSDTWSu5AZAqB-q9aZGbTz5nuCfgh4Ao6p-vCs/edit#gid=635513812

ITEM 3

Report Chairman from Advisory Group

The Olympic Season is for the 4th time a special season.

Allow me to do a little review of the past 12 years and thus 4 Olympic Games. In Vancouver 2010, Ski Cross was celebrated as the event in the Games. In Sochi 2014 we saw ourselves squeezed into a slopestyle course. In PyeongChang 2018, the sport faced crashes. In Beijing 2022, Ski Cross was not only challenged by Covid, already the Test event held all sorts of exciting things.

However, Ski Cross has always been able to benefit from all the highs and also lows and overcome difficult situations and challenges.

Therefore, my special thanks go to all coaches and ski cross officials in the national ski federations and also the FIS.

At the level of the continental cups, a clear improvement of the event can be seen, both in terms of the number of organisers and in terms of the quality of the competitions. A great help in Europe was the installation of the race directors A. Görlich and T. Jacquemoud.

The World Cup Tour has been managed by K. Waldner and Chr. Crétier also this winter under difficult conditions without any major incidents. Thanks for that.

The SX Advisory Group was ultimately only 4x in the context of yellow cards and their review in use. There is still some work to be done in this area, also due to the discussion during and after the women's Olympic competition.

Warnings for not wearing Transponders during World Cup Phases								Warnings until
FIS Code	Competitor	NSA	Gender	Code x	Event	Phase	Date	Sanction
2534010	SCHMIDT Jared	CAN	M	8368	Arosa	Final Heat M-R64-12	12/14/2021	1

Warnings on AUDI FIS SKI CROSS World Cup 2022 / Olympic Winter Games 2022										
FIS Code	Competitor	NSA	Gender	Code x	Event	Reason	Date	Heat	Warning	Review Board
2535772	TAKATS Tristan	AUT	M	8064	Secret Garden SX	Contact from the side	11/27/2021	EF-3		no
2532679	GAIRNS Tiana	CAN	F	8065	Secret Garden SX	Blocking others on straight	11/27/2021	SF-2		no
2530785	DUPLESSIS KERGOMARD Youri	FRA	M	8200	Val Thorens SX 1	Pushing / pulling	12/11/2021	EF-6		no
2537303	GRILLET AUBERT Jade	FRA	F	8201	Val Thorens SX 1	Contact from the side	12/11/2021	SF-2		no
2533149	GANTENBEIN Talina	SUI	F	8370	Arosa SXT	Blocking others on straight	12/15/2021	SF-2		no
2531085	MAIER Daniela	GER	F	8279	Innichen SX 1	Blocking others on straight	12/19/2021	SF-2		no
2533845	DEROMEDIS Simone	ITA	M	8114	Nakiska SX 1	Contact from the side	1/14/2022	EF-3		no
2526015	OFNER Katrin	AUT	F	8089	OWG Beijing SX	Blocking others on straight	2/17/2022	QF-3		no
2526955	FIVA Alex	SUI	M	8094	OWG Beijing SX	Contact from the side	2/18/2022	QF-1		no
2526015	OFNER Katrin	AUT	F	8418	Veysonnaz SX	Blocking others on straight	3/19/2022	QF-3		no

YELLOW Cards (RAL) on AUDI FIS SKI CROSS World Cup 2022 / Olympic Winter Games 2022										
FIS Code	Competitor	NSA	Gender	Code x	Event	Reason	Date	Heat	Card	Review Board
2532776	FURUNO Satoshi	JPN	M	8368	Arosa SX	Pushing / pulling	12/14/2021	EF-4		12/15/2021 confirmed
2527655	BERRY Joos	SUI	M	8278	Innichen SX 1	Blocking others on straight	12/19/2021	QF-4		12/19/2021 rejected
2526373	SMITH Fanny	SUI	F	8089	OWG Beijing SX	Contact from the side	2/17/2022	Big F		2/17/2022 confirmed
2532679	GAIRNS Tiana	CAN	F	8099	Reiteralm SX	Contact from behind	3/13/2022	SF-2		3/16/2022 rejected

Ski Cross Advisory Group Members

Chairman:	Heli Herdt	GER
Vice Chairman:	Sabine Wittner	AUT
FIS:	Klaus Waldner	FIS
FIS:	Christian Crétier	FIS
Members:	Shawn Fleming	AUS
	Dave Ellis	CAN
	Eric Archer	FRA
	Pala Bartolomeo	ITA
	Ralph Pfaeffli	SUI
	Eric Iljans	SWE

Prepared by: Heli Herdt

3.1 Proposals FIS

Refer to Rules proposals file.

3.2 Proposals from NSA

Refer to Rules proposals file.

3.3 Proposals from SX Advisory Group

See proposal of the Sub-Committee Alpine SX.

3.4 Ski Cross Rules ICR

See proposal of the Sub-Committee Alpine SX.

3.2 Ski Cross Rules Status Quo

Ski Cross - FIS Points Calculation NEW:

- The qualification result sets the base for the points calculation.
- Use of the alpine formula [$P = (T_x/T_o - 1) * F$]
- F value – to be decided (season 22/23 F = 800)
- The points calculated by using the time difference to the winner of the qualification is used for the ranked skiers in the KO Final.
All competitors not qualified for KO Final, get the points earned with the calculation based on the qualification.
- For each category (Major Events, CoC, FIS, FIS JUN, WJC,...), a fixed penalty for the winner will be set. This penalty needs to be fixed after every season.
- The penalty for women and men may be different per category.

TIMELINE till Spring 2023:

- Till the fall meeting a detailed FIS points rule book will be written
- For the events of the Northern Hemisphere the FIS points will be calculated as of today
- Including a “shadow system” with the new point calculation
- For each category/level of events a minimum penalty will be used
- For the Base List at the end of the season 22/23 the new system will be used
- The Holistic Format and Round Robin point scale will be calculated
- For injured athletes, athletes with no or only one (1) result a provisional calculation will be made available for the first season.

ITEM 4

Other Reports

4.1 Athletes Report

An Olympic Season with several challenges took place. Overall, it was navigated smoothly and we hope to have more success in the years to come. Beginning the season with an Olympic test event with many unknowns in China and finishing with a slushy spring race in Veysonnaz. Overall, the FIS Staff have done a job this season, with persistent work for the test event race in secret garden. It was important for our sport to have a good show at the winter Olympics in Beijing and we believe we had this.

Below are some remarks from the Athlete group for your consideration:

Connection Athletes:

- Connection athletes should always be foreign to the event host nation. (The home nation athletes have increased responsibilities to the organising committee, media etc. It seems that it is difficult for host nations athletes to be objective in relation to decisions around the host nations events)
- Can connection athletes be more interactive with the jury? Clarification of connection athletes' roles and responsibilities.

Field of Play:

- Improve communication between TD (or official in the finish) to an athlete receiving a sanction. Show/explain using jury video in finish, highlighting infringement or warning and why it is being called out. (Many times, athletes receive a warning or a card without knowing what it is for).
- Clarification at the beginning of the season of what situations will incur infringements or warnings.

Scheduling:

- Races hosting SX and SBX must be held on separate weekends/days. Ideally, SX first and then SBX to allow for changes for safety and speed.
- Adequate scheduling should allow for weather days to allow for safe and fair training, qualification and race days.

FIS:

- Disappointing that FIS waited for athletes/nations to withdraw from Russia, being reactive and unable to assist in safe evacuation of event staff and teams from Russia.

Race by Race Review**Secret Garden**

See below. "2022 OWG Course Brainstorm"

Val Thorens

- Qualification for the first race was not fair on the women and men side. Options for other formats.
- Fog race did not look good on Tv with the long breaks.
- Start section should be more Remove fencing to allow groover to pass, increase the finish area size (we had one athlete who did their ACL in the finish and the jury continued to send athletes down the track and into the finish area. This situation is unacceptable.

Arosa

- First turn was not good. Less passing in the first turn. (Better elements in 2021)
- Elements prior the finish line should be more difficult. Option to pass. **(Point in report 2021!)**
- Sprint race needs more difficulties.

Innichen

- Almost same track as the years before. **(Point in report 2020!)**
- Same start section. No Option possible **(Point in report 2020!)**
- Option for a good night race.

Nakiska

- Poor tv production
- Too many crashes.
- Slope too narrow to allow for safe racing.
- Not the best show for our sport on prime time in Europe.
- Skidoo. The chairlift is too long. **(Point in report 2020!)**
- There are better slopes in the ski area for the race.

Idre Fjäll

- Great track.
- Good TV show.

Beijing

- Good change in the middle section
- Start rollers which we asked for some changes where the same.
- Finish stretch was too short.

Sunny Valley

- Track felt good.
- Good that there were two races planned.
- Thanks for the charter from Beijing.

Reiteralm

- Speed into 2nd last turn was too fast.
- Big stepdown in the middle was on/over the limit. Forces the skier in the air together.
- Finish straight should be longer. More passing options.

Veysonnaz

- Start time was too late.
- First turn needs a change. We just get too tight in that turn after the long downhill.
- Kicking elements in the middle didn't work. Get quicker rid of them.

2022 OWG Course Brainstorm- Secret Garden, China 9am 28/11/21

Present:

AUS: Sami Kennedy-Sim
AUT: Sandro Siebenhofer
CAN: Brady Leman
CZE: Nikol Kucerova
FRA: Terence Tchiknavorian
JAP: Ryo Sugai
SUI: Alex Fiva
USA: Brant Crossan
SWE: Sandra Näslund
GBR: Oli Davies
ITA: Edoardo Zorzi
GER: NIL
Russia: NIL
Chile: NIL
China: NIL

Below are some ideas from a brainstorm between the Athlete group post-race in Secret Garden, China. We hope that these ideas are seen as advantageous to FIS and the Course Building team who may be interested in the view of the athletes skiing the Olympic track.

Athlete Objectives: Provide entertaining event for the consumer, limiting contact between athletes in passing attempts to have safe but exciting racing in February.

General course observations from November- The track is good, but there really are no jumps, there are limited passing opportunities without contact from the side or behind.

We have seen a lot of blocking on straight in the race.

Section breakdown image last page

Start: We understand that having a totally different (new) start is not an option due to OBS contracts already in place, however could the general *rhythm* of the section be changed to stop athletes from training the current start section in the lead up to the Olympic games? Keep it secret from the teams, positive surprise as a selling point for the TV commentary, encourage more separation (laterally) between athletes, reducing a pinch point into first turns.

Section 1: End of Start Section to entry Neg 1: Change the 4 rollers, (dragons back, or features encouraging more air time, cut outs- remove snow contact for the whole stretch, Avoid competitor contact/ pinch points)

Section 2: Neg 1- Neg 2- GS Rollers: Negatives more challenging - Is it a good spot for a negative? Roller turn at first negative, make it wider and further down; Lower the 2nd negative but make it higher difficulty; Maybe a jump and one turn; Corner jump left footer and then R foot into Bank 1, improvements to Negative 2 suggests good passing opportunity, but there needs to be space after until the next turn shows up.

Section 3: Step up- bank 1- step down- double- bank 2: General athlete consensus- we like bank 1, angle of the bank was weird. feel essential to making passes after 2 and 3: Gate Setting in Bank 1: Potential ideas, Butter box jump turn.

Section 4: double- double-bank 3-double-bank 4: We have come up with two ideas. Create passing opportunities. More space between turns to discourage passing with contact. (Idre style- capitalise on the flat terrain, abilities to have athletes skiing different options?)

*Potential 1: remove last two turns, going straight B2 to finish

*Potential 2: remove last bank, finish straight from bank 3 with a cut out (Sochi style) , improve viewing for spectators. Incorporate dragons and passing options. Limit potential for crashing in finish area with this change of angle. Better view of the final stretch for the spectators stands.

Section 5: Finish jump options- no jump? Butter box jump (step on and off into finish pitch); Step down, cut out style. Finish area, longer, keep angle of finish features in mind when setting up the area.

Section Breakdown:



4.2 Junior World Championships Report

The Junior World Championships could be carried out in Veysonnaz (SUI) because the Swiss Federation together with the local organiser fortunately were able to jump in at the last minute, saving at least the Ski- and Snowboard single cross events after the cancellation of Chiesa in Valmalenco due to their lack of snow.

Thank you very much for all the joint efforts and commitment to make that happen!

4.3 Europa Cup Report

In the past season we had 15 races in 5 different places.

The stations were AUT-FRA-SUI-GER and ITA.

Many organisers had problems with the software to create a correct seeding list about better place FIS-ranking and EC-ranking.

A great help for the OCs would be a freeware programme for evaluation.

Many thanks to the organising committees for their support and help to organise the races.

Big thanks to my assistant Tobie for the support at the races in France, especially the final in Les Contamines.

Congratulation the Europa Cup Winners:

Men: Graf Mathias (AUT)

Women: Ballet Baz Mylene (FRA)

For the upcoming season we are planning 22 races in 10 locations (see Draft 2 EC SX)
This is a provisional calendar and may be subject to change.

We want to improve the quality and level of the Europa Cup and there will be a Race Director from FIS on site at every race.

In the future it will be good to have professional course builders at the European Cup venues, because the speed and the level of the Ski Crosser is increasing.

Thanks for your attention.

4.4 Media Report

Ski Cross Communications Report

- 12 individual competitions and one mixed-team event – good, consistent presence of the sport in the media

Promotion:

- Ski Cross World Cup Press Office - season previews, event previews - where to watch, recaps, special features - press releases through FIS mailing system, newsflash
- Photos at every event (provided by GEPA) - free of charge photos for editorial purpose for media, as well as athletes and teams (FIS Smugmug, Facebook, GEPA download platform)
- Collaboration with Infront in content production - videos (trailers, highlights, behind the scenes etc, graphic & branded content), as every year very good
- Special Olympic package to create the interest ahead and during the Games (photos, graphics, milestones and achievements)
- Cooperation with athletes in content creation and sharing (behind the scenes, tagging, social media)
- Season recaps - FIS Bulletin - new online interactive hub version
- Live-streaming - World Cup in so called dark markets (however challenges with geo-restriction)
- FIS App

Social Media Summary:

- Steady and organic growth on all platform despite having less events
- Greater numbers compared to last season
- Instagram is still the most relevant channel - highest growth and targeted at younger audience

FS Social Media Report - <https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/ShYwMphML3V4b14>

Organisational Topics:

- TV Pictures - Collaboration between FIS media coordinator and NSAs/teams to maintain TV portraits up-to-date - new TV graphics (difficult topic)
- Content creation - There's been a huge improvement in quantity as well as quality of content created at FIS World Cup events and we continue to encourage our organisers to create their own content around your event - benefits include greater exposure for the resort/NSA/sponsors, as well as quality content that can be utilised throughout the year for further promotion and exposure
- Content X - publishing and reporting software - utilising resources more efficiently, developing of automated content
- Internal discussion about creating FIS TikTok channels

Special Storylines last Season:

- First-ever World Cup event in China
- First-ever night-time mixed-team event
- Tension and bigger rivalry ahead of the Olympic Winter games
- Sandra Naeslund vs. Fanny Smith
- Very strong male field and super tight racing until very last race

Biggest Challenges:

- Handling the negative media around women's Olympic bronze medal topic
- Handling the negative media around late cancellation of Russian events

Looking forward – Summer Activities:

- For the mixed-team event we will need to try and make the product more TV-viewer friendly. Try to shorten waiting-times, or show something on TV during that waiting period. Also, a split-screen should be a must to capture the great atmosphere of the waiting men in the finish – completes the story of the mixed-team event.
- Try to work on developing the TV product further with filling the gaps that the TV viewer might experience (additional TV graphics,...)
- Fan engagement content produced together with Infront - including World Cup champions highlights
- Throwbacks to some special achievements and also Olympic moments of the season
- Interview series with crystal globe winners, rookies of the year, freshly retired athletes, etc.
- Keep an eye open for new storylines/ summer specials/ new content
- Preparation for the upcoming 2022/23 World Cup season as well as 2023 World Championships

4.5 WSC Bakuriani 2023 Report

Levan Metreveli, Head of Sports did a short Report.

Link to Presentation: <https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/eAjdYld0QIWqQLO>

ITEM 5

FIS Ski Cross Calendar

5.1 World Cup Calendars

DRAFT 3 - SKI CROSS FIS WORLD CUP CALENDAR 2022/2023

Date	Day	Site	NAT	SX	SX Team	Notes
November 22 04.-05.	Sat-Sun	Les Deux Alpes	FRA	04-05		
December 22 08.-10.	Thu-Sat	Val Thorens	FRA	08-09/10		Reserve Day 11.12 Night Event
12.-14.	Mon-Wed	Arosa	SUI	12-13/14		
17.-18.	Sat-Sun	Montafon	AUT	17-18		
20.-22.	Tue-Thu	Innichen	ITA	20-21/22		
27.-29.	Tue-Thu	Alleghe	ITA	27-28/29		
January 23 12.-14.	Fri-Sun	Reiteralm	AUT	12-13/14		TBC
20.-22	Fri-Sun	Idre Fjäll	SWE	20-21/22		
27.-29.	Fri-Sun	Megève	FRA	27-28/29		
February 23 03.-05.	Fri-Sun	TBD	GER	03-04/05		TBC
19.-06.	Mon-Sun	<i>Bakuriani</i>	GEO	24	25	WSC
March 23 10.-12.	Fri-Sun	Veysonnaz	SUI	10-11/12		TBC
17.-19.	Fri-Sun	Craighleith	CAN	17-18/19		
Locations 12 / Nations 9 / Competitions 44				22/22	0	

Note: 1) 10 = 10th Quali+Final date, 2) 09-11 = 09th Qu -11th Fin date, 3) 09/11 = 09 Qu+Fin/11 Qu+Fin, 4) 09-11/12 = 09thQu-11th Fin/ 12 Fin dates)

Some discussions regarding the Final in CAN.

5.2 Long Term World Cup Planning

Will be published at the autumn meetings in Zürich.

5.3 Continental Cup Calendar

DRAFT 2 SKI CROSS FIS EC CALENDAR 2022/2023

Date	Day	Site	NAT	SX	SX Team	Notes
November 22 25.-26.	Fri - Sat	Pitztal	AUT	25/26		
December 22 02.-03.	Fri - Sat	Idre Fjäll	SWE	02/03		Not Confirmed
16.-17.	Fri - Sat	tbd	FRA	16/17		
January 23 12.-13.	Thu - Fri	St. Moritz	SUI	12/13		Idre Fjäll TBC
27.-28.	Fri - Sat	Reiteralm	AUT	27/28		
February 23 03.-04.	Fri - Sat	Grasgehren	GER	03/04		Not confirmed
24.-25.	Fri - Sat	Reiteralm	AUT	24/25		
04.-05.	Fri - Sat	Oberwiesenthal	GER	04/05		
11.-12.	Sat - Sun	Les Contamines	FRA	11/12		Final
17.-18	Fri - Sat	San Pellegrino	ITA	17/18		
Locations 10 / Nations 6/ Competitions 44				22/22	0	

5.4 Junior World Championships

5.5 Youth Olympic Winter Games Gangwon 2024

Peter Krogoll gave a short update.

Link to Presentation from the Organiser:

<https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/IWGfvgYkRGSGVsW>

5.6 Others

ITEM 6

Other Business

6.1 2022-2026 Perspectives

Working Meeting in Oberhofen 5th and 6th July, 2022. Sub-Committee Members and or Advisory Group Members are welcome to participate.

6.2 Fluor Ban

It was reported that after comprehensive testing, FIS is prepared to fully enforce the Fluorinated Wax ban at the start of the 2022/2023 winter season.

Working with Bruker, a leading manufacturer of high-performance scientific instruments and maintaining a close collaboration with the International Biathlon Union (IBU) through a joint working group, an effective testing method using the Alpha II device was developed. The device provides reliable testing to ensure fluor-free competitions, which will help guarantee fair competitions and a level playing field. The rules regarding the fluor wax ban will be defined at the upcoming FIS Congress, which will then be implemented at the start of the winter 2022/23 season.

ITEM 7

Next Meetings

Zurich (SUI) Last week September 2022.