

To the  
- Members Sub-Committee for Park and Pipe  
Members of the Committee for Snowboard Freestyle Freeski

For information to:  
- National Ski Associations  
- Interested Parties  
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Oberhofen, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022

**Provisional Minutes FIS Sub-Committee for Park and Pipe Meeting  
17.05.2022**

Dear Friends,

Please find enclosed the “**Provisional Minutes**” of the Meeting of the Sub-Committee for Park and Pipe.

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>

With kind regards,

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION



Jeremy Forster  
Chair



Christoph Perreten  
Vice-Chair

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION  
FIS Sub-Committee for Park and Pipe Meeting**

**Provisional Minutes Sub-Committee Park and Pipe**

**Tuesday, 17.05.2022, 14:00 – 18:00 CET**

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
  - 1.1 Identification of Voting Delegates
  - 1.2 Approval of Minutes from the Online Fall Meeting 2021
  - 1.3. Approval of Agenda
  
2. Report FIS
  - 2.1 Update on 2022/23 season
    - 2.1.1 World Cup calendar 2022/2023
    - 2.1.2 World Cup Report 2021/2022
    - 2.1.3 OWG 2022 - 2026
    - 2.1.4 Continental Cup
    - 2.1.5 Junior World Championships
  - 2.2 Recognition of World Cup events according to host nation national restrictions in regards COVID – 19
  - 2.3 Update on Fluor ban restrictions
  
3. Women's in action Sport (Alba Prado)
  
4. World Championships 2023
  - 4.1 Schedule
  - 4.2 Quota allocation and minimum points (60 men and 30 women)
  - 4.3 Venue updates
  
5. Continental Cups
  - 5.1 Further development COC's: future key focus areas
  - 5.2 Smooth pathway athletes FIS-COC-WC level
  
6. Rail as FIS Event: directions and next steps.
  
7. World Ranking Lists
  - 7.1 Status WSF/FIS Agreement
  - 7.2 Report from Classification Advisory Group  
How does the WSPL work and what steps are taken to improve the calculation of such a list in order to allow it to be fair, equal and connected to the full pathway for riders.
  - 7.3 Status World Snowboard Ranking List & World Freeski Ranking List
  
8. Judges
  - 8.1 New set-up and restructuring process
  - 8.2 World Cup Judge/TD global fee from set to base upon real costs?
  - 8.3 Remote judging: requirements, implications (pros and cons)

9. World Cup Formats SS-HP-BA
10. Proposals from FIS, NSA's and Advisory Groups
11. Future Vision Working Group Snowboard, Freestyle, Freeski - Final Report
12. Next Meetings  
- Zürich (SUI) Last week of September 2022

## 1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Like every sport, the Park & Pipe Sub-Committee was focused on the impact and navigating the challenges of Covid-19 over the last two years. Significant acknowledgement should be given to the FIS Park & Pipe staff who led this effort along with all of FIS, Nations, Organisers, and all other stakeholders in support of the athletes and the sports. Particularly, the impact to the 2021 World Championships and World Cup schedules that challenged the ability to conduct events and a competition calendar globally. In addition to the significant work done to adjust the sports various ranking lists due to the impacts of Covid. Including the incredible efforts done at a JWC, CoC and other events returning to normal and fulfilling the scope of setting the pathway from development events to the Olympic games.

The 2022 Winter Olympic Games provided an amazing opportunity for the Park & Pipe events to be viewed globally. High quality venues allowed for some exceptional moments from athletes representing a broad range of nations globally. The inclusion of Big Air Skiing into the 2022 Olympic Winter Games was a notable moment for the sport.

Would like to recognize former Chairman Chris Witwiki (CAN) who provided critical leadership of the Classification Group during its initial two years. Welcome to Julie Stegall (CAN) who will assume Chair responsibilities and Lesley McKenna (GBR) who will become Vice Chair

The Judges Working Groups, led by Ola Sundquist (SWE) in collaboration with David Ortlieb (SUI), accelerated online judges education platforms as a way to continue education that was impacted by Covid restrictions. Park & Pipe will need to continue to emphasize judges' education and support going forward to ensure the high-level implementation of our competitions on a consistent basis. The acknowledgment of the importance of this group and the need to find appropriate and innovative solutions in order to continue the health and growth of the sports.

### 1.1 Identification of Voting Delegates

#### Ordinary Members:

Chair: Jeremy Forster	USA	Present
Vice-Chair: Christoph Perreten	SUI	Present

#### Members:

Fabien Bertrand	FRA	Present
Alejandro Martin	ESP	Present
Stijn Urkens	BEL	Present
Luc Faye	FRA	Present
Ola Keul	NOR	Absent
Roman Kuss	AUT	Present
Rich Hegarty	AUS	Present
Chris Witwiki	CAN	Present
Lee Ponzio	JPN	Present
Korbinian Resenberger	GER	Present
Jussi-Pekka Kinnunen	FIN	Present
Li Zhi	CHN	Present
Lesley McKenna	GBR	Present
Julie Steggall	CAN	Present
Filippo Kratter	ITA	Present
Martijn Oostdijk	NED	Present

Ashley Deibold	USA	Present
Stefan Karlsson	SWE	Present
Chiho Takao	JPN	Present
Luke Hetzel	NZL	Absent
Antti Koskinen	FIN	Absent
Josep Gil	ESP	Absent
Guido van Meel	SUI	Present
Tom Willmott	NZL	Absent
Levan Metreveli	GEO	Present
Christoffer Schach	NOR	Present
Christian Thiel	GER	Present

**Conference:**

Nicolás Carvalho	CHI	Absent
Martin Cernik	CZE	Absent
Roman Dalecky	CZE	Absent
Yuliya Fominykh	ARM	Absent
Vadym Korovytsky	UKR	Absent
Tomas Murgac	SVK	Absent
Myungsoo Choi	KOR	Absent
Georgy Stetsenko	RUS	Absent
Petr Kordyuk	RUS	Absent
Matevz Pristavec	SLO	Absent
Santiago Gamen	ARG	Absent
Tomasz Tylka	POL	Absent
Roman Vidovic	SLO	Present

**FIS Staff:**

Roberto Moresi	FIS	Present
Ritchie Date	FIS	Present

**Athlete Representative:**

Jiayu Liu	CHN	Absent
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**Guests:**

Ola Sundkvist, SBFK JAG	Tina Tanaka Sundkvist, FS JAG
Philippe Gueisbuhler, FIS	Iain Mackay, GBR
Valentino Mori, ITA	Vakhtang Kopadze, GEO
Uldis Brize, FIS	Sultan Salma, Saudi Winter Sports Federation
Shinobu Ueshima, JPN	Sarah Emery, USA
Per Iver Grimsrud, NOR	Nuriddin Pazylov, RUS
Nick Alexakos, USA	Maximilian Obergruber, AUT
Matevz Stanovnik, SLO	Marc Schober GSS
Lukas Gartner, GER	Lukasz Ligocki, POL
Jussa Kinnunen, FIN	Friedl May, GER
Eric Webster, USA	Dominique Langelier, CAN
David Ortlieb, SUI	Christian Thiel, GER
Christian Merz, GER	Chris Robinson, CAN
Charles-Antoine Morache, CAN	Chad Buchholz, FIS
Stijn Urkens, BEL	Antanas Gaidamvicius, LTU
Anna Banach, Infront	Wopke de Vegt, NED
Dave Reynolds, USA	Alexey Potapov, RUS
Maggie Dekking, CAN	Christian Galler, AUT

## **1.2 Approval of Minutes from the Online Fall Meeting 2022**

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

## **1.3. Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved with several additional items as noted by Roby.

## **2. Report FIS**

### **2.1 Update on 2022/23 Season**

Upcoming season is as usual working in progress but at this stage the calendar is set with all events and as we stand all trophies should be awarded. There are only a few open dates that need some clarification which are connected to the still ongoing pandemic in some nations.

We will continue our usual round of inspections and pre-meetings with the various organisers, some have already been conducted whilst most of them will happen in the summer.

New items regarding Global fees, athletes' registrations fee, courses, TV starting times and the option to split the genders will be discussed and evaluated.

## 2.1.1 2022/2023 World Cup Calendar

Date	Day	Site	NAT	Freeski			Snowboard			Notes
				HP	SS	BA	HP	SS	BA	
<b>October 22</b> 21.-22.	Fri-Sat	Chur	SUI			21*			22*	
<b>November 22</b> 18.-19 24.-26	Fri-Sat Thu-Sat	Stubai Falun	AUT SWE		18-19	24-25*			24-26*	
<b>December 22</b> 01.-03. 09.-10. 14.-17.	Thu-Sat Fri-Sat Wed-Sat	Beijing Edmonton Copper	CHN CAN USA	15-17		02-03* 14-16	14-16		01-03 09-10* 15-17	TBC TBC
<b>January 23</b> 13.-14. 12.-14. 18.-22. 20.-21.	Thu-Sat Thu-Sat Wed-Sat Fri-Sat	Kreischberg Font Romeu Laax Calgary	AUT FRA SUI CAN	20/21	12-13-14 18-20-22		19-21	18-20-21	13-14*	
<b>February 23</b> 01.-04. 08.-11.	Wed-Sat Wed-Sat	Mammoth Calgary	USA CAN	01-03	02-04		02-04 10-11	01-03 09-11-12		
<b>February/March 23</b> 24.-05.		<i>Bakuriani</i>	<i>GEO</i>	<i>02-04</i>	<i>25-26-28</i>	<i>03-05</i>	<i>01-03</i>	<i>24-26-27</i>	<i>04-05</i>	<i>WSC</i>
<b>March 23</b> 09.-12. 16.-18. 23.-26.	Thu-Sun Fri-Sat Thu-Sun	Secret Garden Tignes Silvaplana	CHN FRA SUI	09-11	16-17-18 23-25		10-12	24-26		
15 Locations / 07 Nations / 60 Competitions				05/05	06/06	04/04	05/05	04/04	06/06	

Note: \* Night Finals

## 2.1.2 World Cup Report 2021/2022

Roberto Moresi / Ritchie Date

It seems like a copy paste of every year's report but behind it there is much more and sincere thoughts and gratitude.

Kathrin, Ritchie, Martijn, Chad, Ola, David, Uldis, FIS travel, Dimitrije, Sarah, all the Judges and TD's and many more need to know how much it means to us having their support throughout these not easy seasons and periods. It's an understatement to say: "Impossible without them". Please keep on doing what you do best!!!

A few more big stakeholders that we cannot leave behind are the nations, teams, officials and athletes who adapted once again to a complex season with still COVID and travel restrictions in place.

Last and not least, all the organisers who, despite the unprecedented situation, keep on delivering World Cup competitions one after the other. They are there for the whole community and from main OC staff to every single volunteer nobody spares efforts in

making your events the best possible and will keep on doing so delivering more and better.

Thanks to you all!!!!

#### **Index:**

- COVID
- Season 2021-2022 World Cups
- Bakuriani 2023
- WC Courses (Chur, Steamboat, Bakuriani, Tignes)
- Entry process
- Connection with teams
- TV Broadcast and WC notes
- Media Coordination update.
- Video review system and video judging
- Data service
- Judges - Technical delegates
- Note to teams
- World Cup applications

#### **COVID:**

Second season was affected by the Pandemic but with the learnings, adjustments and new protocols, no major situations or spreads occurred.

The strict appliance by the organisers of the Covid regulations kept the environment as safe as possible and this was fundamental to deliver a full season and get to the Olympic games in a secured manner.

For the first time strict vaccination policies were set by most countries and this furthermore helped reduce spread and severe effects to those who contracted COVID as well as allowing events to happen again.

Main challenge was to follow set rules and regulations that differed from nation to nation and moment to moment and keeping consistency throughout the season. We learn more as we do and become more capable in handling in a flexible way all the situations.

We went through several waves and the rules and regulations for the next season are still to be finalized based upon how the summer develops.

#### **WC Calendar:**

The WC Calendar presented in fall was not impacted at all by COVID situations. All in all it went smoothly and there were no major changes.

Below the list of events conducted with final results issued:

- |   |          |                  |     |         |                      |
|---|----------|------------------|-----|---------|----------------------|
| ● | October  | Chur             | SUI | SB - FK | BA                   |
| ● | November | Stubai           | AUT | FK      | SS                   |
| ● | December | Steamboat        | USA | SB-FK   | BA                   |
| ● | December | Copper           | USA | SB-FK   | HP                   |
| ● | December | Calgary          | CAN | SB      | SS                   |
| ● | December | Calgary          | CAN | FK      | HP                   |
| ● | January  | Mammoth          | USA | SB-FK   | HP – SS              |
| ● | January  | Font Romeu       | FRA | FK      | SS                   |
| ● | January  | Laax             | SUI | SB      | HP – SS              |
| ● | February | Beijing 2022 OWG | CHN | SB-FK   | HP – SS – BA         |
| ● | March    | Bakuriani        | GEO | SB - FK | SS                   |
| ● | March    | Tignes           | FRA | FK      | SS (women cancelled) |
| ● | March    | Spindleruv       | CZE | SB      | SS                   |
| ● | March    | Silvaplana       | SUI | SB – FK | SS                   |



21 World Cups (41 competitions) were conducted following the original calendar. As usual weather plays a major role in our events and thanks to weather days and the capacity of the organisers and all involved stakeholders only 1 competition in 1 gender had to be canceled due to strong winds. The more we do events and face borderline conditions the better we all are in gaging what can be done and the solutions that can be found and adopted.

Note: wind seemed to be more present in general, disrupting often the planned competition schedules. For future planning this topic needs to be kept in consideration even more.

The **WC calendar** consisted of:

- 2 Snowboard BA
- 2 Freeski BA
  
- 3 Snowboard HP
- 4 Freeski HP
  
- 6 Snowboard SS
- 6 Freeski SS

Out of the 13 locations 4 hosted for their first time World Cups: Chur, Steamboat, Bakuriani and Tignes.

This past season, given the still ongoing COVID situation and the inability to foresee the developments, many city events still were not all able to be conducted which did not allow the awarding of the BA Globes having had only 2 World Cup competitions. All other Globes in FK and SB in both HP and SS as well as the overall titles were awarded.

As explained several other times new organisers are great to have on the tour as they bring new vibes and options, but at the same time it might take a few seasons before all learnings are captured. Some of the best events at the beginning struggled but now are leading for quality and deliverance, it's a process and our goal is to speed this process with transfer of knowledge and support.

3 of the above new organisers will be present next season and together we are already working hard in adjusting what needed to higher the quality of such events. The enthusiasm of such organisers and resorts are strong and will show major differences already this upcoming season.

### **Bakuriani and 2023 WCS:**

Particular attention to Bakuriani which will host the 2023 FIS Freestyle, Snowboard and Freeski World Championships.

They have conducted test events in Cross, Parallel and now Slopestyle and the experiences and learnings were very important to understand the situation and environment we will find next season.

The organisers demonstrated that they have goals and want to reach them despite the challenges. They are already engaging with all the best technical experts that will build and run the single events according to the best standards. The atmosphere will be great as the most prepared and best announcers will be present creating a connection between the past and the present events.

The phrase I use the most with Bakuriani is that despite all the difficulties (global pandemic, economic crisis and now a severe and tragic war): "Everything they have promised they have delivered". Looking forward to being back.

### **WC Courses:**

In general resorts and organisers which are on the calendar for some years keep on improving setups and as they better gauge the needs providing more quality courses and services to the teams.

To note in particular Silvaplana that in vision of the upcoming 2025 FIS WCH keeps on stepping up in all areas and as a season final remains a great place to be.

### **New Locations:**

#### Chur BA SUJ:

New event on tour and was the opening one. It was even the last one to be placed on the calendar as the request came in at a very late stage. As a first World Cup lots of learnings connected to the venue, the schedule, and the ramp. Attention to the ramp shape and dimensions are key and will be adjusted for the upcoming season. Ramp direction connected to the wind issues are under evaluation given limitations, but already adjustments to the schedule will be set to avoid the windy moments of the day. 28000 spectators in 2 days with concerts, side events, sponsor village and more. Great event to have in our calendar. We have already set a 5-year plan with them.

Steamboat BA USA: An old aerial site was reset to host the competitions. It was a last minute confirmation given the snow situation. A very mild a shallow snow year presented itself, but the resort and organisers based on reliable weather forecasts took the risk to move on and all worked out amazingly. Once again, learning with a new venue in a new period and a need to focus on optimizing schedules if we ought to return. With normal snow conditions and temperatures this venue could be one of the best venues from a technical perspective.

#### Bakuriani GEO SS:

Brand new course, with all infrastructure (lifts, groundwork, snowmaking, groomers) and organisation delivered the first ever World cup SS in Georgia. The building process, seen the latest COVID years, was difficult and delayed due to lack of prime materials but despite such conditions they were still able to provide a good course which helped understand the potential and limitations of the venue and weather conditions that we could be facing during next year's WCS. More studies will be done to improve all the venues and the transformation from SS to BA.

#### Tignes FRA:

Not new to World Cup and other major events but proves that the level of the events have grown and that the riding, seen the performances, requires much more from the courses. Tignes is very motivated and willing to move on with hosting World Cups and after this first experience will upgrade the setup for teams connected to course and transportation solutions.

Once again the first event is a learning one and seeing the capacities and the level of organisation that is present at Tignes more and better is to be expected. We are looking forward to going back and helping the host.

### **Injuries:**

Injury rates are not increasing and when we count the number of actual tricks performed the ratio between performed tricks and injuries is incredibly low.

Still every situation where an injury occurs needs to be understood and where possible eliminated. Only one topic to highlight is that the rare occasions can result in severe injuries (concussions, fractures, ligament).

### **Entry process and deadlines:**

Third year with the new entry and quota rules and in general it works and at this stage all nations are familiar with the requirements and process. This should allow for a smoother list preparation. Organisers are understanding the process as well and the importance of restricted field sizes but at the same time keeping an open system to fill the unused spots.

HP events have no problems at the moment, we saw an increase in participation which could be also connected to the Olympic games. It's important, a priority to participate in all the HP events, these are the only ones around that need to be supported. We are getting clear indications that Japan is looking to come back on the tour and hopefully should happen with season 2023-2024.

In BA and SS where entries are higher the problem we are facing now is that nations are entering on time with big numbers just to be sure that they are set no matter pulls or withdraws, but then what happens is that they don't take a decision in a good time frame and we are not capable of informing and adjusting the lists in a timely manner. As usual who is penalized are the smaller nations and those who are on the bubble spots and ultimately the whole system itself. Both Ritchie and I can do as much as we can but we need reliable information and cooperation. Please relay back to you admin offices and team leaders.

Once again the system is built to assist you all, we need your full cooperation to make it work or we will need to revert back to an older system or something different.

#### **Connection with teams:**

During the season the cooperation and level of trust with teams continues to grow, aligning and allowing for efficient and dynamic activities and changes were needed. Continuous interaction with athletes in both genders is set to collect information on what can be improved and where adjustments are needed.

The relationship remains friendly and professional at the same time, creating a good atmosphere to work in, connected even to the event organisers who understand the needs and do all possible to accommodate the sport aspects.

#### **TV and broadcast World Cup notes:**

The continuous efforts in working as close as possible with broadcasters and rights holders remains a primary goal to enlarge and maximize our reach.

The excellent collaboration with Infront (Anna Banach) leads to wider and better options both distribution wise but also in terms of support with many organisers.

Infront short summary:

- The data are not yet complete/only partial evaluation available at the time of this report
- Excellent numbers in terms of viewership, far more than 300 million. viewers total (for all SB/FS/FK)
- **Park & Pipe reveals to be the protagonist of the 21/22 season – one third of the total viewership is to be assigned to Park & Pipe**
- Significant growth of audiences in AUT (50% market share for Mammoth events on ORF Sport+)
- Excellent numbers in Czech Rep., Italy and Finland (in this latter case some of the events reached 45% market share)
- Strong increase of viewership in China (OWG driven) and also in Japan
- Excellent results for Calgary, Mammoth and Steamboat – good and pondered timing, not too many events at the same time
- Also the streaming/online data were provided by the broadcasters – it appears that full live streaming on the broadcasters' platforms is less viewed than the TV programs (and the average watch time remains 30 minutes)

- Free and unblocked streaming in the countries with great ski/snowboard history (Australia, New Zealand, UK) did not provide expected results

### **Conclusions once again are:**

The sport is "cool and great" but the current formats still make it boring and difficult to watch:

- Shorten the duration to have the events broadcast/watched in their entirety
- Events with 2 runs only
- Events with the length not exceeding 60-90 minutes
- Changes to be introduced asap and from the very beginning of the 2021/22 season
- All events with the same format

Discussion needs to continue around consistent final field sizes, to create a relevant and interesting TV product that is digestible to viewers whilst remaining fair and appropriate to the qualification field sizes. Consistent feedback from broadcasters that our finals time frame is too long and is not sellable must be recognised if we want to continue to grow our sports.

Find appropriate solutions and try new approaches:

- Split finals for men and women were possible. (rule proposal has been submitted as well).
- Reduce n° of runs and n° of competitors in the final to fit a shorter time frame

### **Media Coordinator update:**

Snowboard social media report:

<https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/oqzCWZImUUg0d1>

Freestyle/Freeski social media report:

<https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/ShYwMphML3V4b14>

### **Social media breakdown:**

- SB had the highest relative growth of any FIS discipline in social in 2021/22; FS/FK second-highest relative growth
- Olympics was obviously a big boost with lots of new fans, new eyes on our content and elevated engagement levels
- Highest-engagement posts of the year were some of the easiest to produce - me in the finish area at the Olympics, snapping a photo of the podium athletes on my phone -> unique access translating to engaging content
- Simple competition highlights and behind the scenes content is king. Our sports are spectacular and our athletes are interesting, and these are the assets that people are most interested in.
- Good content from good competitions in a desirable format, targeting our specific fans but also engaging casual observers, is the goal
- It's now very clear what our fans most enjoy from us, and we should be looking to further tap into and refine that while finding ways of drawing new fans in
- While the "World Cup" brand sees decent engagement and reach, the FIS brand isn't especially strong with Park & Pipe fans or athletes, thus our graphic/branded content sees low engagement

**Looking forward:**

- The main development that will shape communications for Park & Pipe as we move forward will be how our new broadcast rights agreement shapes up
- F1 is a great case study in that it has had a true renaissance in the past five years by giving fans broad access to easy-to-consume content by providing their drivers and teams with that content, and I believe we could see something similar with FIS Park & Pipe if we could control and distribute our content in such a way
- For an easy-to-follow breakdown on F1 check out this Twitter thread here - <https://twitter.com/joepompliano/status/1523319410601377795?s=21>
- In this post-Olympic season we should have the breathing space to try really focus in on what people want and growing those aspects, while trying out some new things
- Introduction of a SB + FK shared TikTok under the “FIS Park & Pipe” banner is something in the works right now. I believe having both SB and FK together under one account, highlighting exceptional moments from our competitions and behind-the-scenes, will be most effective for the platform

**Video review system and video judging:**

Same as last year: The video review system as well as the video judging has been used efficiently and needs some further thinking process around it.

As a note and to clarify once again this system is to assist the judges and the teams in the delivery of the scores. It's not to be forgotten that our main scope of service is based upon life judging and not on a full review of each trick, run or performance. The review system is in place to handle the very unclear moments where cameras don't work, a trick was misidentified, something in the judges stand happened with the images...etc. The final goal is to treat every single rider in every moment in the same way as everybody else: fair and equal manners.

Numbers are not to be forgotten and we believe that the judges do a great job and that every run whether it's at the beginning of the season, in the middle, at the Olympic games at a random World cup is approached with the same professionalism, dedication, preparation and technological solutions. Keeping this in mind hundreds of runs happened, thousands of tricks got judged and unfortunately only the very few difficult ones get remembered.

A massive thanks to the Judges group and the data team who supported them actively in the judge's booths with replays and data.

**Data Service:**

Our data service provider again did an amazing job following all events, all went smooth and there were no major errors or glitches. Staff is very professional and cooperative. This year, despite the ongoing Pandemic situation they were capable of adjusting to all changes and challenges working even in new ways. Apparently, every year we present them with a different and strange one.

Luckily the World Cup crew is the same one that assisted us and worked with us at the Olympic Games which allowed us to feel confident and know all was taken care of in a proper way.

Thanks again to the strong cooperation with our Data service company SWISS Timing and GSS.

**Judges/Technical Delegates:**

All events were attended and FIS staff wise no major issues surfaced (I was stuck in a hotel in Calgary, to be honest seeing the temperatures -30, not too bad at the end ;). Only issue we had was at the end of the season with COVID cases and still some travel restrictions that made it difficult to find enough judges with all the different events happening. Everything happened but we were at the limit.

The technical delegates are becoming more and more professional not only in handling rules and regulations but even the difficult tasks of connecting with teams and the whole organisation. They are key elements that help lead to those important and correct decisions that allow to conduct safe and fair competitions. The years of collaboration are paying back and great to see tight relationships with the whole group.

As usual, the judge's area is a delicate one as it directly affects the outcome of the event. All head judges and judges did their job appropriately and were available to teams for clarifications. Not always agreed upon the outcome of the events but from a general perspective the majority worked out well results wise. This year again increased performances in many events raised the bar for everybody as well as for the judges.

Still some frustration as the system in general required more whilst the capacity to deliver relies always on the outcome of the judges. We have been in tight connection with the judges, teams and competitors in a way to better understand the needs and what can be done to improve the whole system. The judge's group does get recognized as a group that does an excellent job many times.

In the Freeski community it is important to outline the continued discussion surrounding the use of the Section-by-Section judging system. There is mixed opinion regarding the concept of SBS, and how it affects the results compared to Overall Impression. Ongoing discussions between the 2 judges' groups to find good solutions as well as to understand the topic.

More feedback from nations is required.

The pandemic slowed down the building of a new project that can be of greater assistance to the whole community whilst keeping in mind the potential difficult times that we could be facing. This project remains the same and will develop over multiple years with different steps to accomplish.

In the project the major points are:

- Judges education and platforms;
- Overlap of knowledge from event to event, creating consistency.
- Creation of a different layer of judges for a high pay grade
- Better judges area structure
- Goals, responsibilities and task for the judges group
- Better solutions and overview of how judges get assigned.

**Notes to teams**

Keep on doing entries in a timely manner especially the upcoming season as quotas will be reduced and there will be limited field sizes at all events.

It's important that teams and nations participate in all events in order to keep them relevant and strong. This is the case for HP events where entries and participation are decreasing. Every event we have has its importance and needs to be treated consequently otherwise there are chances of losing events.

### **World Cup applications:**

The application process and creation of the 2022-2023 WC calendar followed a similar situation as last year, quite complex and uncertain seeing the ongoing pandemic situation and other topics that are surfacing.

As things, hopefully, get back to normal we are aiming to work on the long-term calendar from now till 2026 so that all can understand the dynamics and we can all avoid major clashes. This is what we achieved already before the Pandemic with a solid long-term calendar that unfortunately got offset by COVID.

We are looking solid at this stage with nearly all events confirmed and only a few final confirmations left.

### **2.1.3 OWG 2022 – 2026**

#### **Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games:**

The highlight of the season and despite the pandemic and the limited options we had to visit and conduct test events the Olympics showcased all our events (SS-BA-HP) at the highest level possible. Great courses that allowed for great performances and some of the most historical moments were shared and lived are set in the books forever.

36 medals with 12 Golds were handed out and for the first time Freeski BA was added.

Slopestyle: the most choreographic course of the entire games

Big Air the most innovative venue that became one of the symbols of the entire games

HP: history connects to performance with the biggest global spread.

Very diverse podiums representation:

Freeski: CAN, CHN, EST, FRA, SUI, NOR, NZL, SWE, USA, (9 nations)

Snowboard: AUT, AUS, CAN, CHN, ESP, JPN, NOR, NZL, SUI, USA (10 nations)

Congratulations to all the winners.

The team that was on site with Contest directors and TDs was a necessary team and with the BTOs helped conduct all events in the best possible way. If only 1 was missing, issues would have surfaced and we would have not been able to properly cover all the events. Ritchie Date, Roby Moresi, Martijn Oostdijk, Matevz Stanovnik, Josh Lyle, Tino Mincev, Bill Van Gilder.

Amongst the highs a few lows:

-not the best weather conditions for Freeski men's HP Finals, very cold conditions and wind with some new snow during the night before.

-judged sports present the usual difficulties and how live judged sports can be subject to very delicate conditions.

It's necessary that all together we thank the organisers and mostly all those who actively worked in delivering the games. The efforts were enormous in unprecedented conditions.

Direct thanks to: Kelly, Miao, Mr. Peng, Zhao, Mr. Tong, Joe Fitzgerald, Davide Cerato and all course builders involved.

**Olympic TV Figures:** still not available.

**2026 Olympic Games.**

Livigno will be the resort hosting the Park and Pipe competitions as of today.

Continuous meetings both online and on site keep on being conducted.

At this stage major planning, not only connected to the courses, are ongoing. New underground parking lots, lifts, event areas are all connected and seeing the location it's not an easy process.

All courses are planned close to each other but there are still some adjustments that need to be done. Final plans still have not been presented for approval.

Long term plans do take in consideration test events both at an EC level and at a WC level. We are still waiting to have a clear construction timeline and understand who and how the test events will be handled.

Most likely season 23-24 should be able to host test events otherwise we will have to revert back to season 24-25 which is the pre-Olympic season.

**2.1.4 Continental Cup report:**

Due to the consequences of the pandemic and a lack of snow in South America, unfortunately the Australia New Zealand Cup and South America Cup did not take place this season. The Asia Cup had one event, in Tyumen, RUS, so no full Tour was established.

However: we were able to execute both the Northern America Cup and the Europa Cup without too many changes.

Report NorAm P&P

**Overall:**

After not being able to have events at all last season, the NorAm Cup came back strong with a full calendar, with 4 SB stops in CAN and 3 in the USA and 2 FK in CAN and 3 in the USA.

Canada started its season as it always has in the last few years at SunPeaks Resort, followed by a stop on the World Cup course at Winsport in Calgary where some unfavorable weather conditions unfortunately led to a cancellation of the Slopestyle event.

New stops that were added this year were Beaver Valley and Stoneham, especially the last one was an exciting addition to the calendar, the Slope course was a big success and we're planning to keep this one as part of the tour for the next few years to come. With Mammoth, Aspen and Copper, USA also had legendary resorts on the NorAm calendar.

**Events:**

Almost all events went through successfully. SB lost only 1 SS event.

NorAm Snowboard
8 Slopestyle
4 Big Air
7 Halfpipe

NorAm Freeski
5 Slopestyle
3 Big Air
6 Halfpipe



**Numbers and points:**

The numbers of athletes competing at NorAm events P&P seem to have suffered quite a bit from Covid19. The pandemic prevented events from happening at all during the '20-'21 season.

## Numbers NorAm Cup SS/BA

Women SB '20	Women SB '22	Men SB '20	Men SB '22
37	26	128	83
Women FK '20	Women FK '22	Men FK '20	Men FK '22
29	28	87	74

## NorAm HP

Women SB '20	Women SB '22	Men SB '20	Men SB '22
29	28	36	38
Women FK '20	Women FK '22	Men FK '20	Men FK '22
35	21	62	31

SB 109 SS/BA, 66 HP

FK 102 SS/BA, 52 HP

**Recommendations:**

A way to get numbers up again may be the proposal to have Premium events also in the NorAm Cup. This gives more value to the Cup as a whole and is a good incentive for WC athletes to attend to get points up. It would therefore be helpful not to plan potential Premium events during WC events.

**Short report Europa Cups:**

The full report was sent earlier and can be found in the cloud:

<https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/N18T3Mz7AvQgXsV>

Here are some highlights:

Snowboard calendar actual
7 Slopestyle
5 Big Air
3 Halfpipe

Freeski calendar actual
6 Slopestyle
5 Big Air
2 Halfpipe

15 SB competitions

13 FK competitions

217 Snowboarders competed in SS/BA, 58 in HP, growth of 20 % for SS/BA, stabilization for HP.

141 Freeskiers competed in SS/BA, 35 in HP, growth of 30 % in SS/BA and 40% in HP.

41 nations were present in our EC events during last season

Premium events: we had 3 BA's and 2 SS's on the calendar. Although the best 4 SS's and the best 2 BA results count, this puts a bit too much of an importance on the BA's. As we feel SS should always be leading in an area from a ranking and point perspective, we are looking at 1 ECP BA and 2 ECP SS per discipline for next year.

There were 2 cancellations in France due to lack of snow and bad weather, 1 in Ukraine for obvious reasons and a short calendar appearance by Spindleruv Mlyn.

The existing events performed well, it is obvious that the eastern European events are not that well attended, because they are further away. The organisers there are working hard to compensate for the distance with high level events.

The new events in Prato Nevoso for SB and Alpe d'Huez and Stubai for FK did very well, the last-minute SB HP one in Kitzsteinhorn was not so well attended, but it was great to have a 3<sup>rd</sup> HP event to complete the Tour, in combination with the AUT/ GER Masters.

Due to the weather, we had some difficult decisions to make at several events. I believe the jury and coaches cooperated well in this and found the best possible solutions at that time.

Last week, we had a very fruitful EC meeting with 48 organisers, coaches, judges and other officials attending. As so many people are involved in this Tour, it seems productive to have this meeting once or twice a year.

Thank you for all that organised and participated in the EC events, it is a real pleasure to experience the family vibe we have at the start of each competition.

## DRAFT FREESKI/SNOWBOARD PARK & PIPE FIS EUROPA CUP CALENDAR 2022/2023

Date	Day	Site	NAT	Freeski			Snowboard			Remarks days
				HP	SS	BA	HP	SS	BA	
October 2022										
November 2022										
December 2022										
January 2023										
9-10		Les Arcs Vars/ Alpe d'Huez Prato Nevoso Leysin EYOF	FRA			x				x
18-20			FRA		x			x		
			ITA							
21-28			SUI	x	23-24	26-27	x	23-24	26-27	
February 2023										
1-3		Font Romeu La Clusaz	FRA		x			x		
11		Kopaonik	FRA							
17-18		Kotelnica B Davos Götschen	SRB							
			POL							
			SUI			x				x
			GER							
March 2023										
8-10		Alpe d'Huez/Vars Laax			x					
13-17			SUI	x	x		x	x		Both ECP
April 2023										
12-18		Silvaplana Stubai	SUI	x?	x	x?	x?	x	x?	ECP?
18-22			GER		x					
21-28 January EYOF ITA										
27-31 March World Rookie Tour Finals AUT										

### 2.1.5 Junior World Championships

#### Junior World Championships Park & Pipe Leysin 2022

The FIS Junior World Championships Park & Pipe 2022 in Leysin were a great success. The courses were of the highest level and so was the organisation of the competitions. There is definitely a great legacy from the Lausanne 2020 Youth Olympic Games. Leysin offers events in a beautiful setting: this all combined with sunny weather throughout the week provided smiling faces from all present. Both athletes and coaches were very pleased by the whole event.

**Numbers:**

The amount of athletes and nations show that there is surely an interest from the community for these championships. 29 Nations from all 4 winter sporting continents were present at this event.

	SS M	SS W	BA M	BA W	HP M	HP W
Freeski	55	19	50	17	21	7
Snowboard	67	25	60	25	22	20

**Courses:**

All competition courses are situated in Leysin's main bowl. Finish areas are very close, permitting audiences to shift from event to event in a matter of seconds. One chairlift gives access to start areas of all competition venues. Other than at YOG, there was a separate Big Air venue, providing more training opportunities and an easy shift from event and discipline on finals days.

The course level for all three venues was similar to other major events such as WC and WSC. Courses worked very well and were safe. Of course the weather played an important role, for future events it is good to take more challenging conditions in consideration.

**Competitions:**

A professional, experienced but also a very friendly and hospitable crew delivered high level competitions, which were much appreciated by the teams. This resulted in a wonderful atmosphere at the start of every event.

**Ceremonies:**

In the middle of the town, a Medal Plaza was created, where all ceremonies would take place. This was a very nice setup: big enough to accommodate both teams and locals and cozy enough to create a nice atmosphere. All ceremonies and events were well attended by both local people and the international teams.

The opening ceremony was short and simple and adjusted to this group of young athletes, followed by a very well appreciated apero with local raclette. Medal Ceremonies included flag raising for all 3 winners. Almost every evening bands and DJ's entertained many after the official parts.

Directly after each event, the top 6 ranked were called on stage for a "flower" ceremony in the finish area, where they all would get hand crafted wooden clocks as a gift from Leysin. These presents were very special and very much appreciated by the teams.

**Look and Feel:**

All banners, flags, podiums and other artwork had the same look and feel, making the event look special and well thought of.

**Side Events:**

There were various initiatives to successfully include local youth in the event. The local schools provided a great project where their students were creating radio shows, webcasts, printed news and interviews on the event. Physiotherapist students provided treatment and massages for all athletes.

**Accommodation:**

The only minus in this event was the accommodation. Leading up to the event, the designated hotel manager accepted all entries, only to find out very shortly before there was not enough room. This resulted in last minute damage control by the OC and not being able to deliver the convenience they had foreseen for the teams.

**Recommendations/ next steps:**

- Find a good way to deal with hotels and accommodation
- For future events we can look at side-events and maybe education for the young athletes (doping etc.)

It would be very beneficial if we could return to Leysin every other year and start discussing a contract between Swiss-Ski, Leysin and FIS for 2024, 2026 and 2028.

**2.2 Recognition of World Cup events according to host nation national restrictions in regards COVID – 19 and COVID**

As of today no indications have been given out. As the ongoing Pandemic situation is still in a very dynamic moment all will be reviewed as the summer goes by.

Still the principles in order to validate a WC remain similar and based upon restrictions applied by the host nation.

**2.3 Update on Fluor Ban restrictions**

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.

**3. Women's in action sport (Alba Pardo)**

A presentation was shown at the Youth & Children Sub-Committee. Unfortunately, Alba Pardo could not be present at the time of this meeting.

Link to presentation: <https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/anH1kweLdpGBfnj>

## 4. World Championships 2023

### 4.1 Schedule

#### **Slopestyle preliminary schedule**

- Tuesday 21 Feb – Training
- Wednesday 22 Feb – Training
- Thursday 23 Feb Training
- Friday 24 Feb – SB SS Men's Qualifications
- Saturday 25 Feb – FK SS Men's Qualifications
- Sunday 26 Feb – SB/FK Women's SS Qualifications
- Monday 27 Feb – SB W/M SS Finals
- Tuesday 28 Feb – FK W/M SS Finals

#### **Halfpipe preliminary schedule**

- Sunday 26 Feb – Training
- Monday 27 Feb - Training
- Tuesday 28 Feb - Training
- Wednesday 1 Mar – SB HP Qualification
- Thursday 2 Mar – FK HP Qualification
- Friday 3 Mar – SB HP Finals
- Saturday 4 Mar – FK HP Finals

#### **Big Air preliminary schedule**

- Wednesday 1 Mar – Training
- Thursday 2 Mar – Training
- Friday 3 Mar – FK BA Qualification
- Saturday 4 Mar – SB BA Qualification
- Sunday 5 Mar – FK and SB BA Finals

### 4.2. Quota Allocation and minimum points (60 men and 30 women)

#### **FIS Rule Precisions specific to the FIS Snowboard, Freestyle and Freeski WSC 2023 in Bakuriani (GEO)**

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##### **1. Number of Participants**

Freestyle, Freeski and Ski Cross events:

Maximum 36 participants with a maximum of 20 competitors of either gender plus the competitors according to art. 9.3.

Snowboard events:

Maximum 36 participants with a maximum of 20 competitors of either gender plus the competitors according to art. 9.3.

##### **2. Qualification Standards and Calculation**

For the combined Snowboard, Freestyle and Freeski World Championships following additional regulations will apply:

Basic Qualification (BQ) and Additional Qualification (AQ): one competitor can be entered with a minimum of 5 FIS points in PAR, HP, MO, DM, AE, 50 FIS Points in SX, SBX.

Additional Qualification (AQ): additional competitors need to have the minimum FIS point level as listed in the table below.

Table of qualification standards by event

Standards / Requirements	PAR	Cross/Tea m	HP/HP	MO/DM	AE/AET
Basic Qualification points level	5	50	5	5	5
Additional Qualification points level	50	50	50	25	25

### **3. Slopestyle and Big Air Freeski and Snowboard Quota Allocation procedure and Minumum Standards:**

Snowboard Slopestyle and Big Air and Freeski Slopestyle and Big Air are counted as one (1) event in the respective discipline. Only one (1) quota place for one (1) athlete will be allocated for both events in the respective discipline.

Quota places per National Association (NSA) with athletes that are eligible will be allocated to a maximum number of participants of 60 men and 30 women for Freeski and 60 men and 30 women for Snowboard using the 4<sup>th</sup> FIS points lists "Slopestyle" (valid for Freeski or Snowboard).

The women's and men's quota allocation will be made by assigning at first one quota spot per nation that fulfills the basic quota requirement as per the table below. The remaining NSA's nation spots for women and men will be allocated by assigning one quota place per competitor from the above mentioned 4<sup>th</sup> FIS Slopestyle points lists in the respective discipline (following the ranks from top down) up to a maximum of 4 per gender per nation.

Once a NSA has achieved the maximum number of four (4) places per discipline and gender its remaining athletes will no longer be counted and the next eligible NSA on the 4<sup>th</sup> FIS Slopestyle points Lists in the respective discipline will be allocated a quota spot.

If there is a tie for the final allocated quota place(s) on either the men's or women's FIS Slopestyle points Lists in the respective discipline, the athlete with the highest position between the tied athlete on the respective discipline 4<sup>th</sup> FIS points list published will be ranked ahead. If the athletes are still tied with points and rank, then the tie will be broken through the previous most recent FIS points lists in the respective discipline to determine the better ranked athlete.

Once the 4th FIS points lists are issued nations are required to confirm or dismiss their allocated quota spots within 30 days from when the 4<sup>th</sup> lists are issued. Based upon the confirmations and dismissals of the 60 men and 30 women's nations quotas spots will be confirmed by FIS.

Quota places dismissed by the NSA at any given point until the latest 10 days prior to the 1st competition day will be reallocated to the next eligible NSA on the ranking list as described above. If an NSA does not dismiss a quota place but thereafter does not enter or participate with an athlete at the Championships, the NSA will be sanctioned on site.

In case an NSA is allocated quotas in the individual events that total more than the maximum of 36 athletes, the NSA may only select a maximum of 36 (maximum 20 per gender) athletes across the Snowboard events and 36 (maximum 20 per gender) in the Freestyle / Freeski / Ski Cross events.

Standards/ Requirements	Freeski Women	Freeski Men	Snowboard Women	Snowboard Men
Basic Qualification points level	50	50	80	80
Additional Qualification points	50	50	80	80

#### 4. Timelines

Outlined below are the precise entry dates, publications of the FIS points lists and the draw procedures for the competitions.

Due to WSC Precision 3 and 4 only qualified competitors can be registered at the time of the provisional team selection.

Only qualified competitors with the required FIS points can be entered into the competitions.

Art.	When	What	Who
WSC 13.1	July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Official Invitation to all National Ski Associations	OC
WSC 13.2	November 18 <sup>th</sup>	Preliminary team entry for all. For SB/FS SS and Big Air Preliminary team entry has to be done by name in order to generate the ranking list to allocate the quota spots per nation.	Each National Association
WSC 13.3.1	January 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Provisional team selection	Each National Association
WSC 13.3.3	24 hrs after the last FIS World Cup event before the respective Championships	Final team selection	National Association
WSC 13.4	1 hr before the draw	Draw	National Association

#### 4.3 Venue updates

As of today Slopestyle and BA course are ready and tested. The BA will be hosted on the last jump of the Slopestyle course (4<sup>th</sup> feature). The in-run and out run of the 4<sup>th</sup> feature will be adjusted in order to compact the venue and still allow enough speed to hit the jump. The jump itself will not be changed as the timelines are tight and this will allow the riders to have already had the chance to use it during the SS event. Similar situation was set in Aspen with the 2021 WCS.

The SS test event showed the variables that we could be facing and will allow us to work with solutions or contingency plans if needed.

The Halfpipe unfortunately last summer was not built but is in progress as we speak and will be ready with all infrastructure by fall. The organisers have already reached



out and contracted Alli Zehetner in order to approach the build and maintenance phase in the best possible manner with well known experts.

More details will be presented by Levan

## **5. Continental Cups**

Please see the Report FIS Europa Cups Park and Pipe 2022:

<https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/N18T3Mz7AvQgXsV>

### **5.1 Further development CoC's: future key focus areas**

Keep on aligning COC events with the WC's as the next step.

- Jump dimensions better aligned with the current level of competing.
- Professionalizing judges tools (video judging, judges stands etc.)
- Professionalizing data services for all, including live scoring.
- Further Developing Premium events and leading other events to that level.
- Showcasing this already spectacular level of competing to the World.
- Have a focus on HP competitions, trying to get numbers up in this discipline.

### **5.2 Smooth pathway athletes FIS-CoC-WC level**

We are working towards a situation where COC events take place on World Cup, or World Cup level courses, with a high organisational level, in order to provide a smooth transition for athletes to the next level. The focus areas as written above will help with that.

An important effect of having competitions in a country or a region is to have officials, judges and other experienced competition personnel. In the end, this will benefit the sport and the athletes. A good spread of the events in the respective continent is therefore important. When having a good spread, especially in Europe, we will be looking at reducing the amount of COC events and increasing the amount of FIS level events.

With that, FIS level competitions become more and more important: we need to provide competitions to prepare our athletes for these high-level COC courses and events. Although FIS competitions are and should be organised by the nations, some support in sharing experience and knowledge may be required.

The path for our professional athletes starts at FIS level events: they are very important for the growth of our sports.

## **6. Rail as FIS Event: Directions and next steps**

Due to the pandemic, some events that would have been used as test events, did not take place. However, we did have a great test event in Kiev. We used a format with heats of 10, providing 3 runs for all in order to set a score, followed by a jam session. This format worked very well for the athletes and the judges, while at the same time giving the audience a chance to get familiar with the athletes names.

Kiev unfortunately most likely will not have a chance to host this event in the near future. We're in contact a lot with our friends there and indeed hear about a horrible situation there.

There are quite some other and even big organisers interested in city rail events. Some famous P&P resorts would also be interested in hosting these events.

We will use the Summer period to finalize the concept, integrate this in our rules and come back with a proposal for these rules in Fall.

## **7. World Ranking Lists**

### **7.1 Status WSF/FIS Agreement**

Agreement is in place and ratified since fall.

We are in the process of resetting the WSPL in a new hub with new technology which will decrease the costs as requested by all nations.

At this stage administration is evaluating the process and the pricing and services mix with all implications that come along with it.

For example, at the last meeting it was agreed to retain all historical data as well and not only the information related to the last 52 weeks of events. This was mutually agreed between FIS and WSF.

The shift from the old system has some interesting points that were raised during some WSF meetings and some nations which do affect the basic costs of operating the list. A basic cost has been established and we are evaluating the add-ons which will assist (WSF) in linking it to the system as well as displaying a Global calendar.

Additional costs go to:

- Displaying Global calendars
- Potential extension of the [worldsnowboardtour.com](http://worldsnowboardtour.com) website for another year
- I-frames for WSF needs
- I-frames for WSF events to be inserted automatically in the WSPL.

Importantly, all the above and the whole process once again is aimed to lower the costs and raise the efficiency of the WSPL and potentially, through the agreement of the nations, set the savings in other projects that could help the sport. The more we allocate to WSPL costs the less savings and options we may have to work on collateral projects with WSF as well.

### **7.2 Report from Classification Advisory Group**

How does the WSPL work and what steps are taken to improve the calculation of such a list in order to allow it to be fair, equal and connected to the full pathway for riders

Reporting Period: June 2021 through May 15th 2022, submitted by Lesley McKenna & Julie Steggall

### **CLAG Meetings since October meeting**

The advisory group has met three times since the October meeting along with multiple “ad-hoc” group work in specific areas as reported below. Official CLAG meeting dates:  
November 4th, 2021  
December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021  
BREAK FOR OWG FOCUS  
April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### **CLAG Values**

Review of the CLAG values and was agreed by the CLAG group:

Equity  
Fairness  
Community  
Understanding  
Relevant

### **Summary of Period**

The period since the October FIS meetings has been a very busy one for everyone with each nation's focus on the Olympic Winter Games. With no pressing items, it was decided in October that any major projects would be put on hold for this period and re-visited in the Spring meetings with a view to re-activating them as needed.

### **Inclusion of Independent Events**

One ‘project’ put on hold was the investigation into the inclusion of Independent events in the FIS points system and structure. The CLAG aims to re-engage in the discussion around this project and all connected points in the coming months, including how this area connects into the youth and children’s events space. The CLAG recommends discussing this point at the main meeting to better understand the consensus from the P&P SC to guide future work in this area.

### **Judging Formats for Ski Events**

Over the season, discussion developed at ski events around the impact the judging format is having on results on the ski side and especially in regard to the section by section format as compared to the overall impression format. It was discussed that different formats are still available within the rules and perhaps a working group to look at this area to determine what the clear issues are and if there are workable solutions that represent the results of our events and the athletes in a more accurate way. Also part of this conversation is how the findings of this project might help the wider stakeholder group, from event people to performance and coaching people, understand the options currently available within the existing rules and the implications of each option. This would then allow the group to make recommendations on any rule changes that might be needed.

### **Covid Recovery points freeze/Injury status points freeze**

There has been on-going discussion and many “ad-hoc” meetings about the Covid recovery/injury points freeze measures that were decided on in October to ensure the process is still fair given the actual happening of the events this past year. In October we agreed that we would monitor the impact of the changed ‘injury status’ points rules and amend as needed in Spring. At the time of writing this report, the discussion is still happening.

### Rail Jam events

It was proposed that a discussion at Park & Pipe Sub-Committee level is needed to better understand where the community see 'rail jam' events fitting in the events space and how that could be reflected in the points systems and rules. CLAG discussed this and it was agreed that rail jams need their own 'section' and should not be added in with Slopestyle, further conversations to be had with the Park & Pipe Sub-Committee.

### Using 3 results for FIS Rankings

The usual 3 results is still a challenge during the pandemic CLAG will keep revisiting this though as the intent was that 3 results would be a more accurate picture of consistency and steady results.

At this point, the season ahead looks as though it will get back to normal with a number of events to be scheduled.

### CLAG Members & Demographic Review:

CLAG is due for its 2-year appointment refresh by the Nations and the process will start in the summer of 2022. In spring 2022, the group reviewed the members of CLAG to ensure the business is fairly represented in decision making, refer to the chart below.

The advisory group strives for fair representation in the following areas:

- The disciplines Freeski & Snowboard,
- the Nations,
- genders
- responsible administrations,
- and as needed will include the relative experts

NAME	&	NSA	POSITION
<b>SNOWBOARD</b>			
Chris Witwicki		CAN	Past Chair
Lesley McKenna		GBR	Co-Chair
Rich Hagarty		AUS	
<b>FREESKI</b>			
Julie Steggall		CAN	Chair
Christoph Schach		NOR	
Roman Kuss		AST	
Christoph Perreten		SWI	

<b>Freeski and Snowboard</b>		
Mike Jankowski	USA	
Tom Wilmott	NZ	
Anti Koskinen	FIN	
Guido Van Meel	SWI	FIS SB & FK rankings expert
Korbi Resenberger	GER	
<b>FIS Representation</b>		
Ritchie Date	NA	FIS Ski Race Director
Roby Moresi	NA	FIS Race Director SB / FK
Jeremy Forester	NA	FIS Park & Pipe Committee Chair
<b>Frequent Experts</b>		
Simon	NA	WSF Scoring
Anna Negri WSF	NA	WSF Leadership
# of Members	12	
# of Nations	10	
# for SB	8	
# for FK	9	

### 7.3 Status World Snowboard Ranking List & World Freeski Ranking List

Refer to 7.1

## **8. Judges**

### **8.1 New set-up and restructuring process**

As we can see latest competition seasons, the paygrade and demanding more work from all judges does not work hand in hand. If we would like more professional judges, the daily pay must increase.

For **Snowboarding**, there are “Semi Professional” judges that travel or judge more than one event per year or more events in a row for many years now. This will be continued but still we see the need of getting larger number of judges educated and have them coming on the international scene of competitive snowboarding.

For **Freeski** it has been getting tougher to have committed judges to events on all levels. Mainly because of the low pay grade. It has also been very difficult to recruit new judges. Athletes who retired from competitions are generally interested in getting into judging, but are often discouraged by lack of financial compensation. We believe it is important to young skiers involved in judging as they tend to be closer to the core of the sport. The sport keeps developing at a fast pace. To keep up, judges need to invest more time and energy. For this both experienced and up and coming young judges are needed in a much bigger quantity.

In the judges programs, Nations would need to work harder with grassroot judges and make them involved. We can see many nations that do not have any judging programs. The Judges Online Education platform: [www.fis-edu.com](http://www.fis-edu.com) is a good start for nations to get judges involved and learn more about judging.

The experience in judging will come from acting as judges on events.

Roby Moresi has asked the lead judges and their groups to work on the possibility to find a different way to remunerate the judges based upon different levels of pay rates connected to experience, knowledge and performance. In fall, updates should be presented.

We will connect to the Freestyle Ski group as well and see how we can find common solutions if possible.

### **8.2 World Cup Judge/TD global fee from set to base upon real costs?**

The global fee as set in the past will remain as the option or the World Cup working frame and will be explained further more in the fall meetings.

### **8.3 Remote judging: requirements, implications (pros and cons)**

For Judging, already 2020 we looked over different scenarios with pandemic coming up on how we could maintain our systems.

It was discussed on SBFSFK Judges Monday Meetings throughout the spring of 2020 and Freestyle with Moguls and Aerials went with remote judging. For Snowboard and Freeski, we stayed with an ordinary system.

A google doc was created at this time:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EmohGaYxNIRiwrDVDiIXUopnZN08DxJU0rVNpv5bpuQ/edit?usp=sharing>

This google doc was a draft on the first ideas and how we could set up Remote Judging. Now, when remote judging has been used for Moguls and Aerials with good outcomes and still with parts that can improve, it would be possible for us as well. FS JAG have also written a report from their systems with many good points that must be considered if SBFK will also go in this direction.

**9. World Cup Formats SS-HP-BA**

BA promotional events maximize views and spectators' experience.

SS should always be leading in an area from a ranking and point perspective.

HP-SS: true sports events with high spectacular content SS Overall versus section by section.

David Orltieb, Christopher Schach and Ritchie Date will initiate a discussion around Overall and Section by Section in Freeski in order to understand better the influence of the 2 judging formats on the results and performance of the athletes. More will join as the discussion evolves.

**10. Proposals from FIS, NSA's and Advisory Groups**

See Appendix with all the Rule Proposals.

**11. Future Vision Working Group Snowboard, Freestyle, Freeski - Final Report**  
Report will be shown and discussed.

<https://cloud.fis-ski.com/index.php/s/si9Vp4ENHduvhYg>

**12. Next Meetings**

- Zürich (SUI) Last week of September 2022