

To the

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

For information to:

- Johan Eliasch, FIS President
- Michel Vion, FIS Secretary General
- Niklas Carlsson, FIS Deputy Secretary General
- Massimo Rinaldi, Chairman Alpine Committee
- Stefano Pirola, Chairman Intercontinental Cups
- Jenny Wiedeke, FIS Communications Manager
- Christian Salomon, Chief Commercial Director
- Sandra Spitz, FIS Event Director
- Janez Fleré, FIS Alpine Technical and Administrative Coordinator

Oberhofen 16.05.2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Alpine World Cup Friday, 05.05.2023

Dear Ski Friends,

We are pleased to send you the minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Alpine World Cup, which was held on 05.05.2023.

We kindly ask that you to send any remarks to the FIS Alpine Office in Oberhofen by the **24th May 2023** (luessy@fisski.com).

We would also like to take the opportunity to inform you that the minutes are available on the Member Services section of the FIS Website: www.fis-ski.com.

Thank you very much for your valuable contribution.

Kindest regards,



Walter Vogel
Chair Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup

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

Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup
Friday, 05.05.2023

All proposals and decisions of the Sub-Committee are subject to the confirmation of the Alpine Committee and to the approval of FIS Council in May 2023

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting

Walter Vogel (GER) opened the meeting by greeting and welcomed all present and introducing new members of the Sub-Committee Patrick Riml (USA) and Niina Haaslahti (CAN).

2. Roll-call

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

3. Approval of the agenda

Michael Huber (AUT) remarks the missed part of the long-term calendars on the agenda.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held in Zürich on 30.09.2022

The minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Reports

a) from the Chairman Walter Vogel

Walter Vogel (GER) opens the meeting by thanking the organisers, the stakeholders, the World Cup teams and emphasising the success of the season. He mentions the successes of the athletes, highlighting in particular the achievements of Mikaela Shiffrin (USA), who made history in the sport, and the outstanding performance of Marco Odermatt (SUI). Special mention is also made of the retired athletes.

He mentions how important the formulation of calendars is, mentioning the fact that eight draft calendars have been created since the Courchevel-Meribel World Championships. How crucial it is for organisers, federations, stakeholders to have long-term plans for the overall product structure that continues to decline due to poor planning. To answer Michael Huber's (AUT) question, long-term calendars are not on the agenda not because race directors are unable to formulate them but because they are prevented from doing so. He is in favour of taking Marketing's ideas into consideration to promote the sport, pointing out that even to implement Marketing's ideas there is a need for long-term schedules. The promises made for the North American races in March especially regarding TV distribution and production could not be kept. He also calls for transparency in the release of calendars so as to avoid speculation.

Walter Vogel (GER) forwards member requests about the future role of this Sub-Committee, whether it will be reduced to a pure information and rules committee.

Michel Vion (FIS) answered the question on the need for long-term calendars, justifying that we are in a time of transitions and that we need two years to implement changes and transitions. He emphasised that the race directors have spent a lot of energy on the calendars and that 85 percent of last season's calendars were ready but it was decided not to publish them before they were finalised. He realises that there are interferences but that the aim is to publish calendars that are as correct as possible by trying to implement new concepts.

Regarding the future of the sub-committee, Michel Vion (FIS) said that it should continue to perform the same tasks as before.

asks what the principles are in deciding on calendars year by year and The Chairman not in the long term. It is the duty of FIS to provide security for the organisers so that they can make secure investments.

Micheal Huber (AUT) comments that all international federations have long-term calendars and that he sees no reason why FIS cannot have them.

Patrick Riml (USA) wants to point out that opening speed puts a lot of pressure on the budgets of North American nations.

To underline the importance and necessity of long-term calendars the Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup unanimously requests the FIS Council to return to the previous practice of long-term calendar planning. The calendar for the following season must be fixed 12 months before the start of the season.

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

Markus Waldner (FIS) opened the meeting by emphasising that last season was no more difficult than any other, every year one faces difficulties as is normal.

A few cancellations had to be dealt with, but as always happens, the federations and organisers were efficient and helpful in dealing with the need to replace cancelled races.

The highlight of the season was the World Championships in Courchevel-Meribel (FRA), which did an excellent job, excelling on all possible fronts (training, slope preparations, infrastructures ceremonies), raising the level of the World Championships.

He emphasised the geo-political problem faced with water shortages due to climate change and rising energy costs due to the war in Ukraine.

Climate change is a fact and we must, from now on, take it into account more and more for the future of our sport with new technologies to deal with it.

He congratulated World Cup winner Marco Odermatt (SUI) on his incredible season and outstanding results.

In terms of safety there is more and more pressure to continue delivering high standards of safety in all aspects and the Giant Slalom course-setting is an example of this.

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

Peter Gerdol (FIS) echoed what was said by Markus Waldner (FIS), pointing out that we always open this meeting by pointing out how difficult past seasons had been, but this is not the case, because the season has had the difficulties that every season can have. The issue of sustainability is a very sensitive topic and it is obviously our duty to take it into consideration when formulating calendars.

He congratulates Alberto Senigaglia (FIS) on an excellent first season in the World Cup.

He thanks his management, who allowed the Race Directors to act much more flexibly than in the past during the course of the season, pointing out that flexibility is still one of the main words in order to cope with changes during the season.

He thanked the organisers of the Courchevel-Meribel World Championships for their excellent work.

He emphasises the return of women in Kvitfjell (NOR) with the fulfilment of history with the first Norwegian woman to win a downhill in the history of skiing.

He congratulates Mikaela Shiffrin (USA) for fulfilling history with her outstanding achievements.

He thanked the organisers, stakeholders, federations and his team for the commitment shown during the season.

d) from Christian Salomon, Chief Commercial Director

He introduces himself and his team. He presents the structure of the new FIS Media & Marketing department (M&M) and the roadmap 2023/24 focusing on various points.

The M&M department will develop on the creation and improvement of the TV product and the creation of new products such as mini-series and creation of new content taking into consideration the new generations.

He passes the floor to Andi Marugg (FIS) who presents some numbers on media impact showing the top markets (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, France).

Oliver Kraus (FIS) takes the floor showing the changes in Landscape due to various factors and emphasises how important it is to have a stronger identity as an international federation and to explore new partnerships.

Benjamin Stoll (FIS) also describes his transformation project with the aim of reaching more fans and thus broadening the spectrum of commercial proposals to reach new categories of fans, GenZ for example. He describes how GenZ uses the product and how it might be possible to bring this category closer together.

Janne Leskinen (FIN) congratulates how the new department presented their projects and how FIS is evolving on the digital front and the exploration of new digital projects and media.

Michael Huber (AUT) underlined, once more, how crucial it is to have long-term calendars to make this business and digital transformation happen.

He also added that a lot of resources are currently being invested in this department and the digital part, but that each broadcaster has its own resources internally and therefore care must be taken not to waste resources and perhaps find collaborations internally with more value.

Christian Salomon (FIS) says that you still have to try to bring changes to try to grow the product.

e) from Athletes' Commission

Verena Stuffer (ITA) took the floor, congratulating the winners and the athletes themselves on their outstanding results. She thanked the athletes for the trust shown in them. She congratulates the development of the new graphics shown especially during the World Championships.

He passes the floor to Leif Kristian Nestvold-Haugen (NOR) who thanks for the cooperation and collaboration from FIS. He congratulates Peter Gerdol (FIS) on a balanced and fair calendar, while on the men's calendar he expresses his doubts. He comments on the importance of night races after the great success in Schladming (AUT) and asks if more night races could also be considered for the women's World Cup. He thanked Markus Waldner (FIS) for the cooperation on the Giant Slalom course setting topic that provides more safety.

6. Rules season 2023/24

Walter Vogel (GER) introduced this item by pointing out that there had been much discussion on the various proposals during the previous meetings.

6.1 SRS Proposal, Art. 3.8

Micheal Huber (AUT) questions whether these SRS proposals are really feasible, wondering whether there might be companies in the future that are not part of SRS and thus how they might be treated?

Rudi Huber (SRS) replies that indeed it could be a possibility.

Srecko Medven (Club5) wants a better definition of Team Hospitality and thus a defined share of SRS and thus a more concrete answer as to who has access to Team Hospitality.

Walter Vogel (GER) understands that this is an issue because there are more and more people involved and therefore the groups need to be better defined. But this must be discussed elsewhere.

Michel Vion (FIS) suggests using the summer to explore these proposals and then find a solution and a definition of the SRS proposals.

Srecko Medven (Club5) accepts Vion's proposal but points out that the costs for the organisers are getting higher and higher and of course there are more and more problems in dealing with them. But that there is the will for change.

Rudi Huber (SRS) is not happy about postponing the decision.

Walter Vogel (FIS) emphasises that we must preserve the costs of the organisers and help them to support the events.

Walter Vogel (GER) welcomes FIS President Johan Eliasch and passes the floor to him.

Johan Eliasch (FIS) spoke in response to one of the Sub-Committee's priority questions, namely that of the Long-Term calendars, saying that he himself, together with Michel Vion (FIS) and the race directors, had done a lot of work on their formulation.

He realised that with some organisers it is possible to sustain a World Cup for decades while for others it is not yet possible, so a system that creates consistency for all organisers would have to be found. All of this, of course, respecting climate change, in fact Soelden has been postponed by a week.

This is to continue to create consistency especially for the athletes and to provide a more solid structure.

Another important point is obviously dedicated to the televisions and consequently also for their programming we need to be solid.

He asked those present to continue to come up with ideas to improve the product.

Michael Huber (AUT) asks how he sees the future role of the Sub-Committees, especially since the formulation of timetables is now a purely senior management issue, and therefore questions whether the discussions that take place in this Sub-Committee still have value.

Johan Eliasch (FIS) is in favour because these are interactive discussions where interesting ideas are brought up, but given the complexity of work calendars have gone in a direction where calendars are devised by this core group, composed by Michel Vion (FIS) and the race directors.

Srecko Medven (Club5) asks if there will be a chance to have drafts of the long-term calendars because all the organisers are on stand-by and therefore there are no possibilities for investments.

Johan Eliasch (FIS) wants the organisers to invest and encourages investment so that then there will be more chances to be present in the calendars.

6.2 SRS Proposal, Art 4.3.2

Postponed

6.3 SRS Proposal, Art. 4.5.1

Postponed

6.4 CWG Proposal, Art. 3.2

The proposal was unanimously approved

6.5 CWG Proposal, Art. 3.3.1

The proposal was unanimously approved

6.6 USA Proposal, Art. 3.5

The proposal was unanimously approved

6.7 Athletes' Commission, Special Bib

Verena Stuffer (ITA) explained the proposal.

Walter Vogel (GER) comments that the proposal is a good one but that some details have to be worked out. The question of prize money has been raised with FIS M&M.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) echoes Vogel on the good proposal and encourages it.

Thomas Stauffer (SUI) also confirms that the idea is good, but that there must be some changes on details and wordings.

Michael Huber (AUT) warned to be cautious about the different bibs because they had caused arguments in the past.

The Sub-Committee supports the proposal and will confirm the rules in autumn.

6.8 Team Alpine combined

Walter Vogel (GER) explains the history of this new format and passes the floor to Peter Gerdol (FIS) who explains the details presented in the proposal, focusing mainly on quotas and points.

Leif Kristian Nestvold-Haugen (NOR) asks for clarification on the number of quotas and proposes that it should be possible to participate with the maximum number of quotas allowed for the speed event.

Michael Huber (AUT) supports Haugen's proposal to allow a maximum number of participants.

Niina Haaslahti (CAN) disagrees with the distribution of World Cup points because they penalise small nations.

Walter Vogel (GER) emphasises that this format must also be supported at World Cup level if it is to be presented in major events such as World Championships and Olympics.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) asks if the different teams will be displayed with different nomenclatures.

Walter Vogel (GER) confirms that they will be under the same team with different duos.

Thomas Stauffer (SUI) asks about eligibility and the reverse starting order.

Peter Gerdol (FIS) confirms that eligibility is the same and therefore those who can start in the downhill events can start in the event if they have a teammate who starts in the slalom. So, the downhill quotas count.

Michael Huber (AUT) explains that this idea has already been presented 20 years ago with various criticalities but it is important to support this new format which has been presented by the athletes and which could be a very interesting format with great potential.

Michel Vion (FIS) reiterates that Alpine Combined and individual parallel have been removed from the calendars because they were considered unattractive and that this format was presented to gain an extra discipline at the next Olympic Games.

Robert Waleczka (EBU) supports this idea but calls for clarity in the format and the resulting rules.

Patrick Riml (USA) asks to support an idea that comes from the athletes and thus give it space.

7. Calendars 2023/24

Peter Gerdol (FIS) explains the women's calendar.

- Sölden (AUT) will host the World Cup opening as usual but this time one week later to optimise the chances of racing in good conditions.
- The speed season opening in Zermatt/Cervinia (SUI/ITA) is also moved two weeks later than last season.
- Levi (FIN) is however brought forward one week, but Peter is confident that they can deliver races in good conditions on these dates as a snow deposit has been made.
- Tremblant (CAN) makes its appearance in the women's calendar with two giant slalom and will therefore permit a block of four technical races after the traditional giant slalom and slalom in Killington (USA). However, Peter mentioned his regret that the speed races in Lake Louise (CAN) are not anymore part of the Nord American tour.
- Back in Europe, St Moritz (SUI) will host the speed races. Although it's not ideal to come back to Europe and start directly with speed races, it does allow for a compromise in terms of keeping technical and speed races on the calendar.
- Val d'Isère (FRA) is also back on the calendar with one downhill and one Super-G.
- The French tour continues with one night-slalom in Courchevel (FRA).
- Kranjska Gora (SLO) again replaces the Maribor races in the women's calendar.
- Back in Austria in January, Zauchensee will host the speed events followed by the famous night slalom in Flachau (AUT).
- Jasna (SVK) is scheduled for mid-January with a giant slalom and a slalom.
- Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER) also celebrates its return to the calendar as does Soldeu (AND) which will host the World Cup after having hosted the finals this winter.
- Crans-Montana (SUI) is one of the annual stops on the women's circuit, but this year it will be held a bit earlier to avoid the hot temperatures that can be found on this slope.
- Val di Fassa (ITA) returns to the calendar with two Super-G.
- The Scandinavian block will allow weekend racing this winter as the World Cup Finals in Saalbach (AUT) will be held over two weeks and not one as usual.

Following the presentation of the calendar, Peter went through the schedule of the two finals week in Saalbach (AUT).

One important point is missing in the calendar, the Team Combined. So far there is a plan A and a plan B which will be communicated in the next few days and approved by

the Council on May 24th.

The total number of races is 44 (22 speed / 22 tech) and allows a perfect balance between the disciplines.

Janne Leskinen (FIN) pointed out an important element concerning the snow deposit and shifting the races in the calendar one week earlier than usual. This change of date doesn't compromise the races in Levi but he mentioned that there might be a lack of snow on the top of the gondola.

Robert Waleczka (EBU) proposed to have a night GS race for the next few years in Flachau (AUT).

Concerning the World Cup finals which will take place over 2 weeks, he is a little concerned about having one race per day due to the big investment and very short live TV time.

As the best audience for television is in the New Year period, he asked if having races at this time was something that could be considered.

Peter Gerdol (FIS) replied that they would try to make it as attractive as possible by finding better starting time and extending the start intervals, for example. The idea of having a Team Combined event in the finals is not possible because there are not enough athletes there.

Concerning the races during the New Year period, Peter mentioned that for the moment there are no races during this period.

Rudi Huber (SRS) asked if there would be more night races in the future as at the moment, out of 44 races, there are only 2. Peter answered that it's not so obvious and that it depends on several factors. In particular the fact that a night race on Tuesday evening does not allow for a speed weekend right afterwards because of the training sessions that start usually on Wednesday.

Markus Waldner (FIS) presents the 2023/24 calendar:

Markus starts by mentioning the work still in progress regarding the balance between the disciplines and that there has been a lot of back and forward work in the last few weeks. He adds that when you try to move one small detail, it creates problems elsewhere. So, it's not an easy task. 80% of the races are confirmed and 20% is discussed on a higher level.

He acknowledged that some organising committees are not happy with the calendar and the fact of not having a long-term calendar is a big concern for the organisers in terms of planning.

- Gurgl (AUT) is introduced for the first time on the calendar, allowing slalom racers to avoid waiting until Val d'Isère (FRA) to race the first slalom of the season.
- Zermatt/Cervinia (SUI/ITA) is planned later and Markus recognises that the late dates of these races prevent teams from travelling to the US for their usual training at this time of year. However, in order to maximise the chances of success of this event it's right to do so.
- Lake Louise (CAN) must give a clear answer by July 1st, 2023 on whether the race will be on the calendar or not. Teams need to make arrangements for transport etc.
- Bansko (BUL) is back on the programme with a giant slalom and a slalom.
- The second American tour in Aspen and Palisades will be a technical tour and in order

to guarantee quality races and fulfill the requirements of a World Cup, a list of agreements has been drawn up and signed by the organisers.

- Schladming (AUT) will again host a night giant slalom after last season's success.

Regarding the Team Combined in Kitzbühel (AUT), Markus Waldner (FIS) thanks Michael Huber (AUT) for having the courage to host this race format for the first time.

In total there are 45 races with a difference in the number of races per discipline.

Marius Arnesen (NOR) mentioned that 22 months in advance is too short to organise the World Cup finals in the best possible way and asked when will be the deadline for the resort that will host the World Cup finals in 2025.

Michael Huber (AUT) followed this up by mentioning that the calendar for the next two years needs to be worked on this summer and presented at the next fall meetings.

Miho Glavic (CRO) would like to see a return of the Zagreb races to the calendar. He made several arguments as to why Zagreb deserves its place on the calendar:

- 29 successful races during the years
- Number 10 in nation men's World Cup and 7 in women's World Cup
- High standard of organization. (5 stars hotel, 40 minutes from the airport, superstar, political support, etc.)

With this, he then asks to consider the return of the men's and women's races to the calendar for next January or February.

Michel Vion (FIS) replied that it was not against Croatia, but despite the fact that the races had been going well for years, the climatic challenges and therefore the racing conditions during the last editions were close to the catastrophe. In order to avoid a similar situation, the races at this time of the year should be held in resorts above 800 meters high. This doesn't mean that Zagreb (CRO) will never be on the calendar again, but that the dates for the future should be reconsidered. And he also asked for clarification on the request to reinstate Zagreb (CRO) on the calendar. Is it men and women? Is it only in January or would it be possible in February as well?

Miho Glavic (CRO) mentions that there are many possibilities to include these races in the calendar again and also the fact that Zagreb (CRO) is not the only race that has been cancelled.

The draft calendar will be sent to the Council and decided at the next meeting.

Michael Huber (AUT) thanked Zagreb (CRO) for all the advice shared over the years and supported the return of Croatian races to the calendar.

Srecko Medven (Club 5) and Thomas Stauffer (SUI) join Michael Huber (AUT) and hope that a solution will be found to put Zagreb (CRO) back on the calendar as races in the country's capital have always had a major impact on our sport.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) asks Markus Waldner (FIS) what the exact situation is with Lake Louise (CAN) and especially what the back-up solution is.

Markus Waldner (FIS) answers that for the moment it's 50/50. If Lake Louise (CAN) is not on the calendar, it's not easy to find an alternative. Many possibilities have already

been discussed, but they have not yet come to a conclusion.

David Chastan (FRA) mentioned the additional costs for the second US tour.

Michel Vion (FIS) replied that if it was not the US tour on the calendar, it would have been Japan or Korea instead.

In the long list of requirements that the US and organisations have to fulfil, there is a large amount of money to help the various NSAs cover some of the travel costs. This amount is about 800'000 euros.

The SC confirms both Calendars and unanimously recommends to the FIS Council to include Zagreb in the Calendar.

8. Prize Money 2023/24

Walter Vogel (GER) introduced the new prize money system and Leif Kristian Nestvold-Haugen (Athletes' commission) took the floor mentioning that the proposal is in order to be able to support athletes who do not win races. The only way to support better those athletes, is by increasing the total amount. He understands the situation of organisers, perhaps an index-based increase could be a solution for the future.

Michel Vion (FIS) announced that the prize money will be discussed at the next Council meeting. However, it should not be forgotten that all disciplines should be considered and not only the Alpine. It's an important decision that must be well calculated.

Walter Vogel (GER) pointed out the difficulty of making a decision on 150,000 CHF prize money without knowing how the Council will decide in three weeks. For Germany, he could not agree to the proposal.

Srecko Medven (Club 5) supports this proposal under the condition that a maximum of 120,000 CHF are to be paid by the organising committees and the rest by the FIS.

Basically the 20% share of FIS is much appreciated.

If no significant increase to the current prize money is decided, the proposed adjustment of the prize money distribution will not be applied.

9. TV live data

This topic will be postponed during the fall meeting and presented by Emmanuel Couder (FIS).

10. Liability for Sub-Committee members

Michael Huber (AUT) wanted to underline that the Sub-Committee shouldn't feel responsible for the not releasing long-term calendars, for example in case of income reductions to Organisers of Alpine World Cup Competitions, caused by the late decision making process.

11. Miscellaneous

Precision of payment

Due to the weather condition and the different challenges, the free skiing on the men's

tour has been cancelled and therefore it's important to adjust the arrival date and the payment by the organisers.

Markus Waldner (FIS) mentioned that this topic was already discussed during the coaching working group this winter.

Airbags

Airbag protection is strongly recommended for the 2023/24 World Cup season and will be mandatory from the 2024/25 season.

Fluor wax

Rudi Huber (SRS) asked if there is any news about fluor wax.

Peter Gerdol (FIS) replied that testing will be done at World Cup races, major events and randomly.

The testing procedure is as proposed and will be done once the athlete has crossed the finish line.

Further information will be distributed.

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

13. Closing of the meeting