

To the

- Members of the Sub-Committee for Cross-Country Development

For information to:

- Cross-Country Committee
- FIS Management
- Dimitrije Lazarovski

Oberhofen, 31st October 2022

**Minutes Meeting Sub-Committee for Cross-Country Development, Zurich (SUI)
Wednesday, 28.09.2022, 13:00 – 15:00 hrs**

Dear Ski Friends,

We are pleased to send you the minutes of the Meeting of the Sub-Committee for Cross-Country Development, 28.09.2022

You are kindly asked to send any remarks to the FIS Nordic Office in Oberhofen until **15th November 2022**.

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

Thank you very much for your valuable contribution.

Kind regards,

INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION



Özkan Koyuncu
Chair Sub-Committee for Cross-Country Development

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
Sub-Committee for Cross-Country Development**

**Invitation Meeting Sub-Committee for Cross-Country Development
Wednesday, 28.09.2022, 13:00 – 15:00 hrs**

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Members present
3. Approval of the agenda
4. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting, 06.05.2021
5. Working strategy of the sub-committee
6. 2021/2022 Season review
 - Junior World Ski Championships / U23 Championships, Lygna (NOR)
 - Olympic Winter Games Beijing (CHN)
 - General season experiences/feedback
7. 2023 Nordic World Ski Championships, Planica (SLO)
 - Rules for participation
8. 2022/2023 FIS Development Programme (FDP) – Dimitrije Lazarovski
 - FDP Eligibility & list
 - FDP Free training days
 - FIS Solidarity
 - FDP Nordic camps
9. Fluor ban updates
10. Any other matters arising
11. Next meeting
12. Closing of the meeting

All proposals and decisions of the Sub-Committee are subject to the confirmation of the Cross-Country Committee, 30.09.2022 and to the approval of the FIS Council, 22.10.2022

1. Opening of the Meeting

Chair Özkan Koyuncu (TUR) opened the meeting on September 28th, at 13:00 hrs and welcomed the members of the Sub-Committee for Cross Country Development, FIS Staff and guests from different NSAs. Josephine Aschhoff (FIS) will take the minutes.

2. Members present

Roll Call Sub-Committee for Cross-Country Development		
Members	NSA	Remarks
Koyuncu Özkan	TUR	Present
Victor Abou Saad	LBN	Laura Nassar
Brigitta Bereczki	HUN	Present
Didier Bonni	BEL	Jukis
Lucia Hoyo	ESP	Present
Yeui Gyu Im	KOR	Absent
Matus Jancik	SVK	Present
Magdalena Kast	ARG	Julio Cesar Moreschi
Hao Liu	CHN	Present
Ioan Lungociu	ROU	Absent
Finn Marsland	AUS	Absent
Leandro Ribela	BRA	Absent
Gagik Sargsyan	ARM	Excused
Jeetendra Shresta	NEP	Absent
Christos Titas	GRE	Absent
Jan Winkiel	POL	Present
Roy Young	GBR	Present
Henk De Boer	NED	Honorary Member - Absent
John Leaning	GBR	Honorary Member - Absent
Guests		
Uros Ponikvar	SLO	CCC Chair
Satu Kalajainen	FIN	CC SC Youth & Children Chair
Pierre Mignerey	FIS	CC Race Director
Michal Lamplot	FIS	CC Race Director WC
Josephine Aschhoff	FIS	FIS Nordic Office
Madeline Nappey	FIS	FIS Nordic Office
Several guests from NSAs		

3. Approval of the agenda

Agenda was approved.

4. Approval of the minutes of the last online meeting, 06.05.2021

The minutes of the last online meeting 06.05.2021 were approved.

5. Working strategy of the sub-committee

As the new Chair, Özkan points out that it is very important to explain where we are going with this committee and what to aim for. One of the goals is to promote Cross-Country skiing to new nations and to support them with technical education, expertise and knowledge. He showed some headlines of the goals to discuss by the members for the Sub Committee's during the future as;

- *Focus on the ideas and projects more than (or beside) the statistics.*
- *Promote CC to the new nations and guide them.*
- *Support the new and developing nations with know how/experience or technical education. Encourage them with some sample projects.*
- *Check the opportunity for more percentage for CC from the FDP projects with the cooperation with NSAs and FIS Development Department.*
- *Focus on Central & South Asia and South America.*
- *Encourage and support the member nations for organising the FIS races. We saw that the organisations increase the local interest and supporters. Promotes the sport in the region.*
- *Joint projects with SC Roller Skiing and SC CC Youth & Children*
- *Support the CC development activities at the existing CC nations. Build the bridge between developed and developing nations for the joint projects. Win-Win situation for both side.*
- *Check the size of development and promotion of CC skiing globally.*

Statistics of the past 4 years are shown (see presentation attached). The sport is recovering competition-wise after the pandemic. When we look on our planet, we can easily see that cross-country skiing is mainly popular at the European continent. Nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of all competitions take place in Europe but the distribution of races is not equal among the European countries as well. Actually even in Europa there are strong parts and weak parts.

Satu Kalajainen (FIN) comments that we should gather numbers from NSAs for all competitors active in Cross-Country skiing, not only FIS licensed ones. Uros Ponikvar (SLO) comments that the quality of this data needs to be checked to get valuable feedback. Pierre comments that for example in France many races are out of the FIS Calendar, therefore many athletes also don't have a FIS Code. All these comments show us the statistics alone are not enough to evaluate the value or size of the cross country skiing sport. We need more and local information to have.

Özkan told there are huge population in Asia, South America and North Africa to reach and promote cross country skiing. Only few nations are doing our sport in these continents with less activities. Some countries already have natural infrastructure and capacity to do but they don't know how they start and improve but they really want to be active (like Pakistan). We should reach and support them.

Özkan stressed out that guidelines for evolving nations are needed to develop the sport. In his view, education is even more important than money.

Özkan points out that Thailand is a good example on how development can look like. They entered the Cross-Country circuit via Roller Skiing and now they have small but active team also during the winter. Thailand shows a video with their strategy and long-term development. How they making the investment and organisations to improve cross country skiing in their country.

Another good example for development is Brazil. Brazil also started with Roller Skiing organisations as non-snowing country with very few athletes about 10-12 years ago. They improved with country wide ROL organisations & social projects and increased the number of the competing athletes. Not only for roller skiing but cross country skiing during the winter as well.

Özkan believes that key countries in some regions where cross-country skiing is not popular can also set an example for neighboring countries and contribute to the creation of a cross-country skiing environment there. Like South America (Brazil, Argentina, Chile, etc...) and South East Asia (Thailand, Taiwan, Malaysia, etc...)

Roy Young (GBR) asks if it is possible to use THA and BRA as case studies which can be distributed to developing nations as guideline.

Özkan encourages the members to think about plans on how to further develop this committee and bring to the table for discussing during the next meetings.

6. 2021/2022 season review

a. Junior World Ski Championships/ U23 Championships, Lygna (NOR)

See attached presentation.

b. Olympic Winter Games Beijing (CHN)

See attached presentation

7. 2023 Nordic World Ski Championships, Planica (SLO)

- Rules for participation: no changes from 2021

Uros would be happy to increase number of teams in team events. In his opinion there are many development events around and we should follow up on these to measure success.

8. 2022/2023 FIS Development Programme (FDP) – Dimitrije Lazarovski

Stefanie Gerber (FIS) made a presentation of FIS Development Programme. (Presentation from FDP department attached)

Satu is asking if we could set up a coach pool of developed nations where developing nations can take advantage from. Steffi explains that such cooperation already exists and is promoted by FIS, but a system like Satu proposed does not exist yet. Steffi will put this on the list.

Uros asks how NSAs can apply for development support and which activities are encouraged.

Here is the link to the FIS documents and the Development Hub: <https://www.fis-ski.com/en/inside-fis/development>

9. Fluor ban updates

Michal Lamplot (FIS) informs that there will be a more detailed update on Friday in Cross-Country Committee.

The full implementation of the ban will be done in 2023/24, but a partial fluor ban is in place (EU-directive), it is the same ban as last season.

Uros mentions that FIS supports small and developing nations with free waxing services during WSCs. This service is free for NSAs and done by one of the SRS companies.

10. Any other matters arising

Satu suggests that S.C. CC Development and S.C. CC Youth & Children should have a joint session in spring 2023. Uros suggests to create one big Sub-Committee out of two committees. Özkan and Satu responded that a joint working group can be formed when necessary.

Eyrún from ISL tells about the Lowlander Program in Alpine Skiing as ISL and DEN are now thinking about a similar program for CC. Steffi asks them to apply to have support from FIS.

Özkan expresses thanks to Madeline Nappey and Josephine Aschhoff from FIS Nordic Office for the support!

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place during the FIS Spring meetings in Dubrovnik (CRO), 3rd to 5th May 2023.

12. Closing of the meeting

Meeting was closed 14:40 hrs.