



FIS NEWSFLASH

Edition 1 / December 15th 2004



Fédération Internationale de Ski

International Ski Federation

Internationaler Ski Verband

Welcome note from FIS President Gian Franco Kasper

Dear Friends of FIS,

Welcome to the first edition of the „FIS Newsflash“. The “FIS Newsflash” is a newsletter which will be dispatched to a variety of e-mails and also published on the FIS website (<http://www.fis-ski.com/>). The general idea of the newsletter, which will be published around 30 times a year, is to create greater awareness and provide more accurate information of all current and future initiatives, plans, meetings and competitions that shape the world of FIS and its member associations.

The “FIS Newsflash” which will be published on Wednesdays (every week during major competitions) will strive to provide its readers with an inside track to the work being done within FIS and the National Ski Associations and at the same time present previews and useful background information for most upcoming competitions. At FIS we have felt that the time was right to launch this new publication and I am confident our new Communications Manager FIS, Svend Frandsen (read more about him further on) will be able to fulfil this task. I hope that the “FIS Newsflash” will provide you with a useful “tool” in your professional life and become a source of interesting information.

Best regards

Gian Franco Kasper
INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
President

FIS Council Meeting in Oberhofen (SUI)

A number of important decisions were taken and proposals made when the FIS Council

met for the second time of the year at FIS headquarters in Oberhofen on 12th November.

- 1) The FIS World Cup Calendars for 2005/2006 were in principle approved, subject to a further review of the Cross-Country calendar.
- 2) Audi was confirmed as the title sponsor of the FIS Alpine World Cup until 2007/2008.
- 3) The Organisers of the following FIS Junior World Championships were appointed:
 - 2007 Alpine Events Altenmarkt / Zauchensee / Flachau (AUT).
 - 2008 Nordic Events Szczyrk (POL)
- 4) A number of athletes received permission to change National Ski Association licence, including Alpine skier Josef Strobl from Austria to Slovenia
- 5) Cape Town, South Africa was elected as host of the 46th International Ski Congress in 2008
- 6) Two new National Ski Associations, Ghana and Madagascar, were affiliated as provisional associate members subject to ratification by the Congress in 2006.

An overview of the decisions from the Council meeting may also be found on

www.fis-ski.com/data/document/vorstandnov04-e.pdf

FIS Alpine European Cup in Snowdome

The first FIS Alpine European Cup took place in the Netherlands on November 25th 2004. After previously staging two FIS Snowboard World Cups, the impressive Snowdome in Landgraaf once more provided the setting for a top level competition within the FIS calendar. The event, which turned out to be a huge

success judging from the extensive public attendance and media coverage, saw athletes from no less than 14 countries compete against each other on an action-packed Sunday. Scandinavia was the big winner of the event as two Norwegians and a Swede ended up on the podium. Lars Myhre grabbed all the honors while his countryman Kjetil Jansrud came in second and Swedish Andre Myhrer was third.

FIS appoints Communications Manager

FIS has appointed Svend Frandsen as new Communications Manager. He will start his new job in Oberhofen as per January 1st 2005. His main tasks will include the compilation and distribution of the "FIS E-Newsflash" that will be produced on a weekly basis throughout the season. Additionally he will assist with content on the FIS Website, edit the FIS Bulletin that will be published twice per year, issue press releases, collaborate on the media guides, as well work with the media and organizing committees. Svend Frandsen is 35, comes from Denmark and has a Masters degree in journalism. He has worked for four years in the media department at UEFA (European Football Federation). Svend is married and has an 11 month old daughter, has lived in Switzerland for five years and is fluent in English as well as French, German and the Scandinavian languages.

"How to bring Youngsters on Snow"

The future of skiing took centre stage when the Hotel Crowne Plaza in Bucharest, Romania from November 26th-28th 2004 set the scene for the second FIS conference on "How to bring Youngsters on Snow". The conference which was organized by the Working Group for Aid & Promotion along with the FIS Committee for Youth and Children invited members of the FIS National Ski Associations to take advantage of expert knowledge offered by distinguished speakers like Milan Jirasek (CZE), Rolf Carlson (SWE), Arno Staudacher (AUT), Marcel Looze (NED) and Harald Schönhaar (USA) on subjects like the promotion of kids' snow sport, fitness for kids, youth programs for lowlanders and the introduction of new

competitions. Judging from the attendance the conference, which also marked the 80th birthday of the Romanian Ski association, rang out as a big success. Indeed no less than 30 participants from 15 countries took part in the conference.

New Nations Event to debut at FIS Alpine World Championships in Bormio

In an effort to bring another dimension to alpine skiing a "Nations Event" will be introduced to the FIS Alpine World Championships that takes place in Bormio, Italy from January 29th to February 13th 2005. The first edition of the event will take place on the last day of the championships. The new competition will be held in two runs: a slightly shortened super G and a special slalom. The nations taking part will be able to enter four athletes, two men and two women, for each race. Each athlete will be placed in a round with competitors from the other nations and his/her team will win points based on his/her position in the group placings. At the end, the four athletes' points will be added up and will determine the overall placings for the nations, thereby deciding the medal winners.

The rules may be found at <http://www.fis-ski.com/data/document/rulesalpinefisworldcup2004-2005.pdf>.

Dear Friends of FIS,

I hope you have enjoyed the first edition of the "FIS Newsflash". Should you have any feedback, comments, you are most welcome to send them to frandsen@fisski.ch. If you no longer wish to receive this Newsflash please inform FIS (E-mail: mail@fisski.ch) and you will be removed from our e-mail distribution list. "FIS Newsflash" will not only be distributed via e-mail but also be published in the News section of the FIS Website.

Best regards

Svend Frandsen
INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
Communications Manager