



Munich (GER) hosts FIS Council's annual spring meeting

Munich (GER) hosted the members of the FIS Council during the weekend of 21st and 22nd of May for their annual spring meeting. The Council met in the Bavarian capital to discuss proposals submitted by the various committees that were present during the FIS Calendar Conference in Amsterdam. The main items dealt with by the FIS Council during the two-day session included amendments to the discipline's rules and regulations proposed by the respective Technical Committees, the confirmation of the calendars for the 2005/2006 season, appointment of Jury members and technical officials. In addition the follow decisions were taken:

Following the close of the registrations for the 2011 FIS World Ski Championships on 1st May 2005, the following candidatures were confirmed:

2011 Alpine World Ski Championships
Schladming (AUT)
Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER)

2011 Nordic World Ski Championships
Val di Fiemme (ITA)
Oslo (NOR)
Zakopane (POL)

Since no candidates have submitted applications for the FIS World Championships for Ski Flying in 2010 and Freestyle and Snowboarding in 2011, the deadline for applications is extended until 1st October 2005.

The election will be made by the FIS Council at the FIS Congress in Vilamoura/Algarve (POR) on 25th May 2006.

Renewal of Contract with EBU for FIS World Ski Championships

The Council approved the renewal of the contract with the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) for the television and marketing rights for the FIS World Ski Championships in the Alpine and Nordic Events in 2011 and 2013 and expressed its' sincerest thanks to the EBU for the long-standing excellent collaboration and their active participation in the preparation and organization of the FIS World Ski Championships

As for the organization of future FIS Junior World Championships, the following organisers were appointed:

2006 FIS Snowboard Junior World Championships
Gangwon (KOR)

2007 FIS Nordic Junior World Ski Championships
Tarvisio (ITA)

2008 FIS Snowboard Junior World Championships
Chanty-Mansiysk (RUS)

Mechanical start introduced for Cross Country sprint competitions

With FIS constantly looking for ways to guarantee the staging of competitions in a fair manner, the use of a mechanical start will be introduced to help minimize false starts in Cross Country sprint event.

A second false start for the same competitor in the same heat means that the competitor is eliminated and will be ranked last in the respective final, semi-final or quarterfinal (rank 4, 8 or 16).

New Ski Jumping FIS-Cup introduced – Nordic Combined amend Junior program

In order to create a pathway for the young athletes to qualify through the levels of Ski Jumping competition a new FIS-Cup will be introduced. The general conditions for the new competition is the following:

- Each NSA is allowed to apply for a FIS-Cup event;
 - Each NSA which is nominated as Ski-Jumping World Cup organizer is obliged to carry out at least one FIS-Cup per season;
 - Several FIS-Cup events can be carried out on the same date but in different places;
- A number of amendments were made to the Ski Jumping rules.

In order to assist the preparations for the 2006 Junior Nordic World Ski Championships in Kranj (SLO), a test event at the beginning of January, Nordic Combined World Cup "B" will be organised. The Team competition will be carried out with Gundersen format instead of Team Mass start.

Nation's Team Event to debut in Alpine World Cup and other Alpine decisions

Following up on the success of the inaugural Nation's Team Event which debuted at the FIS Alpine World Championships in Bormio (ITA) last February, the competition will be included in the FIS Alpine World Cup calendar at the 2006 FIS World Cup Finals in Are (SWE).

From the 2006/2007 season a World Cup title will be introduced for the Combined (including Combined and Super Combined events). A minimum number of three events must be scheduled in order to award a World Cup title.

The same starting order for the FIS Alpine World Cup Downhill competitions will apply as the previous seasons for the 2005/2006 season. This means that if more than one training run is held, the thirty (30) fastest competitors will start in the reversed order of their times achieved in the last training (30th place starts 1st, the 29th starts 2nd ..., the 1st starts 30th). For the 2006/2007 season, the

Alpine Committee will consider a new system.

At the deadline for the team registrations for the FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, depending on the number of nations' entries, a decision will be made if a qualification race for Slalom and Giant Slalom will take place. The best 50 competitors present will qualify directly to the finals and all others will compete in a qualification race for the remaining 25 places.

Snowboard and Freestyle Committees look to the future

The Freestyle Committee will implement all recommendations of the Medical Committee in regard to the treatment of concussion.

The organization of Freestyle Ski Cross such as the compilation of the rules, etc. will be under the responsibility of the Alpine Committee since it is an event with alpine characteristics. The event itself will continue to be organized as a part of the FIS Freestyle calendar, including the Freestyle World Ski Championships.

For all Snowboarding Alpine events, the wearing of helmets will be obligatory. Masters Competitions for Snowboarding have been introduced on a trial basis and the appropriate FIS rules adopted.

Right to Play

The Council approved a collaboration between the International Ski Federation and Right to Play, a humanitarian organization using sport and play programs to encourage the healthy physical, social and emotional development of the world's most disadvantaged children. Right To Play is committed to improving the lives of these children and to strengthening their communities by translating the best values of sport into opportunities to promote development, health and peace.

The organization's President is Johan Olav Koss, former Olympic Speed Skating champion. (Further information can be obtained on www.righttoplay.com)

Short Summary of Council Decisions

The Short Summary of the important decisions of the FIS Council Meetings is on its way to the National Ski Associations and Chairman of the Committees in the coming days.

Dear Friends of FIS,

Should you have any feedback, comments, you are most welcome to send them to me at: frandsen@fisski.ch. "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
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