



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE SKI
INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
INTERNATIONALER SKI VERBAND



CH-3653 Oberhofen (Switzerland), Tel. +41 (33) 244 61 61, Fax +41 (33) 244 61 71
<http://www.fis-ski.com>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIS MEDIA INFO

Torino 2006: Four additional start prohibitions issued due to too high haemoglobin values

Pragelato, 10th Feb, 2006/ -- On the third day of the FIS pre-competition blood testing programme applicable to all Cross-Country and Nordic Combined Athletes prior to their first competition at the XX Olympic Winter Games, the following four athletes have today been issued with a start prohibition for five consecutive days due to too high haemoglobin values:

Start prohibition 10.2. - 14.2.2006

Alen Abramovic (CRO), male Pavel Korosteljev (RUS), male Nikolai Pankratov (RUS), male Robel Teklemariam (ETH), male

These Athletes are in addition to the eight Athletes that received a start prohibition on 9th February, 2006:

Start prohibition 9.2. - 13.2.2006

Sean Crooks (CAN), male Sergey Dolidovich (BLR), male Jean Marc Gaillard (FRA), male Aleksandr Latsukin (BLR), male Natalia Matveeva (RUS), female Kikkan Randall (USA), female Evi Sachenbacher (GER), female Leif Zimmermann (USA), male

It should be emphasized that this start prohibition is not a sanction, but is considered to serve to protect the health of the Athlete. Consequently, no disciplinary measures will be taken.

So far, 281 Athletes have been tested. The total number of Cross-Country and Nordic Combined Athletes participating in the XX Olympic Winter Games is approximately 330 and 63, respectively.

* * *

For further information, please contact:

Sarah Lewis, FIS Secretary General on +41 79 310 2244
Riikka Rakic, Communications Manager +41 79 64 34 281