

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIS MEDIA INFO****Decisions of the Autumn 2014 FIS Council Meetings in Oberhofen (SUI)**

The FIS Council held its' Autumn Meeting at the FIS Headquarters in Oberhofen (SUI) on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November and dealt with a full agenda, including reports from Organising Committees for the FIS World Championships and Olympic Winter Games, the appointment of technical officials and proposals from the FIS Technical Committees.

The main decisions of the Council in Oberhofen include the following:

**Decisions directly related to FIS competition activities**FIS World Cup calendars 2014/2015 to 2018/2019

Minor modifications to the FIS World Cup Calendars for the 2014/2015 season proposed by the respective Technical Committees were approved, the final versions of which are available on the FIS website. Of these changes, the most notable is a change of venue for the Audi FIS Alpine World Cup from Bormio (ITA) to Santa Caterina (ITA) on 28<sup>th</sup> December.

The draft calendars for future seasons up to 2018/19 were also acknowledged by the Council.

**FIS World Championships and Junior World Championships**

Reports on the preparations for the FIS World Championships were received, in particular on the final inspections for the 2015 FIS World Championships in Falun, SWE (Nordic Events), Vail Beaver Creek, USA (Alpine Events) and Kreischberg (Freestyle Skiing / Snowboard Events).

The number of participants in the 2<sup>nd</sup> run of the technical events at the FIS Alpine World Ski Championships 2015 in Vail Beaver Creek (USA) will remain at 60. A proposal to reduce the number of participants to 30 can only be dealt with by the FIS Congress in 2016.

Dates for the newly-elected FIS World Championships in 2019 were confirmed: Alpine Skiing, Åre (SWE) 5<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February; Nordic Disciplines, Seefeld (AUT) 19<sup>th</sup> February to 3<sup>rd</sup> March; Freestyle Ski and Snowboard, Park City (USA): 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> February.

The Council appointed the following new Organisers:

Valmalenco (ITA) - FIS Junior Freestyle World Ski Championships in 2015

Sollefteå (SWE) - FIS Roller Skiing World Championships in 2017

### **Olympic Winter Games**

The progress report from PyeongChang in regard to the preparations for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games provided a positive update about the status of the construction of the venues to be ready for the test events in 2016 and 2017.

### **World Cup 2015/2016**

The minimum values of prize money for the 2015/2016 World Cup season were defined and include increases for the Alpine (to CHF 120'000) and Freestyle Skiing (to CHF 25'000) disciplines.

### **Technical Committees**

A number of adaptations to the technical rules were made, details of which have been published under the discipline committee reports. Additionally:

#### Alpine Skiing

The use of "Air Bag Systems" which conform to the FIS rules and specifications will be permitted in World Cup downhill training runs only until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 and thereafter in all levels of FIS competitions, including World Cup.

The starting order system for downhill and super G will be studied until spring 2015.

#### Cross Country

A trial for the assignment of the competitors to the quarter-final heats will be organised at the end of the season in Lahti and Drammen. The qualified athletes will be responsible for choosing their quarter-final heat.

The rules for Roller Skiing competitions were thoroughly updated.

#### Ski Jumping

A project will be undertaken to determine flight-trajectories on jumps with hill size smaller than 110m for the development of jump construction standards, as well as an investigation of the speed, flight trajectory, flight distance and landing height equivalent in female ski jumpers.

#### Nordic Combined

All participating nations in Nordic Combined Continental Cup (COC) will contribute to the timing and data services.

#### Freestyle Skiing

For ski cross qualification a competitor must move off the course if he/she misses a gate. In the final he/she may not enter the course or cross it.

#### Snowboarding

For safety reasons, use of approved helmets according to the manufacturers' recommendations is compulsory.

## Other Decisions

### Hearing Panel Decision - the Thailand FIS Races organised in Krvavec (SLO)

At its Meeting in Oberhofen on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014, the FIS Council acknowledged the decision of the FIS Hearing Panel of 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014 and thereafter decided in application of Art. 8.4 of the FIS Betting and other Anti-Corruption Rules to cancel the results of all four giant slalom races that took place between 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at the Krvavec Ski area (SLO).

As a consequence of its decision to cancel the Krvavec giant slalom races, the FIS Council took note that Vanessa Vanakorn (THA) who competed in the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games therefore did not qualify and should not have been participating in the Sochi 2014 Games.

In the cases of other athletes who obtained the necessary level of FIS points to qualify for Sochi 2014 at the Krvavec giant slalom races (i.e. Federica Selva (RSM), as well as Ieva Januskeviciute (LTU), who was qualified to participate in such Games through her FIS points in slalom but was not eligible to participate in the giant slalom), the Council is of the opinion that they were victims of the manipulated races.

The Council therefore decided to submit its decision and information in regard to the qualification and eligibility of the above mentioned athletes to compete in the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games, to the International Olympic Committee (IOC), in order that the IOC may take any further action in its competence

### Affiliation of new members - Membership

The Council accepted the provisional membership application from the Kingdom of Tonga, subject to the approval of the FIS Congress in 2016.

### Anti-Doping Rules

The Council adopted the FIS Anti-Doping Rules and Procedural Guidelines 2015 that have been checked by WADA and approved for compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code.

### Bring Children to Snow Campaign – FIS World Snow Day

The fourth FIS World Snow Day will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015 following the success of the inaugural decision in 2012. To date there have been over 1.25 million participants in 1'274 events in the first three editions. Currently 225 events in 25 countries are registered for World Snow Day 2015, with 232 FIS SnowKidz events already announced at other times of the year in 18 nations, which are both big increases on last year.

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## About FIS

FIS is the governing body for international skiing and snowboarding, founded in 1924 during the first Olympic Games in Chamonix, France. Recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), FIS manages the Olympic disciplines of Alpine Skiing, Cross-Country Skiing, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Freestyle Skiing and Snowboarding, including setting the international competition rules. Through its 122 member nations, more than 6'500 FIS ski and snowboard competitions are staged annually. Specific initiatives are undertaken by FIS to promote snow activities as a healthy leisure recreation, notably for the young. For more information, please visit [www.fis-ski.com](http://www.fis-ski.com).