

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 2004

AGENDA OF THE 56th ORDINARY CONGRESS DUBROVNIK - 2016

Time Schedule

Sunday, June 5

09.00 to 12.00	Council Meeting Technical Committee Meetings
12.00 to 14.00	Lunch
14.00 to 17.00	Council Meeting Technical Committee Meetings
18.00	Welcome reception hosted by the Croatian Skating Federation

Monday, June 6

09.00 – 12.30 (approx)	Congress – agenda items 1 – 16
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 15.30 (approx)	Workshops (held simultaneously divided by Branch) Technical Rule amendments Figure Skating Branch (as per Art. 32, para 9.d) Technical Rule amendments Speed Skating Branch (as per Art. 31, para 9.d)
16.00 - 17.00	Congress – agenda items 17-19
17.15 - 18.00	Election voting procedure rehearsal

Tuesday, June 7

09.00 - 12.30	Congress – agenda items 18-19
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 17.00	Congress – agenda items 18-19

Wednesday, June 8

09.00 - 12.30	Congress – agenda items 18-19 (if not completed before) Alternatively to be held simultaneously; Speed Skating Branch Session – agenda items 1-11 Figure Skating Branch Session – agenda items 1-11
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch
15.00	Excursion

Thursday, June 9

09.00 - 12.30	Speed Skating Branch Session – agenda items 1-11 Figure Skating Branch Session – agenda items 1-11
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 17.00	Speed Skating Branch Session – agenda items 1-11 Figure Skating Branch Session – agenda items 1-11

Friday, June 10

09.00 – 11.00 (approx)	Congress – agenda items 20-31
11.00 – 11.30 (approx.)	Speed Skating Branch Session – agenda items 12-16
11.30 – 12.15 (approx.)	Figure Skating Branch Session – agenda items 12-17
12.15 – 13.00 (approx.)	Congress – agenda items 32-36
13.00 – 14.00 (approx.)	Opening Doors – Tributes - Cocktails
20.00 – 24.00	Closing Banquet hosted by the ISU

I. AGENDA OF THE 56th ORDINARY CONGRESS DUBROVNIK 2016

A. Congress

1. Opening of Congress by the President.
2. Verification that Congress has been duly convened according to the Constitution.
3. Election of a secretary to record the minutes of Congress Meetings.
4.
 - i) Verification of the qualifications of representatives and of their right to vote through circulation of a list of representatives among Congress Delegates and subsequent confirmation by the Congress.
 - ii) electronic roll call of Members to establish the presence of Members and corresponding majorities.
5. Election of two scrutineers of the minutes of Congress Meetings.
6. Election of a drafting committee, consisting of at least three members, to draft the final text of the proposals adopted concerning the Constitution, its Procedural Provisions and the General Regulations.
7. Approval of the Agenda.
8. Approval of the Minutes of the previous Congress.
9. Biennial report by the President.
10. Biennial report by the Development Coordinator.
11. Report by the Treasurer/Director General.
12. Report by the Legal Advisors.
13. Questions and objections and Appeals, if any against decisions of the Council, the Director General, the Sports Directors, the Sport Manager Figure Skating and Technical Committees during the period since the last Congress, not otherwise acted upon by the Disciplinary Commission including approval of ISU Communications requiring continued validity in line with Article 27, paragraph 3.

Communications requiring continued validity:

The relevant Communications are listed below. Communications informing about Decisions of the ISU Disciplinary Commission and/or the Court of Arbitration of Sport (CAS), are not listed but remain valid. The Communications "Decisions of the Council" including routine decisions such as allotments of ISU Events, Membership issues, Appointments, World Record homologations and other information/statistics are not listed but remain valid.

If any decision taken at the 2016 Congress would result in any of the below mentioned Communications to become obsolete or incomplete, such Communication would have to be updated as soon as possible after the 2016 Congress.

Communications requiring continued validity:

No. 1265	Cut Resistant Clothing in Short Track Speed Skating
No. 1419	ISU Disciplinary Commission Rules of Procedure
No. 1420	Citizenship-Rule 109
No. 1531	ISU Development Program
No. 1540	Figure Skating - Use of papers/documents by Figure Skating Judges during competitions
No. 1629	ISU World Standings for Single & Pair Skating & Ice Dance
No. 1630	ISU World Standings for Synchronized Skating
No. 1726	Short Track Rinkboard Padding
No. 1717 –	ISU Code of Ethics
No. 1767	Decisions of the Council Prague: Point 8 – Allowed manufacturers trademarks, Rule 102/6
No. 1776	Guidelines for Short Track Speed Skating Regional Courses and Seminars for Officials

No. 1784	Decisions of the Council Milan: Point 3 – OWG - IOC Code of Ethics, Betting
No. 1811	Skaters' Participation in ISU Figure Skating Events – Application of Rules 125/5 & 136/6
No. 1834	International Adult Skating Competitions Figure Skating
No. 1853	Betting and Gambling in ISU Sports
No. 1858	ISU Challenger Series in Figure Skating
No. 1871	ISU Blood Screening Program
No. 1872	ISU Haematological Module of the Skater Biological Passport Program (H-ABP)
No. 1876	Point 16: Rule 131, Declaration Form
No. 1878	Uniform/Racing Suits/Clothing
No. 1910	Officials' remuneration for ISU Figure Skating Events
No. 1913	Point 7: Article 17, paragraph 1.x of the 2014 ISU Constitution - Recreational/Show-type competitions
No. 1922	ISU Anti-Doping Rules
No. 1933	Point 3: Measures related to the Romanian Skating Federation
No. 1936	Ice Dance – Scales of Value effective July 1, 2015
No. 1946	Point 3: Implementation of an electronic entry system for Figure Skating
No. 1947	Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance & Synchronized Skating – Guidelines for International Novice Competitions
No. 1949 & 1969	List of Officials Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating (<i>valid until issuing of new Communication in August 2016</i>)
No. 1951	On Ice Medical Emergencies in Figure Skating Protocol
No. 1954	Initiatives and measures for the Promotion of Short Track Speed Skating
No. 1961 & 1968	List of Officials Figure Skating - (<i>valid until issuing of new Communication in August 2016</i>)
No. 1962	Rules of Procedure for Officials Assessment Commission – Evaluation of Judging – Assessments for the Figure Skating Branch
No. 1966	Synchronized Skating - Appendix Elements & Scale of Values
No. 1970	ISU Anti-Doping Procedures
No. 1974	Open International Competitions
No. 1976 –	Prize Money ISU Championships
No. 1986	ISU Pair Skating Development Training Seminar for Coaches and Pair Skaters
No. 1988	Frankfurt Seminar – July 10 – 17, 2016
No. 1990	ISU International Ice Dance Development Training Seminar for Ice Dance Couples and their Coaches from Asia, Oceania, the Pacific Region and South Africa.
No. 1991	Ice Dance - ISU Seminars for Referees and Judges hosted by Members 2016
No. 1992-	Single & Pair Skating Judges and Referees Seminars 2016
No. 1994-	ISU Challenger Series in Figure Skating Season 2016/17
No. 1996	Obligations of Members
No. 1998	Ice Dance – Requirements for Technical Rules season 2016/17
No. 2000	Single & Pair Skating – Scale of Values, Level of Difficulty and Guidelines for marking Grade of Execution, season 2016/17
No. 2001	ISU Disciplinary Commission – Rules of Procedure
No. 2003	Ice Dance – Requirements for Technical Rules with ongoing validity, effective July 1, 2016
	Other Communications published after the issuing of the Congress Agenda and as indicated by the Chair

14. Report of the decisions of the Disciplinary Commission during the period since the last Congress.
15. Report by the auditors with respect to the financial administration of the ISU since the last Congress, the approval thereof and the discharge of the Council, Director General, Treasurer, Sports Directors and the Sport Manager Figure Skating with respect thereto.
16. Objections to nominations for elected positions.
17. Approval of Motions concerning amendments to the Constitution and its Procedural Provisions and General Regulations specifically designated and summarized in the Agenda as “Drafting Matters” and approval of these “Drafting Matter” Motions and/or referral of certain of those Motions identified as such for debate and vote. The following Motions labeled as DRAFTING MATTERS have been identified: No. 2, 4, 10, 12, 26, 29, 30, 31, 34, 40, 41, 42, 45, 50, 56. 63, 64, 85, 91, 92, 98, 101 and 105.
18. Motions concerning amendments to the Constitution and its Procedural Provisions.
19. Motions concerning amendments to the General Regulations.

B. Branch of Special Representatives for Speed Skating

1. Opening of the meeting by the Vice President.
2. Election of a secretary to record the minutes of the meetings of the Branch.
3. Verification of the qualifications of the Speed Skating representatives and of their right to vote.
4. Election of two scrutineers of the minutes.
5. Election of a drafting committee, consisting of at least three members, to draft the final text of proposals adopted concerning the Speed Skating Regulations and election of a similar drafting committee for the Short Track Speed Skating Regulations.
6. Approval of the Agenda.
7. Report by the Vice President on the Speed Skating activities of the past two years.
8. Approval of Motions concerning amendments to the Special Regulations Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating specifically designated and summarized in the Agenda as “Drafting Matters” and approval of these “Drafting Matter” Motions and/or referral of certain of those Motions identified as such for debate and vote. The following Motions labeled as DRAFTING MATTERS have been identified: 121, 129, 132 & 139.
9. Motions concerning amendments to the Special Regulations Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating.
10. Reports by the Chair of the Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committees concerning proposed amendments to the Technical Rules for Speed Skating and for Short Track Speed Skating.
The Reports shall include:
 - a) A summary of proposals and comments received from Members, the Council and the Sports Directors that were submitted to the respective Technical Committee in line with the Procedural Provisions to the Constitution (A. Congress) and during Workshops at the beginning of the Congress;
 - b) A summary of input received from Coaches, Skaters and Officials;
 - c) A summary of the most significant conclusions reached by the respective Technical Committees and the most significant changes proposed;
 - d) A detailed summary of amendments to the proposed Technical Rule changes included in the agenda, as worked out by the respective Technical Committee and Sports Directors and approved by the respective Vice President further to discussions during the workshops at the beginning of the Congress.
11. Presentation by Members of objections to proposed Technical Rule changes and subsequent vote upon such objections. Any objection requires a second Member to support the objection and subsequently a simple majority to become effective. Such objection may only propose not to accept the change, it cannot propose any amendment. A Rule in the Technical Rules may not change or amend a rule included in the Constitution or in the General Regulations or in the Special Regulations (Article 11, paragraph 2.b) of the 2014 ISU Constitution).
12. Election in the following sequence of a Technical Committee to deal with questions concerning Speed Skating consisting of:
 - a) A Chair;
 - b) Three regular members;
 - c) Note: The additional Committee members being a Skater and a Coach shall subsequently be appointed and/or elected (Athletes) depending on the decision of the Congress (see Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70)
13. Election in the following sequence of a Technical Committee to deal with questions concerning Short Track Speed Skating consisting of:
 - a) A Chair;
 - b) Three regular members;
 - c) Note: The additional Committee members being a Skater and a Coach shall subsequently be appointed and/or elected (Athletes) depending on the decision of the Congress (see Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70)

14. Presentation of a status report by each Technical Committee on the existing four-year plan for the ISU for the period since the 2014 Congress.
15. Various.
16. Closing of the Branch meeting by the Vice President.

C. Branch of Special Representatives for Figure Skating

1. Opening of the meeting by the Vice President.
2. Election of a secretary to record the minutes of the meetings of the Branch.
3. Verification of the qualifications of the Figure Skating representatives and of their right to vote.
4. Election of two scrutineers of the minutes.
5. Election of a drafting committee, consisting of at least three members, to draft the final text of proposals adopted concerning the Single and Pair Skating Regulations, and election of a similar drafting committee for Ice Dance Regulations and Synchronized Skating Regulations.
6. Approval of the Agenda.
7. Report by the Vice President on the Figure Skating activities of the past two years.
8. Approval of Motions concerning amendments to the Special Regulations Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance as well as Synchronized Skating specifically designated and summarized in the Agenda as “Drafting Matters” and approval of these “Drafting Matter” Motions and/or referral of certain of those Motions identified as such for debate and vote. The following Motions labeled as DRAFTING MATTERS have been identified: None
9. Motions concerning amendments to the Special Regulations Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance as well as Synchronized Skating.
10. Reports by the Chair of the Single and Pair Skating, Ice Dance and Synchronized Skating Technical Committees concerning amendments to the Technical Rules for Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance and for Synchronized Skating.

The Reports shall include:
 - a) A summary of proposals and comments received from Members, the Council and the Sports Directorate that were submitted to the respective Technical Committee in line with the Procedural Provisions to the Constitution (A. Congress) and during Workshops at the beginning of the Congress;
 - b) A summary of input received from Coaches, Skaters and Officials;
 - c) A summary of the most significant conclusions reached by the respective Technical Committees and the most significant changes proposed;
 - d) A detailed summary of amendments to the proposed Technical Rule changes included in the agenda, as worked out by the respective Technical Committee and the Sports Directors and approved by the respective Vice President further to discussions during the workshops at the beginning of the Congress.
11. Presentation by Members of objections to proposed Technical Rule changes and subsequent vote upon such objections. Any objection requires a second Member to support the objection and subsequently a simple majority to become effective. Such objection may only propose not to accept the change, it cannot propose any amendment. A Rule in the Technical Rules may not change or amend a rule included in the Constitution or in the General Regulations or in the Special Regulations (Article 11, paragraph 2.b) of the 2014 ISU Constitution).
12. Election in the following sequence of a Technical Committee to deal with questions concerning Synchronized Skating consisting of:
 - a) A Chair;
 - b) Three regular members;
 - c) Note: The additional Committee members being a Skater and a Coach shall subsequently be appointed and/or elected (Athletes) depending on the decision of the Congress (see Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70)

13. Election in the following sequence of a Technical Committee to deal with questions concerning Single and Pair Skating consisting of:
 - a) A Chair;
 - b) Three regular members;
 - c) Note: The additional Committee members being a Skater and a Coach shall subsequently be appointed and/or elected (Athletes) depending on the decision of the Congress (see Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70).
14. Election in the following sequence of a Technical Committee to deal with questions concerning Ice Dance consisting of:
 - a) A Chair;
 - b) Three regular members;
 - c) Note: The additional Committee members being a Skater and a Coach shall subsequently be appointed and/or elected (Athletes) depending on the decision of the Congress (see Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70).
15. Presentation of a status report by each Technical Committee on the existing four-year plan for the ISU for the period since the 2014 Congress.
16. Various.
17. Closing of the Branch meeting by the Vice President.

D. Congress

20. A budget for the year of the Congress and the forthcoming two-year period as submitted by the Council and the approval thereof.
21. Election of an auditing company to serve until the next Congress.
22. Motions concerning amendments to the General Regulations referred to the Figure Skating and Speed Skating Branches.
23. Ratification of the actions and decisions of the Council, the Director General, the Sports Directors, Sport Manager Figure Skating and Technical Committees.
24. Election of the President.
25. Election of the Vice President Speed Skating.
26. Election of the Vice President Figure Skating.
27. Confirmation of the election of the First Vice President in accordance with Art. 13, paragraph 6, i.e. the Vice President Speed Skating.
28. Election of four Speed Skating Council members.
29. Election of four Figure Skating Council members.
30. Election of the Chair of the Disciplinary Commission.
31. Election of four Disciplinary Commission members as per Art. 24, paragraph 2
 - a) election of two Disciplinary Commission members experienced in Speed Skating
 - b) election of two Disciplinary Commission members experienced in Figure Skating
32. Communication of the results of elections to the Technical Committees by the Vice Presidents.
33. Presentation of a status report on the existing four-year plan for the ISU for the period since the 2014 Congress.
34. Election of Honorary Members.

- 35.** Various including all other matters which in accordance with the Constitution, its Procedural Provisions or the Regulations are required to be dealt with by Congress.
- 36.** Closing of Congress by the President.

I. PROPOSALS FOR CONGRESS

A. CONSTITUTION

1. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Article 2, paragraph 2, Headquarters

In first sentence after words ISU delete words shall be add word is located in Switzerland (Avenue Juste- Olivier 17, Lausanne) and the place of the legal residence is Lausanne

rest of paragraph delete

Reason: Clarification, to be consistent with article 1, paragraph 6. Legal Identity

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favour.

For consistency with Article 1, paragraph 6, the Council proposes that Art 2, paragraph 2 shall read as follows:

“The headquarters of the ISU shall be located in Switzerland at a place designated by the Council.”

2. ISU COUNCIL

Article 3, paragraph 2 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

Among the activities of the ISU particular importance is given to Events which include: ISU Championships, ISU Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating World Cup Competitions, ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Competitions, ISU World Team Trophy in Figure Skating, ISU International Competitions, ISU exhibitions, ISU shows, ISU tours and performances / appearances according to the ISU General Regulations.

Reason: To assure consistency between Constitution and General Regulations.

3. ARGENTINA, Speed

Article 4. 1 a)

Add: a) The promotion of the sports of Figure Skating, Speed Skating and Skatecross in all their disciplines and the influencing of public opinion in their favor.

Reason: To put Skatecross Competitions (or Crashed Ice or Downhill skating) under the jurisdiction of ISU. This skating discipline is increasing worldwide popularity, but is for the moment only being governed by a commercial company (as today: Red Bull). As it is a regular ice sport, ISU should be the official governor of this skating discipline. It has huge potential as an exciting television and audience sport. It can attract skaters from ice hockey to an ISU-discipline and can be financially favorable. The skiing counterpart of this discipline, the ski-cross, showed how a new and exciting discipline can grow fast and become part of the official Olympic program. Once Skatecross is included in the ISU-constitution, we should work on further regulation and organization, by installing a special ISU Skatecross Commission.

At the Congress in Dublin 2014, this proposal was received with enthusiasm by the Congress. On request by the president, it was kept pending, requesting more information regarding the cooperation with Red Bull. Argentina Speed will present the requested information at the Congress.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

The Council does not support this Proposal because the ISU does neither have the experience, nor the capacity to organize these events. Also, the ISU has no evidence that Members pursue activities in the area of Skatecross or would be directly cooperating with the current entities involved in Skatecross such as Red Bull and the All Terrain Skate Cross Federation (AT SX). The Council believes that before new disciplines can be included into the ISU Constitution, there should be a basic activity within the ISU Members for such new discipline.

Furthermore, there might arise problems with delimitation of trade marks. The term “crashed ice” is protected by two international trademarks, registered in the name of Red Bull GmbH. They have set up World Championships in Ice Cross with respective rules. Finally, most participants are coming from Ice Hockey therefore not falling into the competence of the ISU.

4. ISU COUNCIL

Article 4, paragraph 1 g) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

4. Methods and Activities

...

g) The preparation and distribution of educational and information material for the purposes of the ISU sports.

Reason: Clarity of drafting

5. AUSTRALIA, Figure

Article 4, paragraph 1 – METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

Add new paragraph d), and renumber others, as follows.

The methods of attaining these objects are:

- a) The promotion of the sports of Figure and Speed Skating on ice and on synthetic polymeric ice surfaces in all their disciplines and the influencing of public opinion in their favor.
- b) The providing of uniform Regulations for International Competitions and the manner of supervising and conducting them.
- c) The organization of ISU Championships and other ISU Events.
- d) To further expand the participation of all Figure Member Skaters in their area of the sport the ISU must definitely prepare and put to 2018 Congress a budgeted proposal to structure Championships in 'Divisions'. The ISU will consult with all Figure Skating Technical Committees and Figure Members and the proposal will include the Figure Skating Championships of World's, European's, Four Continents and World Junior's. If approved by Members at the 2018 Congress the 'Divisions' will start in the 2018-2019 season.
- e) Technical control and direction of the sports of Figure Skating and Speed Skating at the Olympic Winter Games, the Winter Youth Olympic Games and other skating events organized by parties not under the jurisdiction of the ISU, in the case such events are sanctioned by the ISU.
- f) The settlement of differences and publication of official decisions.
- g) The organizing of meetings of Officials and other interested persons in connection with ISU Events and International Competitions.
- h) The preparation and distribution of educational and information material for the purposes of the sports.
- i) The exclusive right and responsibility to promote and protect all rights relating to ISU activities throughout the world, excluding those events which are the property of the Members.
- j) Among the rights mentioned in paragraph i) are exclusive rights to all intellectual property of the ISU such as logos, trademarks, trade names, ISU Event names and copyrights.

Reason:

- This is a Constitutional directive for the ISU to prepare a proposal to Members for the 2018 Congress.
- The ISU in recent years has reduced Skater entries to Championship events.
- Non-representation by Skaters weakens Figure Skating in those countries not represented.
- Qualification scores for Skaters move higher and higher, many Countries are not represented.
- Country Skaters at 'big' events are important to excite local Skaters and get extra funding for sport and to build ice rinks.
- The proposal is to adopt a similar model to other international sports with all inclusive 'Divisions'.
- Amendments to the Article above has 2 year period for ISU to plan, with Figure Member input.
- ISU needs to do more to benefit all Members and this proposal will assist grow their sport locally.
- ISU should support and attract new participants. Sometimes champions come from smaller countries because exceptional talent emerges; they need to be given the opportunity.
- Example suggestion: 'Division A' 18 Skaters (with TV coverage) short and long programs (TES as done now); and new 'Division B' with 24 other Skaters with lower TES, long program only (no TV coverage but digital video for online, ISU Channel, YouTube, etc.).
- BUDGET: The budget for the ISU preparing this Proposal for the 2018 Congress is estimated at US\$5,000 because most of the work would be a normal part of ISU business.

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor.*

The Council believes that the inclusion into the Constitution of provisions with a Resolution type character is not appropriate.

Also, the Council considers that the Proposal refers only to the objective of expanding participation of Figure Skating Members and remains silent on other considerations that such proposal would involve, namely to maintain a reasonable financial burden for the organizing Members and the ISU as well as the requirement to provide attractive Events to the public and the media as basis for an effective marketing and securing the necessary income.

However, the Council supports a Resolution to be included in the minutes of the 2016 Congress, mandating the Council to proceed with a study with the goal to present a report of its conclusions and proposals to the next following Congress 2018. The proposed Resolution to read:

"The 2016 Congress mandates the Council to proceed in consultation with internal ISU bodies and Figure Skating Members with a study to evaluate the structure and entry criteria to ISU Figure Skating Championships. The objective of the study is to find a solution allowing the broadest possible participation among Figure Skating Members in ISU Figure Skating Championships but at the same time maintaining reasonable financial conditions for the organizing Members and the ISU as well as preserving attractive Events for the public and media. The Council's conclusions and respective proposals shall be included into the 2018 Congress Agenda and the Budget 2018-2020 to be submitted to the 2018 Congress."

6. AUSTRALIA, Figure

Article 4, paragraph 2 - DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Add new paragraph b), and renumber others, as follows.

The ISU Development Program makes financing available, within a budget set by the ISU Council, to:

- a) Further the principles of the ISU, including those related to fair and effective distribution of ISU financial support to and for the benefit of Members and participants.
- b) Special Development Program (SDP) funding commencing in calendar 2016, for 3 consecutive years (that is 2016, 2017 and 2018), to increase participation in ISU Sports. SDP is a direct financial payment of US\$50,000 in each calendar year of the 3 years (total US\$150,000 over 3 years) direct to each Speed Member and Figure Member (includes dual payments where is combined Member and to Provisional Members) to be used in accordance with item (2) in below paragraph of this Article 4.2. The ISU cannot with-hold timely payment to any Member for any reason but the ISU can insist on Member accountability for proper and effective use of the funding. ISU to form independent Committee to audit and review funds use each year and the results achieved by each Members SDP.
- c) Improve the quality and numbers of participants (including Officials) in competitive international Figure and Speed Skating.
- d) Aid Member development programs that meet ISU criteria.
- e) Aid young, talented Skaters in need of support.
- f) Provide experienced Coaches and sport administrators on a temporary basis to assist Members; and
- g) Support development initiatives identified by Members, Technical Committees, Commissions and the Council.

All Members may propose projects and activities and are encouraged to accept responsibility to carry-out: (1) specific initiatives decided by the ISU, or (2) Member-suggested activities approved by the ISU, with the universal purpose of stimulating regional and global development of the ISU sports. ISU Development Program funds must be expended carefully, seeking measurable results for evaluation. Expenditures and the results achieved must be reported to the ISU in writing by the Member of the activity. Such reports shall be submitted in the form, and at such times, as specified in the authorizing ISU document.

Reason:

- At 2014 Congress, Dublin, there was serious concern with Member representatives that participation and public interest in ISU sports was decreasing.
- Many or most Member countries receive little or no regular funding support from ISU.
- The way the Development Program is currently being funded, administered and delivered is inadequate, ineffective and benefits only a few Members.
- Solution: a 3 year Special Development Program (SDP) be initiated where every Member sport directly receives the same development funding amount over each of the 3 years, first payment starts before 30 December 2016, to develop the sport in their region. There are procedures and processes in place for the wise expenditure of this SDP funding.
- The ISU has very large financial resources available, about US\$250 million, now is time to reinvest part and grow the sports in all Member countries.
- Members are the best people to know how this money can be used to grow the sport in their region. This SDP funding is to be available to all Members and Provisional Members.
- Proposal is that each Member submits to ISU how they will increase participation in Figure and Speed sports – not only for elite Skaters.
- **BUDGET:** The budget for the SDP is US\$50,000 each year, for 3 consecutive years, to each and every Figure Member and Speed Member. Each Member ISU sport will therefore receive US\$150,000 over the 3 years. On the basis of 120 ISU Member sports (including provisional) the ISU SPD budget would be US\$6 million for each of the 3 years for a combined SDP total of US\$18 million over the 3 years. First payment to be before 2016 calendar year end. The Budget for administration of the SDP would be a normal part of ISU business but an additional US\$100,000 is allocated for any additional workload. US\$'s are used because is most widely understood currency, but payments may be in Swiss CHF conversion.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

The Constitution is based on the applicable principles and should not include budget line items. Such expenditure shall be considered and decided upon within the framework of the ISU Budget which shows all expenditures and also incomes so that the Congress can decide upon the budget having the whole picture available.

Starting to include mandatory expenditures into the Constitution would set a dangerous precedent and might end up in a dangerous spiral of uncontrolled mandatory spending and gradually depleting the ISU reserves and consequently interest income.

Furthermore, the Council continuous to favor assisting motivated and active Members through Development help. Through its Budget Proposal, the Council proposes to increase the annual Development funding by CHF 1.8 million each year, i.e. from CHF 6.2 million to CHF 8.0 million. Out of the CHF 8.0 million Development Program Budget, CHF 3.0 million would be spent in form of annual contributions to Members amounting to CHF 25'000 per Member and Branch (i.e. CHF 50'000 for Members representing both Branches).

The Budget Proposal also foresees a more transparent and clear structure of the different areas of the Development Program.

Finally, based on the experience gained, the Council concluded that costly audits being performed after the completion of a project have a rather limited value and that a pro-active approach involving an analysis of the presented budget for value and rational of each line items of a budget is more effective. The Council budgeted the addition of a staff position of an Internal Controller with the main focus to evaluate proposed Development Projects as of the beginning at the budget stage and throughout their implementation. Please refer to the detailed Budget Proposal 2016-2018 (to be distributed during the month of May 2016).

7. ISU COUNCIL

Article 6, paragraph 1

Amend as follows:

1. General Requirements

Membership in the ISU may be granted to a national association located in a country in which there exists no national association for both Branches or the respective Branch of Skating already being a Member of the ISU. If the Council is satisfied that the two Branches of Skating are controlled by two different associations in the same country, the Council may elect two Members from that country, one to be designated as Figure Skating Member and the other to be designated as Speed Skating Member. However, when a national association for only one Branch of Skating exists in a country, the Council may elect such national association a Member of the ISU and designate it either the Figure Skating Member or the Speed Skating Member, as the case may be. If a Member is part or becomes part of an organization in its country being responsible also for other than ISU sports, the name of this organization shall make it possible to identify it as covering also the ISU sports and its organizational structure shall allow for the necessary administration of the ISU sports.

Reason: Clarity of drafting and adjustment to established practice

8. ISU COUNCIL

Article 6, paragraph 2

Amend as follows:

2. Provisional Membership

- a) The Membership of each newly admitted Member shall be provisional for the first three (3) years except
 - i) when a new Member is created by a political division in a country where the previous Member was a full Member provided that the new Member fulfils all the other relevant requirements for Membership and provided that the new Member submits evidence that its Skaters have competed in International Competitions or
 - ii) when if-a Provisional Member before the end of the three (3) years' period proves to the satisfaction of the Council that it fulfills all requirements listed in paragraph 3 below and submits evidence that its Skaters have competed in International Competitions,
 - iii) A new Member under sub-paragraph i) and a Provisional Member under sub-paragraph ii) shall become a full Member with immediate effect if-once the Council has already expressed its satisfaction.
 - iv) For Provisional Members not subject to sub-paragraphs i) and ii) above and paragraph 3 f) below, after expiration of the three-year provisional Membership period, if the Minimum Requirements listed in paragraph 3 below for provisional Membership are established to the satisfaction of the Council and provided that the Provisional Member submitted evidence that its Skaters have competed in International Competitions, the provisional Membership shall become a full Membership. If the Council, prior to the expiration of the three-year period, decides against granting full Membership to a Provisional Member, the reasons for such decision must be stated in a Council decision and published in an ISU Communication. Any decision of the Council to this effect shall be subject to an Appeal to the next Congress (see paragraph 10 below).
- b) Provisional Membership of the ISU may also be granted to an organization which is not a national association, but which is established in and controls either one or both Branches in a country in which there exists no national association already a Member of the ISU.
- c) The same general minimum requirements for full Membership set forth in paragraph 3 below shall also apply to applicants for Provisional Membership.

Reason: Safeguard autonomy of ISU sports on the national level (sub-paragraph i) and avoidance of rules conflicts.

9. ISU COUNCIL

Article 6, paragraph 3

Amend as follows:

3. Minimum requirements

In order to guarantee the activity of Members in organizing and administering the ISU sport disciplines, the following minimum requirements for Membership in the ISU shall be required. ~~Other conditions may also be established by the Council from time to time.~~

- a) An applicant national association or organization must prove that it has had control of its sport disciplines as the national governing body in its country for not less than two years prior to application for Membership and is recognized as a voting member of the respective NOC.
- b) Applicants, Provisional Members and Members shall have:
 - i) a headquarters office in their respective country;
 - ii) been organized pursuant to a duly adopted Constitution and/or By Laws;
 - iii) duly elected governing body or bodies and officers;
 - iv) adopted and published Rules for the orderly conduct of their respective activities, including competitions;
 - v) accepted the ISU Statutes and specifically provided in their respective Rules that all persons under their jurisdiction shall be bound by the ISU Statutes, including amendments thereof, as a condition of participation in their activities;
 - vi) included in their respective Rules appropriate Procedural Rules necessary to effectively implement the ISU Anti-Doping Rules and specifically provided in those Rules that all persons under their jurisdiction shall be bound by the ISU Anti-Doping Rules, including amendments thereof, as a condition of participation in their activities;
 - vii) conducted national championships on ~~a regular~~ an annual basis;
 - viii) conducted seminars or schools for the training and/or education of officials;
 - ix) in existence in the country one or more actively operating natural or artificial ice rinks of a size adequate to practice the respective ISU sport discipline.
- c) A Provisional Member shall in addition, before expiration of the three (3) year period, present proof that it has applied to the NOC of their country for inclusion as a voting member of the NOC in accordance with Article 28 of the Olympic Charter, and that such application has been granted.
- d) Should such NOC fail to grant such inclusion to a Provisional Member or fail to continue such NOC inclusion for a Member, the Council may nevertheless grant full Membership to the Provisional Member or maintain the respective Member as a Member in good standing, and may further, in its discretion, refer such lack of inclusion by the NOC to the IOC for appropriate action.
- e) Upon application or on its own initiative, the Council may, at its discretion, pardon any requirement stated in sub-paragraphs (vii) relating to national championships, (viii) relating to seminars for officials of sub-paragraph b) above if exceptional circumstances or avoidance of hardship so warrant. When pardoning any of the requirements specified in this paragraph, the Council shall state a period of time within which the missing requirement(s) must be satisfied for the pardoned entity to continue with the ISU in good standing. Such period may not exceed three (3) years. In case that the Council decides on pardoning certain requirements, it may also decide to reduce or cancel in full any ISU contribution which is otherwise made to Members.
- f) Further to paragraph e) above, upon application or on its own initiative, the Council may, at its discretion, pardon the requirement stated in sub-paragraph (ix) of paragraph b) above (existence of an ice rink) if the circumstances in a country due to its geographical, climatic or economic situation do not allow the compliance with this requirement.
 In case that the Council decides on pardoning this requirement, it may also decide to reduce or cancel in full any ISU contribution which is otherwise made to Members.
 In case the Council decides on pardoning this requirement for a Provisional Member for a continued period of time, then the Membership of the concerned Provisional Member will remain provisional as long as the requirement is not fulfilled.
 In case of Members who had already obtained full Membership but for whom the Council receives reliable evidence that such full Member does not comply with the requirement of subparagraph b) (ix) above, the Council, at its discretion, may decide to revert back the respective Membership to a Provisional Membership as long as the requirement is not fulfilled.
- g) If the ISU is informed of unclear internal situations within a Member, such as conflicting information regarding its legitimate leadership (President, Board, General Secretary etc.) or split into two different organizations then the ISU will generally rely on information received from the NOC in the country. However, in consideration of the autonomy of the ISU and the Council's responsibility to identify and admit appropriate Members, the Council may act according to other information and conclusions. In case that the situation is subject of a court procedure and respective evidence is being provided, the ISU ordinarily will not accept any change until the case is finally decided by the courts having jurisdiction.

Reason: Avoidance of supplement of the Constitution (introductory part), clarification of an already existing procedure (paragraphs a) & g)), membership limited to federations actually promoting the ISU sports (paragraph b, avoidance of rules conflicts (paragraphs e) & f)).

10. ISU COUNCIL

Article 6, paragraph 5 - DRAFTING

Drafting:

4th rowMembers control only one Branch of Skating.

11. ISU COUNCIL

Article 6, paragraph 6.h)

Amend as follows:

Notwithstanding an eventual pardon of the existence of an ice-rink by the Council according to Article 6, paragraph 3. f) above, identification of the ISU skating sport or sports controlled by the applicant, with evidence that the sport, or each claimed sport, is actually and actively currently practiced within the country of the applicant.

Reason: Harmony of rules.

12. ISU COUNCIL

Article 7, paragraph 7 b) & c) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

7. Obligations of Office Holders, Coordinators, Advisors, Employees and Consultants

...

b) attend all corresponding meetings and come to such meetings well prepared and ~~well~~ informed regarding issues on the agenda;

c) ~~be knowledgeable about the ISU;~~ be familiar with the ISU Statutes and the organization of the ISU;

Reason: Avoidance of repetition (b) and clarity of drafting (clarification c).

13. ISU COUNCIL

To be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70.

Article 8, paragraph a) new v) and paragraph b) new vii)

Add new sub-paragraphs as follows and renumber following sub-paragraphs

a) v) The Athletes Commission

b) vii) the Chair, Vice-Chair and members of the Athletes Commission

Reason: See under Council Proposal No. 49 for a new Article 21 (Athletes Commission)

14. SWEDEN, Figure

To be discussed together with Proposal No. 18.

Article 8, paragraph a) vi)

The Development Commission/~~Coordinator~~

This should be changed in all provisions relevant Articles.

Reason:

To be in line with the other ISU Bodies. To have a Commission for Development as well as the Commissions and Committees under iii), iv) and v).

Council Recommendation: The Council agrees and refers to its own Proposal No. 18.

15. FRANCE

To be discussed together with Proposal No. 55.

Article 8, a) add new paragraph vii)

a) Bodies, amend as follows:

vii) The Commission of Presidents of Member Federations (see new Article 23 I.)

Reason: To establish a Commission of Presidents as an advisory, management group that could be phased into each continent to assist the Council in the decisions related to the sports Development, organizing ISU events, structure and strategy of the ISU further development policies and better internal communication.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

While the Council favors to achieve a closer cooperation with Members through ad-hoc working groups or commissions, the ISU is reluctant to increase the number and size of standing committees. In particular the standing committees without clear responsibilities and specific tasks (other than giving general advice) are subject to increase the risk of unclear reporting lines and responsibilities, cronyism and inter-dependence (or worse) that can ultimately result in crisis situations as lately witnessed at FIFA. Interestingly, the recently adopted FIFA reforms include the reduction of standing committees by 17 committees from 26 to 9.

As to the basic strategic advice, the current ISU bodies including Office Holders from a wide range of Members are a broad source of expertise. If needed, the Council has the possibility to appoint additional advisory bodies as appropriate for a specific purpose and limited in time and as financially justifiable within a reasonable budget.

The Council clearly favors to reinforce the day to day operations instead of the formation of Commissions with a limited advisory benefit at a relatively high cost. In this regard, the Council recognizes that in the current economic

environment TV/media rights and sponsorship deals become increasingly difficult to conclude especially for small and medium size sports organizations. While the ISU financial statements give sufficient evidence that the ISU was successful in securing substantial incomes during the past years, the Council recognizes the continuously increasing need for day to day follow-up work, complicated and often long negotiations with commercial partners and agencies. This situation requires additional manpower in the area of marketing and public relations. The ISU Council through its Budget Proposal 2016-2018 proposes to reinforce the area of marketing and public relations with a gradual increase of the corresponding budget.

16. REPUBLIC OF KOREA

To be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70.

Article 8. a)

Add new paragraph: vii) The Athletes' Commission

(see new Article 21 I.)

Reason: See under KSU Proposal for new Article 21.I (The Athletes' Commission)

Council Recommendation: *The Council is in principle in favor for the formation of an Athletes Commission but recommends acceptance of its own proposals No. 13, 48, 49 and 68.*

17. REPUBLIC OF KOREA

To be discussed together with Proposals No.57, 58 and 72

Article 8. a)

Add new paragraph: viii) Marketing Commission.

(see new Article 24)

Reason: See under KSU Proposal for new Article 24 (Marketing Commission)

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor.*

The Council recognizes that in the current economic environment TV/media rights and sponsorship deals become increasingly difficult to conclude especially for small and medium size sports organizations. The Council clearly favors to reinforce the day to day operations instead of the creation of Commissions with a limited advisory benefit at a relatively high cost.

While the ISU financial statements give sufficient evidence that the ISU was successful in securing substantial incomes during the past years, the Council recognizes the continuously increasing need for day to day follow-up work, complicated and often long negotiations with commercial partners and agencies. This situation requires additional operational manpower in the area of marketing and public relations. The ISU Council through its Budget Proposal 2016-2018 proposes to reinforce the area of marketing and public relations with a gradual increase of the corresponding budget.

Furthermore, as also pointed out under Proposal No.15, while the Council favors to achieve a closer cooperation with Members through ad-hoc working groups or commissions, the ISU is reluctant to increase the number and size of standing committees. In particular the standing committees without clear responsibilities and specific tasks (other than giving advice) are subject to increase the risk of cronyism and inter-dependence (or worse) that can ultimately result in crisis situations as lately witnessed at FIFA. Interestingly, the recently adopted FIFA reforms include the reduction of standing committees by 17 committees from 26 to 9.

As to the basic strategic advice, the current ISU bodies including Office Holders from a wide range of Members are a broad source of expertise. If needed, the Council has the possibility to appoint additional advisory bodies as appropriate for a specific purpose and limited in time and as financially justifiable within a reasonable budget.

18. ISU COUNCIL

Article 8, paragraph b) viii)

b) Office Holders

...

~~viii) The Sport Manager Figure Skating (limited for the period between the 2014 & 2016 Congresses)~~

~~ix) viii) The Chair and members of the Medical Commission~~

~~x) ix) The Legal Advisor(s)~~

~~xi) x) The Treasurer~~

~~xii) xi) The Development Commission members Development Coordinator~~

Reason: This position of Sport Manager Figure Skating will not exist after 2016 Congress.

Remark: As a matter of drafting all references to this function in ISU Statutes and Rules shall be eliminated.

19. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Article 8, b) Office Holders, revise paragraph viii)

viii) The Sport Manager Figure Skating / Speed Skating

Rest of sentence delete

Reason: clarification, to be in accordance with needs and present situation

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

As agreed by the 2014 Congress, the position of the Sport Manager Figure Skating represented special circumstances and was introduced to accommodate the need for this position allowing an experienced individual to provide his advice and expertise during a limited additional transition phase. The position will not exist after the 2016 Congress (See ISU Council Proposal No.18). The related tasks of the Sport Manager Figure Skating will be taken over by the Event Coordinator, Assistant Event Coordinators, Regional Event Coordination Assistants (RECA's) and the ISU Secretariat. In addition, the Sports Directors are in place for the liaison function between the ISU Council and the other ISU bodies in the area of sports political/philosophical and technical matters. The combination of the above-mentioned functions constitutes a sufficient basis but is of course subject to recruit the appropriate persons.

This being said, the continuation of the transaction of the current structure in the Figure Skating Event Coordination team essentially relying for over ten years on two long standing, experienced and efficient professionals will be extremely challenging. However, taking into account their respective personal situations this transition must be made sooner or later.

20. ISU COUNCIL

Article 9, paragraph 1.b) – & paragraph 2

Amend as follows:

1.b) The next Ordinary Congress with elections will be held in 2018 ~~2016 (instead of 2014):~~). ~~The Congress 2014 will be with a Forum and without elections.~~

2. Participation in Meetings of Congress

Meetings of Congress may be attended only by Members, Office Holders, ISU employees, the statutory auditors and guests invited by the Council, including media representatives.

Reason:

Paragraph 1.b): Elimination of outdated rule.

Paragraph 2: Compliance with Swiss law and rules of good governance.

21. FRANCE

Article 9 Meeting of Congress

Paragraph 1, amend as follows:

e) The next Forum is to be held on 2017.

Reason: According to the logic of this Article 9a), Forum is to be held between two Congresses with the elections. As soon as in 2014 we have made a decision to hold Congresses with the elections in 2016 and 2018 we must have the Forum with discussions of further necessary improvements in 2017.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

The Council is in principle in favor of an increased number of formal opportunities for Member Officials to meet and discuss topics of current interest among them. For cost and time saving reasons, the Council refers to a possibility mentioned during previous Congress discussions, namely Proposal No. 6 of the 2012 Congress and to organize 1 day Conference per Branch during non-Congress years in conjunction with a major World Championships (World Figure Skating Championships for the Figure Skating Branch and the World Single Distances or World Allround Speed Skating Championships or the World Short Track Speed Skating Championships for the Speed Skating Branch).

Since this intention did not materialize possibly also due to financial considerations, the related cost for the necessary infrastructure on site would be paid by the ISU and is included in the Budget Proposal 2016-2018.

22. ISU COUNCIL

Article 10, paragraph 1

Amend as follows:

1. Place and date of Congress Meetings

The Council shall determine the place and date of each Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress.

If there are nominations from Members, the choice of the place of an Ordinary a Congress shall be based on such nomination. ~~nominations received from Members.~~

Reason: Avoidance of conflict of rules.

23. FRANCE

To be discussed together with Proposal No. 21.

Article 10 Place and date of Congress Meetings

Paragraph 1, amend as follows:

The Council shall determine the place and the date of each Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress as well as the place and the date of each Forum.

Reason: Forum is to be held between two Congresses (Article 9.e)

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

See alternative solution to organize a Conference per Branch as per the Council Recommendation under Proposal No. 21,

24. ISU COUNCIL

To be discussed together with Proposal No. 25.

Article 11, paragraph 1

Amend as follows:

1. Alterations in Constitution, Procedural Provisions and General and Special Regulations

The Council, Technical Committees and Members are entitled to submit proposals to Congress for alterations in the Constitution, its Procedural Provisions and in the General and Special Regulations. The Council and the Technical Committees are entitled to submit proposals to the respective Branch for alterations in the Technical Rules thereby taking duly into account suggestions received by Members.

Reason: Consideration of results of Forum 2014 and Working Groups.

25. FRANCE

Article 11 Majorities for alternations

Paragraph 2b, revise as follows:

Such objection can not only propose to object the change, but can also propose an amendment.

Reason: It gives more opportunities to accept reasonable and necessary changes to Technical Rules.

To avoid too strong restrictions in policy from Technical Committees and Sport Directors and to provide more democracy in the Rules improvement process.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor and favors its own proposal No. 24.

Allowing Members to also make proposals for amendments to the Technical Rule proposals on the agenda would result in basically having the same situation as before the 2006 Congress when the Technical Rules (at that time part of the Special Regulations) were subject to long debates and amendments made on the floor. This resulted in the risk of amendments not being well thought through and ultimately in inconsistent Rules. The distinction between Special Regulations and Technical Rules was made as of the 2006 Congress exactly for the reason to determine which Rules should be debated in detail (Special Regulations) and which Rules should be monitored and updated by the ISU internal bodies (Vice Presidents, Technical Committees and Sports Directors) but with the possibility of input and veto power of the Members.

The Council Proposal No. 24 is expected to achieve the objective stated in the Proposal from France without containing the above-mentioned risks.

26. ISU COUNCIL

Article 13, paragraph 1 a) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

1. Elections – Eligibility for election
 - a) Elections of the President, Vice Presidents, Council members, Technical Committee Chairs, Technical Committee members, the Disciplinary Commission Chair and Disciplinary Commission members shall be held only at Congresses every four years. The original term of office shall be for four years and all offices shall be deemed to be vacant immediately before the elections. Beginning with the 2014 Congress and subject to paragraph 3 of this Article, all elected Office Holders as listed above may serve for a maximum of three (3) successive ~~four-year~~ election terms. For the purposes of this provision the terms 2014 – 2016 and 2016 – 2018 will count as one term.

Reason: Clarification

27. FRANCE

Article 13, paragraph 3. Maximum age

Paragraph 2 (new)

The age limit for all ISU Officials including Office Holders and International Officials shall be unified. (Figure Skating Branch and Speed Skating Branch)

Reason: Differences between ISU Officials including Office Holders and International Officials with various responsibilities border on discrimination. To avoid this, differences should be eliminated by using a single maximum age limit.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

Office Holders and Officials are in a different situation as to the contents of their task and require different types of aptitudes.

28. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Article 13, paragraph 3. Maximum age- revise as follows:

Except for Technical Committees Chair or members as specified in Article 20.

Paragraph 2 and the Special Regulations, no other age requirements apply for elections or re-elections as ISU Office Holder.

Reason: Except part which is included in Article 20, paragraph 2 and Special regulations, (it has to do with judging, referring – technical matters) for election to any other position Office Holder including Council is not matter of age requirements any more, and should be consistent with EU parliamentary elections law as well as Parliaments – Senate elections worldwide.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

Principles of Good Governance, as also applied by the IOC, are in favor of age and term limits.

29. ISU COUNCIL

Article 13, paragraph 6 – DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

6. Precedence

~~The Vice President Figure Skating elected in 2010 was the First Vice President for the period from the 2010 Congress to the 2014 Congress.~~ The Vice President Speed Skating elected in 2014 2016 will be the First Vice President until the 2018 Congress. The Vice President Figure Skating elected in 2018 will be the First Vice President until the 2022 Congress. This alternating arrangement shall be in effect automatically for subsequent elections.

Reason: Drafting for future.

30. ISU COUNCIL

Article 14, paragraph 1 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

1. Vacancies

If the office of the President becomes vacant during his term of office, his place is taken by the First Vice President ~~(who may or may not be from the same Branch as the President).~~ The ~~remaining~~ Second Vice President becomes the First Vice President of the ISU until the next election. If the First Vice President who fills the office of President ~~due to its vacancy~~ is not from the Branch of the President, ~~that action this~~ shall not affect the alternating arrangement between the Branches specified in Article 13, paragraphs 6 and 8.

Reason: Clarification and avoidance of redundancy and of conflict of rules.

31. ISU COUNCIL

Article 15, paragraph 2 c) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

Honorary Members and ISU Awards

2. When considering such awards, the Council shall use the following criteria:

...

- c) For the position of Honorary Member at a minimum nominees shall have been a member of a Technical Committee; Chair of a Technical Committee; a member of the Council; an appointed Sports Director/Manager or Advisor serving as an Office Holder; or a member of the Disciplinary Commission and/or previous Appeals Commission for at least eight (8) years.

For the purpose of this sub-paragraph ~~(iii)~~ (c) the periods served in different positions are added together.

Reason: Correction of typing error. Drafting.

32. ISU COUNCIL

Article 15, paragraph 5 a), b) & c)

Amend as follows:

5. ISU Gold Award of Merit

An "ISU Gold Award of Merit" may be awarded at the discretion of the Council to recognize valuable contributions to the ISU sports at the international level. This award may only be made to Office Holders and other individuals who have served the ISU sport disciplines as follows:

a) ISU Gold Award of Merit awarded for Office Holders', ISU Officials' Service:

- i) ~~The~~ ISU Referees/Technical Controllers, Starters or Competitor Stewards who have served in such capacity at the ISU Championships/ Olympics Winter Games altogether for at least 15 years;
- ii) ~~The~~ ISU Judges who have served as Judges at the ISU Championships/Olympics Winter Games altogether for at least 20 years;
- iii) ~~The~~ Office Holders and Officials who are generally recognized within the ISU as having made extraordinary or exceptional ~~uniquely valuable~~ contributions to the international administration of the ISU sports altogether for at least 10 years. In extremely rare and highly exceptional cases, the ISU Council may waive this time requirement.

- b) ISU Gold Award of Merit awarded for the Organizational Contribution.
This award may only be made to other individuals (e.g. Members' individuals, Secretariat employees, other organization's individuals etc.) who made an exceptional valuable contribution to the ISU sport disciplines for at least 15 years.
- c) ~~The Application for awarding the ISU Gold Award of Merit sent to the Director General for further approval of the Council.~~

...

Reason: Correction of language issue and avoidance of arbitrariness.

33. ISU COUNCIL

Article 15, paragraph 6

Amend as follows:

6. ISU Diploma of Service

An "ISU Diploma of Service" ~~shall may~~ be awarded ~~at the discretion of the Council~~ to persons who are ineligible for the ISU Gold Award of Merit but who have ~~otherwise well~~ served the ISU ~~for at least many~~ 15 years, including without limitation persons who have been on the ISU lists of Honorary Referees, Judges, Competition Stewards and/or Starters.

Reason: Sign of appreciation.

34. ISU COUNCIL

Article 16, paragraph 1 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

1. Composition

The ISU Council is the highest ISU body between ~~the two~~ Congresses. The Council consists of the President, a Vice President, and four members for the Figure Skating Branch and a Vice President, and four members for the Speed Skating Branch. All members of the Council must be of different citizenship and Members.

Reason: Issue of language.

35. RUSSIA, Figure

Article 16, paragraph 1

Change as follows:

B. Council

Article 16

1. Composition

The ISU Council is the highest ISU body between the two Congresses. Beginning with the elections in 2016 the Council shall consists of the President, a Vice President, and ~~four~~ five members for the Figure Skating Branch and a Vice President, and ~~four~~ five members for the Speed Skating Branch. All members of the Council must be of different citizenship and Members.

Reason: Increasing the number of the Council members will make it possible to have a broader range of opinions when discussing matters important for the ISU. Also more Members may be represented in the highest ISU body.

Estimated annual budget for 2 persons: 150'000.00 Euro.

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor.*

The Council believes that considering the limited number of ISU Member countries, the number of 11 Council members is already on the high side and sufficient for a broad variety of opinions. If expertise on certain specific subjects would be needed, the Council can invite individuals with the required expertise on a case by case basis and by doing so reduce to cost to the strict minimum. Furthermore, increasing the size of the Council would make it increasingly difficult for the Council to act as a single group, would result in less interaction among the Council members and the increasing need to rely on sub-groups with the full Council becoming a passive rubber-stamping body. For this reason of good governance and the related expenses, the Council concluded that increasing the size of the Council cannot be justified.

36. AUSTRALIA, Speed

Article 16, paragraph f)

New sentence

...proposals from the respective Vice Presidents. The respective Vice Presidents prepare the proposals in consultation with the respective Sports Directors and the respective Technical Committee. These appointments to be communicated to their Members a minimum of 120 days prior to the first ISU Event of the season.

Reason: As the ISU are encouraging younger officials, there comes the problem of work and family commitments to take into consideration. An increase in notice will make it easier for all Officials to plan leave from work and family. It will also lead to cheaper airfares with a longer lead time. For the 2015/2016 season, the officials appointed for the first Short Track World Cup received the invitation on October 14th for the competition starting on October 30th (16 days). This has been similar for the past few seasons and makes it very hard for officials to plan leave from work and travel

and also possibly more expensive airfares. As in every business and other major sporting organisations, the planning of events should be done professionally and well in advance to ensure maximum participation and success.

Council Recommendation: The Council is in principle in favor of setting a time line. However, considering that the current procedure requires the involvement of the respective Technical Committee, the respective Sports Director, the respective Vice President and finally the President, one to two months of ISU internal consultation are needed and the proposed 120 days could not be respected for the early season Competitions. Also, when confirming the appointments the ISU Communication with the Officials should be available (Rule 122/2). As a compromise and also for the sake of a practical solution, the Council proposes that the appointments shall be communicated to the Members of the Officials and the organizing Members as soon as possible but latest by August 15 every season.

37. ISU COUNCIL

Article 16, paragraph 2. f) 3.c), d), g) & h)

Amend as follows:

2. President

...

- f) The President decides upon the appointments of the Referees, the Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators, members of the Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) in Figure Skating and the Referees, Assistant Referees, Assistant Referees Video, Starters, Competitors Stewards in Speed Skating/Short Track Speed Skating for the Olympic Winter Games, the Winter Youth Olympic Games, ISU Championships, the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events and Final (junior & senior), ISU World Cup competitions (for exceptions see Rule 286, paragraph 3, Rule 289 paragraph 5.c) and Rule 289, paragraph 7.a), ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup (~~Assistant Referees for the World Cup Short Track subject to Rule 289, paragraph 7.a).~~ and any new ISU Event introduced by the Council taking into consideration proposals from the respective Vice Presidents. The respective Vice Presidents prepare the proposals in consultation with the respective Sports Directors and the respective Technical Committee

3. Vice Presidents

...

- c) Each Vice President, in the corresponding Branch, supervises the work of the Sports Directors, the Technical Committees and the Development ~~Coordinator/Commission~~.
- d) In the area of the Development Program, in particular they
- decide upon the proposals prepared by the Development ~~Coordinator/Commission~~ of the ISU Development Program, each Development Project and budgets for the Program and Projects;
 - approve reports on implementation of the Program and Projects;
 - with the assistance of the Treasurer, the Development ~~Coordinator/Commission~~ and Secretariat check the correctness of the final accounts of the Projects and/or engage external auditors for such purpose;
 - report regularly to the Council on the matters stated above sub-paragraph i) – iii).
- ...
- g) In the area of Event Coordination, they supervise and coordinate the interventions of the Event Coordinators, Assistant Event Coordinators, Regional Event Coordination Assistants in close cooperation with the Director General ~~and the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ to ensure the proper organization and conduct of ISU Events and the implementation and protection of the ISU commercial rights.
- h) In the area of Officials appointments, as per Article 16, paragraph 2.f), they prepare and forward the proposals for the decision by the President in consultation with the respective Sports Directors and the respective Technical Committee. ~~The Vice President Figure Skating may also consult the Sport Manager Figure Skating.~~

...

Reason:

Para 2: Update of Article to be in line with current situation in Short Track Speed Skating and inclusion of ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup

Para 3: Harmony of rules and expiry of function of Sport Manager Figure Skating.

38. ISU COUNCIL

Article 17, paragraph 1.c), d), h), l), m) & s)

Amend as follows:

1. Functions of the Council

The functions and powers of the Council include:

...

- c) Control of the ISU's business carried out by the Director General, Sport Directors, Technical Committees, ~~Sport Manager Figure Skating~~, Event Coordinators, Assistant Event Coordinators, Regional Event Coordination Assistants and Development ~~Coordinator/Commission~~ including the control of carrying out resolutions, all in accordance with the decisions of the Members in Congress. The Council, however, may defer implementation of

such resolutions until the next Congress if such implementation would result in severe negative financial consequences which were not foreseen when the resolutions were adopted.

- d) The ~~determination fixing~~ of the places at which ISU Events ~~ISU Championships and other ISU Events~~ are to be held taking into account the input from the Director General, ~~the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ and Event Coordinators.

...

- h) Decisions on appeals ~~from against~~ decisions of the Technical Committees and ISU Officials involving violation of technical sport Rules after having granted a fair hearing. They are final and not subject to further appeal within the ISU or to any external tribunal.

...

- l) The appointment and termination of appointment of the other Office Holders and Coordinators, for the Sports Directors, ~~the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~, Commissions, Event Coordinators, Assistant Event Coordinators, Regional Event Coordination Assistants, ~~Development Coordinator~~/Development Commission members or Advisors as foreseen and specifically named in the ISU Statutes. Elected Office Holders may not be appointed as Advisors.

- m) Deciding upon the venue and dates of future Congresses, ~~based upon nominations received from Members~~ in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 1.a) and Article 10, paragraph 1.

...

- s) Determining the specific power and authority of the Director General and the Sports Directors ~~and the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ in line with the respective basic guidelines outlined in Articles 18 and 19.

Reason: Language issue and expiry of function of Sport Manager Figure Skating as to sub-paragraphs c), d), l & s, respect to rule of law as to sub-paragraph h) and avoidance of conflicts of rules as to sub-paragraph m.

39. ISU COUNCIL

Art. 18. d), e), f)

Amend as follows:

The Director General is appointed by the Council and is responsible for:

- d) Entering into contracts and expenses necessary for the operation of the Secretariat or ISU business matters in full accordance with the procedures outlined in the ISU Internal Control System which is reviewed and approved annually by the ISU Council.
- e) delete
- f) Signing as joint signatory with the President, all commercial contracts in accordance with the ISU Internal Control System regulations. As such the Director General should be involved in, or in any case be kept duly informed on the negotiation of all commercial contracts. The Council shall be informed.

Reason: During their annual audit, the ISU external auditors pointed out that the provisions in the ISU Constitution, Art. 18. d), e) and f) are not fully consistent with the common practice described in the ISU Internal Control System in place (which is required by Swiss Law and reviewed and approved annually by the Council and reviewed annually by the external auditors).

Without criticizing the current practice, the auditors suggested to group all control procedures into the Internal Control System. Similarly to job descriptions, control procedures are normally not stated in detail in the Constitution and in the current dynamic environment must be updated periodically in order to remain up to date and effective.

For information, the Internal Control System will include the following:

Risk	Controls
Risk of engaging in unauthorized contracts / commitments / expenses / payments by the ISU Director General / ISU Secretariat	The Director General may enter into contracts, expenses and their corresponding payments that are necessary for the operation of the ISU Secretariat or the ISU business matters, this within the limits of the Council approved budgets and/or any other specific Council authorization for matters not included in the approved budgets.
	All commercial contracts (e.g. television licensing agreements and sponsorship/advertising agreements) must be signed by the President and the Director General. The Council shall be kept informed.
	All payments should be signed by the Director General. When the Director General is not available to sign payments within the required period of time, the payments shall be signed by the Treasurer who will apply the required controls over the validity of the payments.
	Payments above US\$ 100'000 signed by the Director General require the signature of the President or the Treasurer if the President is not available
	Payments above US\$ 100'000 signed by the Treasurer require the signature of the President or the 1 st Vice President if the President

40. ISU COUNCIL

Article 18, paragraphs g) & y) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

The Director General is appointed by the Council and is responsible for:

...

- g) Ensure the implementation and protection of commercial agreements (TV and advertising) in cooperation with the Vice Presidents, ~~the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ and Event Coordinators. Attend and/or assign ISU employees to attend ISU Events and/or inspection visits of ISU Events as necessary in consultation with the Vice Presidents and Event Coordinators.

...

- y) Monitoring the implementation of the expense guidelines with the cooperation of the Treasurer, to be submitted if required to the Council for ratification. The expense reports of the ~~Sport Manager Figure Skating and the Sports Directors~~ and Council shall also be checked and approved by the Director General.

...

Reason: Expiry of function of Sport Manager Figure Skating.

41. ISU COUNCIL

Chapter D - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

D. Sports Directors/~~Sport Manager Figure Skating~~

Reason: Expiry of function of Sport Manager Figure Skating.

42. ISU COUNCIL

Article 19, paragraph 1 - DRAFTING

Shall read as follows:

1. General Role Sports Directors

a) The Sports Directors are appointed by the Council. They act as liaison between the Council and the other ISU Bodies in the area of sports political/philosophical and technical matters. The Sports Directors must have extensive experience in the ISU sports discipline(s) for which they are acting and possess practical, technical, inter-personal and professional skills and know-how to perform their tasks. The following appointments are mandatory:

i) a) Sports Director Figure Skating;

ii) b) Sports Director Speed Skating.

Additional Sports Directors for the sport related functions may be appointed by the Council.

Each Sports Director shall have an assigned portfolio of responsibilities as decided by the Council.

The Council may appoint a Coordinator among the Sports Directors for general sports related matters and/or for specific sports related tasks and projects. Sports Directors if possible and necessary, may also act as Event Coordinators. The Sports Directors report to the respective Vice President.

b) ~~Sport Manager Figure Skating~~

~~The Council may appoint for the period between the 2014 and 2016 ISU Congress a Sport Manager Figure Skating to coordinate and advice/mentor the activities of the Event Coordinators Figure Skating (see Article 37, paragraph 4) and to give advice to the Vice President Figure Skating in the area of Officials appointments and Figure Skating Seminars organization. The Sport Manager Figure Skating reports to the President.~~

Reason: Expiry of function of Sport Manager Figure Skating.

43. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

To be discussed together with Proposal No. 19.

Article 19, paragraph 1.b)

revise as follows:

D. Sports Directors/Sport Manager Figure Skating/Speed Skating

b) Sport Manager Figure Skating/Speed Skating

The Council may appoint a Sport Manager Figure Skating/Speed Skating to coordinate and advice /mentor the activities of the Event Coordinators and to give advice to the Vice Presidents in the area of officials' appointments and seminars organization. The sport Managers Figure Skating/Speed Skating reports to the President.

Reason: Further improvement of coordination between elected and appointed/professional positions.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor, see comments under Propsoal No. 19.

44. ISU COUNCIL

Article 19, paragraph 2 c)

Amend as follows:

2. Functions of the Sports Directors

...

d) Closely cooperating with the Development ~~Coordinator/Commission~~ and Technical Committees on the proposal of the ISU Development Program, Development Projects and the corresponding budgets to be prepared by the Development ~~Coordinator/Commission~~ for final approval by the respective Vice President; in case of persisting different opinions submit its comments to the Vice Presidents; assist the Vice Presidents in monitoring of and ensuring correct implementation of the Program, Projects and budgets.

...

Reason: Language issue and Harmony of rules.

45. ISU COUNCIL

Article 19, paragraph 3 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

3. All Sports Directors ~~and the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ will be based in the country of residence, be available to travel extensively and be remunerated according to their scope/extent/duration of activity as decided by the Council. They must not hold any official position of responsibility within the ISU, Member federations, club and/or public or private entities involved in ice skating activities and not work as a Coach.

Reason: Expiry of function of Sport Manager Figure Skating.

46. SWEDEN, Figure

Article 20, paragraph 2). b)

Only persons named on the current list of ISU Referees, ISU Technical Controllers, ISU Technical Specialists or ISU Judges are eligible for election to the four positions in the Committees for Single and Pair Skating, Ice Dance or Synchronized Skating and then only in the respective discipline.

Reason: It should be possible to elect ISU Technical Specialists as well to widen the possibilities to find knowledgeable people.

Council Recommendation: The Council is in favor. However Rule 102 paragraph 4 regarding remunerated Coaches remains in force.

47. FRANCE

Second part of this Proposal re paragraph 2.c) to be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 48, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70.

Article 20, paragraphs 2.b) and 2.c) Eligibility and Composition,

Paragraph 2. b), amend as follows

Only persons named in the current lists of ISU Referees, ISU Technical Controllers, ISU Technical Specialists or ISU Judges are eligible for election to the four positions in the Committees for Single and Pair Skating, Ice Dance or Synchronized Skating and then only in the respective discipline.

Paragraph 2. c), revise as follows

Additional to the eligible persons named in the para 2b) there must be representatives of athletes and coaches to be included in the ISU Technical Committees as their full members in order to participate in the discussion and decision making process regarding Technical subjects.

Each ISU Member has the right to nominate one Coach and one athlete to represent this Member in the election process at the ISU Congress. The Congress is to elect one athlete and one Coach to the respective Technical Committee.

An elected Skater as a member of the Technical Committee must have been a participant competitor and elected Coach as a member of the Technical Committee must have been a primary Coach of a competitor or a team having participated in at least one ISU event or Senior International competition within 10 seasons prior to the elections.

Reason:

Paragraph 2.b): Since a long time Technical Specialists became to be an essential part of any Judges panel with a very high level of the required knowledge and the responsibility. So, it is logical to make them eligible to be elected in the Technical Committees.

Paragraph 2.c): Athletes and Coaches, who serve as Technical Committee members, must have the same rights and the same representation as other members and their expertise and voice are to be equally respected in the discussion and decision making process within the Technical Committee. This means that they must be chosen to serve in the Committee on the same democratic basis as all other members (basis of the elections).

Council Recommendation:

Paragraph 2.b): The Council is in favor. However Rule 102 paragraph 4 regarding remunerated Coaches remains in force.

Paragraph 2.c): The Council is not in favor. The Council supports its own Proposals No. 13, 48, 49 and 68 relating to the Athletes Commission.

48. ISU COUNCIL

Article 20

To be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 49, 51, 52, 68 and 70 as well as for paragraph 2.f) in conjunction with Proposal No. 93.

Amend as follows:

1. Number of Technical Committees

The following Technical Committees are established: Single and Pair Skating, Ice Dance, Synchronized Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating. Each of the Technical Committees shall consist of an elected Chair, who shall have a tie-breaking vote, three full elected members and two additional full members, of which one shall be a Skater and one a Coach. The Skater shall be the same individual as elected as member of the Athletes Commission according to Article 21 [new].

2. Eligibility and Composition

a) Within one Committee the members must be of different citizenship and Members.

b) Only persons named in the current lists of ISU Referees, ISU Technical Controllers or ISU Judges are eligible for election by the Congress to the four positions in the Committees for Single and Pair Skating, Ice Dance or Synchronized Skating and then only in the respective discipline.

c) For the transition period between the 2016 Congress and the election of the Athletes Commission members during the respective ISU World Championships during the 2016/17 season as per Article 21 [new], the Skaters and Coaches having been members of the respective Technical Committee up to the 2016 Congress shall remain appointed members of the respective Technical Committee unless they have been elected during the 2016 Congress for other ISU Office Holders positions in which case the ISU Council, in consultation with the respective Technical Committee and the respective Sports Director(s) may appoint a replacement at its discretion.

d) During the first ISU World Championships of the corresponding discipline after an elective Congress, the Skater will be elected by the Skaters according to Article 21 [new].

e) Following the election of the Skater, the Coach shall be appointed by the Council in consultation with ~~from~~ recommendations received from the respective Technical Committee and the respective Sports Directors. The appointed Coach must have been the primary Coach of a participating Competitor, at least in one ISU Event or Senior International Event in the past 10 seasons preceding the election Congress and must be of different citizenship and Member than the previously elected members by the Congress and by the Skaters (see Article 21 [new]). The appointed Coach shall not be subject to Rule 102, paragraph 4 as far as Technical Committee membership is concerned.

~~f) In Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating, a Technical Committee member cannot be appointed as Referee in ISU sanctioned competitions.~~

3. unchanged

Reason: Article 20, Para 2.e) appointment of a Coach to the TC

For the appointment of the Coach, the Council should not be limited to candidates recommended by the TCs and Sport Directors.

Para 2.f) Harmonization of Rules among ISU disciplines, i.e. transfer of paragraph f) to Rule 121.

For the reasons of all other provisions related to the Athletes Commission, see under Council Proposal No. 49 for a new Article 21 (Athletes Commission)

49. ISU COUNCIL

To be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 51, 52, 68 and 70.

F. Athletes Commission - Article 21 [new]

To be discussed together with Council Proposal relating to Article 20 and new Article 36
new – renumber following Articles

1. Eligibility and composition

a) The Athletes Commission is composed of five (5) elected Athletes (Skaters), i.e. 1 Athlete for each discipline (Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance, Synchronized Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating) who will also be full members of the respective Technical Committee with a right to vote.

- b) The Athletes Commission members will be elected by their peers, the first time during the ISU World Championships of the respective discipline of the season 2016/17, namely the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2017, the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships 2017, the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2017 and the ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2017 (hereafter the “respective ISU World Championships”)
- c) The term of the election shall basically be aligned in accordance with the cycle of elections for other Office Holders elected by the Congress, i.e. the term of election for Skaters elected during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships shall last until the respective 2019 World Championships when the next election shall be held for a term until the respective 2023 ISU World Championships.
- d) To be eligible for election to the Athletes Commission candidates must
 - i) be eligible as defined in the ISU Statutes.
 - ii) have competed in (senior) ISU Events of the respective discipline within the previous four (4) seasons before the season of election (i.e. for the first election during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships the candidates must have competed in ISU (senior) Events of the respective discipline during at least one of the seasons 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17).
 - iii) must not have been sanctioned for any violation of the ISU/World Anti-Doping Code and/or disciplinary and/or ethical offences.
 - iv) On the day of election, should be at least 18 years of age and must be older than 16 years of age.
 - v) be nominated by the Member for whom the Athlete is competing in accordance with Rule 109 during the season of election or during his last season of competing in ISU Events. Athletes from Members who have a member elected by the Congress on the Technical Committee of the respective discipline, cannot be elected to the Athletes Commission for the respective discipline.

2. Nomination/Election Procedure

- a) The ISU will issue an ISU Communication including all relevant details and forms by October 1 preceding the respective ISU World Championships.
Nominations from Members must be received at the ISU Secretariat by January 1 of the year of the respective ISU World Championships when an Athletes election shall be held (i.e. by January 1, 2017 for the first election during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships). Members are encouraged to base their nominations on Athletes elections at the national level and to include nominations of both genders. Each Member may nominate only 1 Athlete per discipline. The same Athlete may be nominated for only 1 discipline even if he has competed in ISU Events of different disciplines.
- b) The Athletes Commission members are elected by secret ballot. All Skaters entered as competitors and present/accredited at the respective ISU World Championships shall be entitled to cast one vote. The candidate with the highest number of votes obtained is elected. In case of a tie the candidate with the highest number of votes obtained in a second ballot is elected. If there is still a tie, the election will be decided by lot “Absolute majority” means more than half of all valid votes cast. Abstaining Members and invalid votes are deemed not to be present and voting and shall not be counted in ascertaining a majority.
- c) At its first meeting after the elections of the Athletes Commission members, the 5 elected Athletes Commission members elect a Chair and a Vice Chair of the Athletes Commission who must be from different Branches (Figure Skating Branch including Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance and Synchronized Skating on the one hand and the Speed Skating Branch including Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating on the other hand). After each election of the Athletes Commission, the Chair shall be from the different Branch than the previous election cycle.
- a) If any vacancy occurs among the Athletes Commission members, the Athlete with the highest number of votes from the non-elected candidates from the last election for the respective discipline shall immediately fill the vacancy. If such vacancy occurs but cannot be filled in this manner, the Council shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy. The term of office of such Athlete shall expire at the next following Athletes Commission election. If the vacancy concerns the Chair or Vice Chair of the Athletes Commission, the Athletes Commission members shall elect a replacement during its next following meeting after such vacancy had occurred.

3. Function of the Athletes Commission

- Learn about the Skaters’ opinions and ideas in order to represent their views within the ISU for topics including but not limited to rules and regulations, events, calendar, promotion and marketing of the sport, health and welfare, anti-doping, career preparation, education and life skills. Inform and update Skaters on different activities and developments, and raise awareness and educate them on topics of direct concern.
- Represent the rights and interests of Skaters and to make related recommendations, for example the appointment of arbitrators by the International Council of Arbitration for Sport (ICAS).
- Support the ISU in its mission to develop and promote the sport. Consider issues related to Skaters and provide advice to the ISU Council, Technical Committees, Sports Directors, Director General and other internal bodies as appropriate.
- Engage actively with initiatives and projects that protect and support clean athletes on and off the field of play;

- Serve as ambassadors to increase popularity of Skating and inspire youth.
- Encourage and assist National Federations and athletes to establish their own National Athletes' Commission;
- Maintain contact with the Athletes' Commission of the IOC.

Reason: The Council acknowledged the positive reports relating to the composition of the Technical Committees including a Skater and a Coach as full and voting members of the Committees.

The Council also acknowledged the broad and successful practice within the Olympic Movement to establish Athletes Commissions for a broader cooperation of the Athletes among themselves and other related sports bodies.

In light of the above, the Council asked the current Skaters sitting on the Technical Committees to work out the basis for a proposal to establish an Athletes Commission with the members remaining also a full member of the respective Technical Committee. Based on the feedback received from the Skaters and taking into account the basic IOC guidelines for IF Athletes Commissions, the Council worked out the present proposal.

Clarifications:

Para 1.b) World Championships where Athletes Commission elections are held:

The indicated Championships are the main ISU World Championships with broad participation.

Para 1.d) ii)

The requirement of having competed within the past 4-5 seasons in a senior ISU Event automatically results also in term limits which is the reason that no specific term limits are proposed.

Para 1.d) iii)

To be elected on the Athletes Commission the candidates must not have been sanctioned for any violation of the ISU/World Anti-Doping Code and/or disciplinary and/or ethical offences. To extend the indicated sanctions any violation of the ISU Statutes would include the eligibility rules which might be more problematic/controversial and is therefore not proposed.

Para 1. d) iv) (Membership affiliation/nationality):

While for the composition of the Technical Committees (TCs) the previous Congress decision is maintained that the members (including the Skater and Coach) must all be from different Members, this is not the case for the Athletes Commission as a body.

First, the Athletes Commission is conceived as an advising body.

Secondly, considering that the Athletes Commission members are being elected at 4 different ISU Championships during different dates, it would practically be very difficult to ensure only one Athlete per Member policy. Also, in such case an arbitrary procedure would have to be worked out to regulate in case of two Athletes from the same Member having won the election in their respective discipline, who would be elected and who would have to withdraw.

Para 2.a) Athletes Commission members by gender

Making it mandatory to have different genders would require to establish a complex procedure how to allocate female and male candidates in case in all 5 disciplines the candidates with the most votes are from the same gender. Also, for no other ISU body does such condition exist. Such mandatory condition to have both genders represented is therefore not proposed but Members are encouraged to propose candidates from both genders.

Para 2.b)

Right to vote by several Skaters from the same Member:

Depending on the discipline, some Members will have more Athletes entered into the respective ISU World Championships and consequently will have more votes. This can be considered as "fair" since thanks to the Members strength in the respective discipline, the Athletes of such Member deserve more weight/influence.

50. ISU COUNCIL

Article 21 [old], paragraph 2 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

Functions of the Medical Commission

The Commission will advise the Council and co-ordinate medical and doping control affairs in line with the World Anti-Doping Code and the ISU Anti-Doping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures. Primary functions of the Medical Commission include:

...

Reason: Avoidance of conflict of rules.

51. REPUBLIC OF KOREA

To be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 52, 68 and 70.

Add new Article 21 and re-number subsequent Articles

I. The Athletes' Commission

Article 21

1. Eligibility and Composition

- a) The Athletes' Commission is composed of five (5) elected members of different citizenships and Members – 1 athlete for each discipline (Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance, Synchronized Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating) who will also be full members of the respective Technical Committee with a right to vote.
- b) The Athletes Commission members will be elected by their peers, the first time during the ISU World Championships of the respective discipline of the season 2016/17, namely the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2017, the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships 2017, the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2017, and the ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2017 (hereafter the respective “ISU World Championships”).
- c) The term of the election shall basically be aligned in accordance with the cycle of elections for other Office Holders elected by the Congress, i.e. the term of election for Skaters elected during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships shall last until the respective 2019 World Championships when the next election shall be held for a term until the respective 2023 ISU World Championships.
- d) The term of a Commission member is 4 years, and members may serve for a maximum of 2 successive 4-year terms.
- e) To be eligible to the Athletes Commission, candidate must
 - i. be eligible as defined in the ISU Statues
 - ii. have competed in (senior) ISU Events of the respective discipline within the previous four (4) seasons before the season of election (i.e. for the first election during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships the candidates must have competed in ISU (senior) Events of the respective discipline during at least one of the seasons 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17).
 - iii. a candidate must be an active or non-active athlete who has participated in at least one (1) ISU World Championships competition within four (4) years prior to the election.
 - iv. must not have been sanctioned for any violation of the ISU/World Anti-Doping Code and/or disciplinary and/or ethical offences.
 - v. be nominated by the Member of whom the Athlete is competing in accordance with Rule 109 during the season of election or during his last season of competing in ISU events. Athletes from Members who have a member elected by the Congress on the Technical Committee of the respective discipline, cannot be elected to the Athletes Commission for the respective discipline.
 - vi. the athlete must be minimum age 18 in the year of the election

2. Nomination/Election Procedure

- a) The ISU will issue an ISU Communication including all relevant details and forms by October 1 preceding the respective ISU World Championships.
Nominations from Members must be received at the ISU Secretariat by January 1 of the year of the respective ISU World Championships when an Athletes election shall be held (i.e. by January 1, 2017 for the first election during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships). Members are encouraged to base their nominations on Athletes elections at the national level and to include nominations of both genders. Each Member may nominate only 1 Athlete per discipline. The same Athlete may be nominated for only 1 discipline even if he has competed in ISU Events of different disciplines.
- b) The Athletes Commission members are elected by secret ballot, if necessary in two stages. All Skaters entered as competitors and present/accredited at the respective ISU World Championships shall be entitled to cast: one vote for a candidate within their discipline. The election in the first ballot of those listed becomes effective only by the vote of a highest number of vote obtained is elected.
- c) At its first meeting after the election of the Athletes Commission members, the 5 elected Athletes Commission members elect a Chair of the Athletes Commission.
- d) If any vacancy occurs among the Athletes Commission members, the Athlete with the highest number of votes from the non-elected candidates from the last election for the respective discipline shall immediately fill the vacancy. If such vacancy occurs but cannot be filled in this manner, the Council shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy. The term of office of such Athlete shall expire at the next following Athletes Commission election. If the vacancy concerns the Chair of the Athletes Commission, the Athletes Commission members shall elect a replacement during its next meeting after such vacancy had occurred.

3. Function of the Athletes' Commission

- a) Serve as communication channel between the ISU and youths
- b) Serve as ambassador to increase popularity of skating and inspire more youth to take up skating
- c) Learn about the athletes' opinions and ideas in order to represent their views within the ISU to protect their interest and uphold rights and obligations. For example: topics include: rules and regulations, events, calendar, promotion and marketing of the sport, health and welfare, anti-doping, career preparation, education and life skills.

- d) For the purpose of the function; interact with athletes in a number of ways, such as e-mail, social media, meetings at events and to establish an effective system for gaining feedback
- e) Consider issues related to athletes and provide advice to the ISU Council, Technical Committee, Sports Director, Director General and other internal ISU bodies as appropriate
- f) To encourage and assist National Federations and athletes to establish their own National Athletes' Commission
- g) Advocate for athletes and ISU by cooperating with the Athletes' Commissions of other International Sports Organizations (e.g., IOC, IFs and NOCs)
- h) The Commission should meet at least once a year, with continued communication between meeting and during the events

4. Meetings and Decisions

- a) The Athletes' Commission shall establish its plan of work and related budget with the approval of the Council. The work of the Athletes' Commission is under the supervisory control of the Council. The Athletes' Commission members will perform their activity with the administrative assistance of staff members of the ISU Secretariat as assigned by the ISU Director General.
- b) The Athletes' Commission shall meet at least once per year. The Commission shall meet with Skaters, (members of) the Council, Committees, Secretariat, Members and other parties if needed. Additional meetings and/or trips of Athletes Commission members may be authorized by the President on a case by case basis.
- c) The Athletes' Commission Chair shall attend the Council meetings where he has a voice but not the right to vote. If the Chair is unable to attend the Council meeting, the Chair shall appoint a member of the Commission to attend such Council meeting.

Reason:

The creation of the Athletes' Commission within the ISU would benefit both the athletes and the organization. For the athletes, the Athletes' Commission would offer a fresh perspective on new issues and become the window for the athletes' voice. For the organization, Athletes' Commission would help the ISU project a more dynamic image by actively communicating with youths and the Skaters, thereby attracting a bigger base of athletes and fans. Furthermore, the Athletes' Commission is in line with Olympic Agenda 2020 and the IOC's commitment to place athletes at the heart of the Olympic Movement. It would serve to strengthen the link between the ISU and the IOC and also the athletes.

Budget:

- The ISU Council makes a starting budget available for the establishment of the Athletes' Commission, in order to be able to function well (e.g. trainings, election tools, etc.).
- The ISU will arrange indemnities for Members with regards to travel and overnight stays for official Commission meetings and visits to some ISU events for the purpose of meetings and/or personal contact with athletes. This includes the following: air travel (economy class flights), public transport (second class), and accommodation expenses (bed and breakfast and arrangements for meals).
- The Commission can apply to the ISU Council for budget when certain projects involve costs.
- All activities and expenses of the Commission are published on isu.org annually.

***Council Recommendation:** The Council is in principle in favor to establish an Athletes Commission but favors its own Proposals No. 13, 48, 49 and 68.*

The Council noted that the South Korean Proposal is very similar to the one presented by the Council. However, contrary to the South Korean Proposal, the Council is not in favor to impose an Athletes Commission composed of members from different citizenship and Membership affiliation. As also stated in the Explanations under Proposal No. 49, the Council reiterates herewith the following:

While for the composition of the Technical Committees (TCs) the previous Congress decision is maintained that the members, including the Skater and Coach, must all be from different Members (except during the transition period between the 2016 Congress and the election of the Athletes Commission), this is not the case for the Athletes Commission as a body.

First, the Athletes Commission is conceived as an advising body.

Secondly, considering that the Athletes Commission members are being elected at 4 different ISU Championships during different dates, it would practically be very difficult to ensure only one Athlete per Member policy. Also, in such case a conciliation procedure would have to be worked out to regulate in case of two Athletes from the same Member having won the election in their respective discipline, i.e. who would be elected and who would have to withdraw.

As to the required minimum age, the Council favors to apply the IOC recommendation stating that an Athlete should be at least 18 years of age and must be older than 16 years of age. The IOC has clarified that when preparing the IOC Guidelines for IF Athletes Commissions it recognized differences among IFs and agreed that a certain flexibility was required. In this line, the IOC clarified that when using the verb "must" the provision in the IOC guidelines was considered as absolute minimum requirement while when using the verb "should" it is considered as best practice and the IOC encourages the IFs to apply such best practice.

Contrary to its initial Proposal and the South Korean Proposal, the Council reconsidered the issue of elections in one or two stages. For simply practical reasons, the Council prefers election in one stage except in the case of a tie when a second ballot will apply.

52. NETHERLANDS

To be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 68 and 70.

Insert the following text to replace the current article 21 and renumber existing article 21 as 22 et cetera.

F. Athletes Commission

1. Eligibility and composition

- a) The Athletes Commission is composed of five (5) elected Athletes (Skaters), i.e. 1 Athlete for each discipline (Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance, Synchronized Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating) who will also be full members of the respective Technical Committee with a right to vote. The Chairman of the Athletes Commission has a seat in the Council, but is not entitled to vote.
- b) The Athletes Commission members will be elected by their peers, the first time during the ISU World Championships of the respective discipline of the season 2016/17, namely the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2017, the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships 2017, the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2017 and the ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2017 (hereafter the “respective ISU World Championships”)
- c) The term of the election shall basically be aligned in accordance with the cycle of elections for other Office Holders elected by the Congress, i.e. the term of election for Skaters elected during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships shall last until the respective 2019 World Championships when the next election shall be held for a term until the respective 2023 ISU World Championships.
- d) To be eligible for election to the Athletes Commission candidates must
 - i. be eligible as defined in the ISU Statutes.
 - ii. have competed in (senior) ISU Events of the respective discipline within the previous four (4) seasons before the season of election (i.e. for the first election during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships the candidates must have competed in ISU (senior) Events of the respective discipline during at least one of the seasons 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17).
 - iii. must not have been sanctioned for any violation of the ISU/World Anti-Doping Code and/or disciplinary and/or ethical offences.
 - iv. be nominated by the Member for whom the Athlete is competing in accordance with Rule 109 during the season of election or during his last season of competing in ISU Events. Athletes from Members who have a member elected by the Congress on the Technical Committee of the respective discipline, cannot be elected to the Athletes Commission for the respective discipline.
 - v. be at least 18 years of age.

2. Nomination/Election Procedure

- e) The ISU will issue an ISU Communication including all relevant details and forms by October 1 preceding the respective ISU World Championships.
Nominations from Members must be received at the ISU Secretariat by January 1 of the year of the respective ISU World Championships when an Athletes election shall be held (i.e. by January 1, 2017 for the first election during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships). Members are encouraged to base their nominations on Athletes elections at the national level and to include nominations of both genders. Each Member may nominate only 1 Athlete per discipline. The same Athlete may be nominated for only 1 discipline even if he has competed in ISU Events of different disciplines.
- f) The Athletes Commission members are elected by secret ballot, if necessary in two stages. All Skaters entered as competitors and present/accredited at the respective ISU World Championships shall be entitled to cast one vote. The candidate with the highest number of votes obtained is elected (in case of a tie the candidate with the highest number of votes obtained in a second ballot is elected). Abstaining Members and invalid votes are deemed not to be present and voting and shall not be counted in ascertaining a majority.
- g) At its first meeting after the elections of the Athletes Commission members, the 5 elected Athletes Commission members elect a Chair and a Vice Chair of the Athletes Commission who must be from different Branches (Figure Skating Branch including Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance and Synchronized Skating on the one hand and the Speed Skating Branch including Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating on the other hand). After each election of the Athletes Commission, the Chair shall be from the different Branch than the previous election cycle.
- h) If any vacancy occurs among the Athletes Commission members, the Athlete with the highest number of votes from the non-elected candidates from the last election for the respective discipline shall immediately fill the vacancy. If such vacancy occurs but cannot be filled in this manner, the Council shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy. The term of office of such Athlete shall expire at the next following Athletes Commission election. If the

vacancy concerns the Chair or Vice Chair of the Athletes Commission, the Athletes Commission members shall elect a replacement during it next following meeting after such vacancy had occurred.

3. Function of the Athletes Commission

- To learn about the athletes' opinions and ideas in order to represent their views within the ISU, protect their interests and uphold rights and obligations. For example, topics include: rules and regulations, events, calendar, promotion and marketing of the sport, health and welfare, anti-doping, career preparation, education and life skills;
- Consider issues related to athletes and provide advice to the ISU Council, Technical Committees, Sports Directors, Director General and other internal bodies as appropriate;
- To inform and update athletes on different activities and developments, and raise awareness and educate them on topics of direct concern;
- To serve as ambassadors to increase popularity of Skating and inspire youth;
- To encourage and assist National Federations and athletes to establish their own National Athletes' Commission;
- To maintain contact with the Athletes' Commission of the IOC, IF and NOC;
- For the purpose of the functions: interact with the athletes in a number of ways, such as e-mail, social media, meetings at events and to establish an effective system for gaining feedback (e.g. surveys).

Reason:

- The athletes are at the heart of skating; it stands to reason that their opinions and ideas are heard in the decision making process. In the current situation, only former Skaters participate in the Technical Committee, and they are appointed in a personal capacity. An Athletes Commission can play a more active part as liaison between the ISU and the currently active Skaters, and represent interests. The advantages of such a commission include the following*:
 - Improve ISU decision making by providing a sound testing ground for the impact and reaction to change;
 - Reach out to, and communicate with, athletes on a peer-to-peer basis, collecting feedback and new ideas from the field of play;
 - Develop ambassadors who are involved in and understand the decision being made by the ISU;
 - Provide credibility in an era where organizations are being scrutinized in their decision-making, inclusiveness and governance.
- Establishing an Athletes Commission is in line with principles of good governance and the IOC's Olympic Agenda 2020, which states that the IOC wishes to collaborate more with Athletes Commissions regarding certain topics. Moreover, recommendation 38 states the following as a requirement for candidates for IOC membership: *"the existence of an athletes' commission within the organization for representatives of IFs/NOCs"*.
- Currently, approximately 91% of the international federations have an active Athletes Commission*.

*) Source: IOC Athletes' Commission (2014). "Guide to developing an effective Athletes' Commission".

Budget

- The ISU Council makes a starting budget available for the establishment of the Athletes Commission, in order to be able to function well (e.g. trainings, election tools, et cetera).
- The ISU will arrange indemnities for Members with regards to travel and overnight stays for official Commission meetings and visits to some ISU events for the purpose of meetings and/or personal contact with athletes. This includes the following: air travel (economy class flights), public transport (second class), and accommodation expenses (bed and breakfast and arrangements for meals).
- The Commission can apply to the ISU Council for budget when certain projects involve costs.
- All activities and expenses of the Commission are published on isu.org annually.

Clarifications:

Para 1.a) IOC guidelines related to the creation of an Athletes Commission within an International Federation (approved March 2016) states: *"The Commission should be represented within the IF's Executive Body (or equivalent highest decisionmaking body based on the IF's structure) by its Chair or at least one other member who is also an athlete (...). They must be elected by the Commission and should have the right to vote within the Executive Body"*.

The first step now is to establish the ISU Athletes Commission and give the Chairman a seat in the Council without the right to vote. The second step is to evaluate the progress of the Athletes Commission and to review the voting right and the way the Chairman is elected.

NB. In case this proposal is accepted Article 16 will automatically be amended accordingly regarding the extra seat in the Council for the Chairman of the Athletes Commission.

Para 1.b) World Championships where Athletes Commission elections are held:

The indicated Championships are the main ISU World Championships with broad participation.

Para 1.d) ii)

The requirement of having competed within the past 4-5 seasons in a senior ISU Event automatically results also in age and term limits which is the reason that no other term or age limits are proposed.

Para 1.d) iii)

To be elected on the Athletes Commission the candidates must not have been sanctioned for any violation of the ISU/World Anti-Doping Code and/or disciplinary and/or ethical offences. To extend the indicated sanctions any violation of the ISU Statutes would include the eligibility rules which might be more problematic/controversial and is therefore not proposed.

Para 1. d) iv) (Membership affiliation/nationality):

While for the composition of the Technical Committees (TCs) the previous Congress decision is maintained that the members (including the Skater and Coach) must all be from different Members, this is not the case for the Athletes Commission as a body.

First, the Athletes Commission is conceived as an advising body.

Secondly, considering that the Athletes Commission members are being elected at 4 different ISU Championships during different dates, it would practically be very difficult to ensure only one Athlete per Member policy. Also, in such case an arbitrary procedure would have to be worked out to regulate in case of two Athletes from the same Member having won the election in their respective discipline, who would be elected and who would have to withdraw.

Para 2.a) Athletes Commission members by gender

Making it mandatory to have different genders would require to establish a complex procedure how to allocate female and male candidates in case in all 5 disciplines the candidates with the most votes are from the same gender. Also, for no other ISU body does such condition exist. Such mandatory condition to have both genders represented is therefore not proposed but Members are encouraged to propose candidates from both genders.

Para 2.b)

Right to vote by several Skaters from the same Member:

Depending on the discipline, some Members will have more Athletes entered into the respective ISU World Championships and consequently will have more votes. This can be considered as “fair” since thanks to the Members strength in the respective discipline, the Athletes of such Member deserve more weight/influence.

Council Recommendation: The Council is in principle in favor to establish an Athletes Commission but favors its own Proposal No. 13, 48, 49 and 68. The Council noted that the Proposal from the Netherlands is very similar to the Council Proposal. For small differences regarding the minimum age and only one ballot for the elections please refer to the Council Recommendation under Proposal No. 51.

53. ISU COUNCIL

H. Development ~~Coordinator~~/Commission

Article 23, paragraph 1

Amend as follows and for following paragraphs in this Article as well as in the ISU Statutes refer to “Development Commission” instead of “Development Coordinator”.

1. The Council shall appoint a Development ~~Coordinator~~. ~~In case of need the Council may appoint two or a maximum of three Coordinators and in such case form a Commission of three members who among themselves will appoint its spokesperson. The spokesperson reports to and is supervised by the Vice Presidents, each in the respective Branch. References in this Article to the Coordinator shall include the Commission, if formed.~~

Reason: Harmony of rules.

54. FRANCE

Article 23, paragraph 4 a) Development Coordinator/Development Commission

revise as follows:

Collaborate with Sport Directors and Technical Committees in preparing an annual proposal of activities (based on a 6 years plan) considered in general categories, e.g. Training camps, scholarships, seminars, assistance to National Development Programs, etc. with related budget that in total are within the ISU Development budget which will be established as CHF10 million per year.

This amount is to be distributed between different branches and sports in accordance with the number of ISU members attending or developing in their country each sport.

National Federations will be attracted to participation in ISU Development events in accordance with the existence and progress of their National Development Projects.

Budget for each ISU Development event will be provided in accordance with the worked out structure of the whole program and will be decided at the beginning of each 6 year plan.

Reasons:

- To increase significantly the total budget of the ISU Development Program as one of the main instrument able to provide the further progress and the popularity of ISU sports in the World.
- To provide a necessary budget to fulfil the requirements of the Development structure and not to reconstruct the structure of each event due to a voluntary provided budget as it is very often practiced now.
- To encourage National Federations to establish National Development Programs in their countries as the main power to operate the sport in the country and to reach an international standard.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor as Expenditure Budget line items should not be in the Constitution but in the Budget. See also the Council recommendation under Proposal No. 6 and the ISU Budget Proposal 2016-2018 (to be distributed during the month of May 2016).

55. FRANCE

To be discussed together with Proposal No. 15.

Article 23 I. (new) Commission of Presidents of Member Federations.

The special Commission is to be formed by the Council as an Advisory body to the Council in the respective aspects of Sport Development, Organizing Events, structure and directions of further ISU development policies.

The Commission is to be formed by the Council from 10 most experienced and respected Member Presidents representing federations from different sizes and from several continents.

Reason: Decentralisation is a key feature of this proposal in order to give ISU's Member federations more responsibility. Share experiences and develop a better internal communication are also the goals of this commission. It can provide a great assistance to the Council using different expertise in preparing the Council decisions, working out and explaining the ISU policy in each continent.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor for the reasons stated under its recommendations for Proposal No. 15.

56. ISU COUNCIL

Article 24, paragraphs 9 a), 10 & 13 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

9. Sanctions

- a) The DC may impose the following sanctions if the Alleged Offender is found to have committed an Offence:
- i) a warning;
 - ii) a financial penalty not exceeding 15,000 Swiss Francs;
 - iii) suspension of participation in any specific ISU activity or of all ISU activities for a definite period;
 - iv) exclusion for life from specific ISU activity or from all ISU activities;
 - v) annulment of results, including forfeiture of medals, points and prizes obtained in competitions at which the Alleged Offender committed the Offense.

...

10. Doping Case Sanctions

Doping cases are subject to the jurisdiction of the DC. In such cases, the DC shall impose sanctions in accordance with the ISU Anti-Doping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures.

...

13. If a decision of the DC is appealed, the appealed decision does not become effective until the final decision by CAS is rendered with the exception of a decision imposing a sanction for violation of the ISU Anti-Doping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures which becomes effective immediately.

In addition, in the case of a serious violation of the ISU Statutes which reflects adversely upon the reputation or integrity of the ISU, the DC, upon a motion of the Council, or sua sponte, may decide that an appeal will have no ~~suspensive postponing~~ effect.

Reason: Correction of typing error as to paragraph 9 a) and avoidance of conflict of rules as to paragraphs 10 and 13, language as to paragraph 13.

57. NETHERLANDS

To be discussed together with Proposals No. 17, 58 and 72.

New Article 24

Insert the following text to replace the current article 24 and renumber existing article 24 as 25 etc.

I. Marketing & Commercial Expert Group

1. Eligibility and Composition

The marketing & Commercial Expert Group, appointed by the Council, will consist of a Chair and up to six members. All are marketing/commercial specialists (with a professional background) of different citizenship and Members. The group consists of experts in the figure- and speed skating branches.

2. Functions of the Marketing & Commercial Expert Group

The Expert Group serves as a consultative body, beneficial to the development of the sport in the field of marketing and commercial affairs. The group can make recommendations to the Council, Secretariat, Committees, and Members. Additionally, the Group stimulates the accessibility and sharing of knowledge and ideas with Members, in this field. This includes developments regarding events and fan experience, collaborations with business partners, media consumption and innovative content, promotion of the sport, and new business models.

Reason:

Successful marketing of the sport on an international and national level is crucial to the status and popularity of the sport. Developments in this field are fast-paced; it is complex and requires the help of specialists. The Marketing & Commercial Expert Group can advise ISU bodies as well as Members. Particularly, the Group can unlock knowledge and share it with Members. The several disciplines can be of help to each other as well. Many Members face difficulties with the fan and event experience, promoting the sport, and sponsoring. The Netherlands would gladly offer their expertise for the formation of this Group, and will share know-how and best practices with the ISU and Members.

Budget

The ISU will arrange indemnities for members with regards to travel and overnight stays for official Group meetings. This includes the following: air travel (economy class flights), public transport, and accommodation expenses (bed and breakfast and arrangements for meals). Moreover, the Marketing & Commercial Expert Group can apply to the ISU Council for budget when certain projects involve costs. All activities and expenses of the Group are published on isu.org annually.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor of this Proposal for the reasons given under the Council recommendation for Proposal No. 17.

58. REPUBLIC OF KOREA

To be discussed together with Proposals No. 17, 57 and 72

Add new Article 24 and re-number subsequent Articles

J. Marketing Commission

Article 24

1. Eligibility and Composition

The Marketing Commission will consist of a Chair and up to six (6) members of different citizenships and Members, the exact number of Commission members depending on the volume of work required.

The Marketing Commission will be appointed by the Council from a pool of candidates recommended by the NFs. Eligible candidates should possess expertise in one of the following fields: skating, marketing at other International Sports Organizations (e.g. IOC, IFs and NOCs), media, broadcasting, entertainment, sponsorship, IT, or another field that can serve to enhance the popularity of skating.

The Commission will maintain a balance of representation from different regions and fields, with a particular emphasis on parity between skating experts and external experts. The term of a Commission member is four (4) years and members may be re-appointed upon evaluation by the Council.

2. Functions of the Marketing Commission

The Marketing Commission will advise the Council to promote and facilitate development of the sport through marketing. The Commission will share their knowledge, advise, and make recommendations to the Council, Secretariat, Committees, and Members on matters pertaining to marketing.

The functions of the Marketing Commission include:

- a) Identify the needs of fans, spectators, commercial partners and other stakeholders (e.g., broadcasters, sponsors, NFs) in order to pursue development in various areas, including events, fan experience, collaborations with business partners, media consumption, innovative content, and new business models.
- b) Review and propose improvements to current competitions' formats, rules and procedures from a commercial point of view.
- c) Examine feasibility of introducing new international competitions to raise interest in the media and among spectators.
- d) Examine feasibility of introducing new disciplines to expand fan base.
- e) Offer general and targeted advice on ways to promote ISU and the sport of skating globally.

3. Meetings and Decisions

- a) The Marketing Commission will establish a plan of work with the Council's approval.

- b) The Commission will meet at least once per year. It will discuss the plan of meeting with the President and the Council, and meet with the President, Council and Committees if necessary. Additional meetings and/or trips of Commission members may be authorized by the President on a case-by-case basis.
- c) The Chair of the Marketing Commission may attend the Council meetings to provide advice on marketing matters upon invitation from the President.
- d) The work of the Marketing Commission is under the supervisory control of the Council, which may delegate the power to Council member(s).

Reason: In today's world, skating not only has to compete with other sports, but with other forms of entertainment, such as social media and online games. ISU must understand the changing landscape of competition in order to uphold the proud tradition of skating and maintain its global appeal. Consequently, there is a greater need for the expertise of marketing specialists than ever before.

The Marketing Commission can advise ISU on effective ways to expand skating's popularity among the general public and increase revenues. Moreover, the Commission can track rapid changes in the market and respond in a timely manner, beyond what the Congress would be able to do during its biennial meetings.

The Commission will have three key roles:

- 1) Listen to the voice of the fans, spectators, broadcasters and sponsors and identify their needs.
- 2) Propose improvements to the format, rules and procedures of competitions and explore new marketing opportunities from a commercial point of view.
- 3) Advise on the best way to promote ISU and raise skating's profile.

The ultimate goal of the Marketing Commission is to assist ISU to make skating winter's most popular sport by furthering its global reach and appeal.

The current 'Marketing Coordinator' will continue in the delegated role assisting the management of the Marketing Commission.

Budget: The ISU will arrange indemnities for members with regards to travel and overnight stays for official Commission meetings. This includes expenses for air travel, public transport, and accommodation. The Commission can also apply to the Council for funding based on the project. The Commission will disclose all activities, which will be published on isu.org annually.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor for the same reasons as indicated in the Proposal No. 17

59. ISU COUNCIL

Article 25, paragraph 2 a) and e)

Amend as follows:

2. CAS Jurisdiction

The CAS shall have the power to hear and decide appeals in the following cases

- a) Against any decision of the DC, or of the DC Chair in the case of Article 24, paragraph 8.e).

...

- e) Against any decision of the Council not sanctioning an Open International Competition.

Reason:

Paragraph a) Correction of typing error. Drafting.

Paragraph e) Consequence of European Commission investigation against ISU eligibility rules during which appeal procedure against Council decisions relating to the sanctioning of Open International Competitions has been recommended.

60. ISU COUNCIL

Article 29, paragraphs 2 a) & b)

Amend as follows:

2. Proposals to Congress

- a) Members and Technical Committees must send all proposals for changes in the Constitution, General Regulations and Special Regulations for inclusion in the agenda to the Secretariat by December 1 preceding the Congress. Proposals of the Technical Committees must be submitted for preliminary review by the Legal Advisors by November 1 preceding the Congress. A summary of proposals from Members, the Council and Technical Committees for changes in the Constitution, General Regulations and Special Regulations shall then be sent to all Members, the Council, the Sports Directors and the Technical Committees by January 31. Members and Technical Committees may submit amendments to their own previous proposals to the Secretariat by March 30. An updated agenda for the Congress including such amendments, as well as amendments to

Council proposals, will be published in an ISU Communication to all Members and Office Holders by April 30 of the same year.

- b) Members may send proposals for changes in the Technical Rules for the consideration of the respective Technical Committees and the Sports Directors to the Secretariat by September 1 preceding the Congress. A summary of proposals for Technical Rule changes from the Technical Committees, approved by the respective Sports Directors, and the respective Vice President, and of the Council shall then be sent by January 31 to Members and Office Holders. Members and Office Holders may submit comments on the proposed Technical Rule changes by March 1 to the Secretariat for consideration by the respective Technical Committees and the respective Sports Directors. An updated summary of proposals for Technical Rule changes from the Technical Committees and the Sports Directors, approved by the respective Vice President (Article 16, paragraph 3.e) applies) and of the Council, shall then be included in the Congress Agenda and published through an ISU Communication to all Members and Office Holders by April 30 of the same year.

...

Reason: Harmony of rules and language issue.

61. ISU COUNCIL

Article 29, paragraphs 5, 8 & 13

Amend as follows:

5. Urgent Matters

If a proposal for the Constitution, ~~its Procedural Provisions or for the General Regulations and Special Regulations and/or a proposal of the Council for Technical Rules~~ is submitted later than the date specified above, it can be discussed and voted upon at Congress, provided the proposal has reached the Secretariat in English for distribution to all Members, not later than three (3) weeks before the Congress and shall be certified as urgent business by a four-fifths majority of Members present and voting.

...

8. Attendance of Office Holders

Members of the Council, Sports Directors, ~~the Sport Manager Figure Skating the~~ Technical Committees, Athletes Commission, Disciplinary Commission, Medical Commission, Development ~~Coordinator/Commission~~ members and Advisors may attend Congress in an advisory capacity, but shall have no vote in their capacity as such, unless the only representative of a Member present is also an Office Holder.

...

...

Reason: Inclusion of established practice (paragraph 5), expiry of function of Sports Manager Figure Skating (paragraph 8).

62. ISU COUNCIL

Article 29, paragraphs 17, 21 & 26

Amend as follows:

17. Majorities

~~For the purpose of ascertaining majorities on any vote, Members that abstain from voting or Members casting invalid votes are deemed not to be present and voting on the question at Congress. Abstentions have to be taken into account for the purpose of ascertaining majorities. Invalid votes are deemed not to be present.~~

...

21. Decision power Congress / Council / Director General / Sports Directors/Sport Manager Figure Skating

The Congress has the decision-making power regarding any matter but shall normally execute that power by deciding upon principles and directions for developing the sport and shall give to the Council, the Director General, and the Sports Directors ~~and the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~, with the assistance of the Technical Committees and the Medical Commission, the power to decide upon details.

...

26. First ballot – subsequent ballots

The election in the first ballot ~~of those listed becomes effective only by the vote of an~~ requires the absolute majority of the voting Members voting. If in the first ballot there is no absolute majority, the candidate/s with the highest number of votes obtained in the second ballot is elected. “Absolute majority” means one vote more than half of all valid votes cast. ~~Abstaining Members and invalid votes are deemed not to be present and voting, and shall not be counted in ascertaining a majority (See paragraph 17 above).~~

...

30. Scrutineers

The Council must ensure that the scrutineers appointed to ensure the accuracy of the Minutes of the Congress sight the draft Minutes and verify them as accurate before the Minutes are published and circulated.

Reason: Distinction of quorum and votes cast and harmony of rules (paragraphs 17 and 26), expiry of function of Sports Manager Figure Skating (paragraph 21); drafting in paragraph 30.

63. ISU COUNCIL

Article 30, paragraphs 12, 14, 15 & 20 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

12. Questions and objections and Appeals, if any against decisions of the Council, the Director General, the Sports Directors, ~~the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ and Technical Committees during the period since the last Congress not otherwise acted upon by the Disciplinary Commission.
- ...
14. Report by the auditors with respect to the financial administration of the ISU since the last Congress, the approval thereof and the discharge of the Council, Director General, Treasurer and the Sports Directors ~~and the Sports Manager Figure Skating~~ with respect thereto.
15. Motions concerning amendments to the Constitution ~~and its Procedural Provisions made~~ by the Council, Technical Committees and Members.
- ...
20. Ratification of the actions and decisions of the Council, Director General, Sports Directors, ~~Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ and the Technical Committees.

Reason: Expiry of function of Sports Manager Figure Skating and language issue (paragraph 15).

64. ISU COUNCIL

Article 30, paragraphs 24 – 31 (end of article) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

- ~~24. Election Confirmation of the First Vice President (in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 6).~~
- ~~24. 25.~~ Election of eight members of the Council, four for Figure Skating and four for Speed Skating.
- ~~25. 26.~~ Communication of the results of elections to the Technical Committees by the Vice Presidents.
- ~~26. 27.~~ Election of a the Chair and of four other members of the Disciplinary Commission consisting of a Chair, experienced in either Figure Skating or Speed Skating plus a minimum of two and a maximum of four other members.
- ~~27. 28.~~ Presentation of a status report on the existing four-year plan for the ISU.
- ~~28. 29.~~ The a Approval of the four-year plan sent to all Members by May 1 of the same year of the Congress at which the then current four-year plan will expire.
- ~~29. 30.~~ Election of Honorary Members.
- ~~30. 31.~~ Various including all other matters which in accordance with the Constitution, ~~its Procedural Provisions~~ or the General Regulations are required to be dealt with by Congress.
- ~~31. 32.~~ Closing of Congress by the President.

Reason: Elimination of automatism (former paragraph 24), unification (paragraph 26 new), language issue (paragraph 29).

65. FRANCE

Article 33 Minimum number of annual Council meetings

Paragraph 1, revise as follows:

Council is to conduct its meeting on a regular annual basis of 6 times per year.

Reason: According to the experience of the current work of the Council 6 times a year is a minimum necessary number of meetings to perform the work which is updated taking into consideration the ever increasing volume of tasks and problems in ISU sports nowadays.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

The current number of Council meetings (3-4 per year) is adequate and only if necessary and justifiable should the Council meeting more often. Furthermore, the modern means of communication allow communication and decision making also without the need for costly meetings.

66. ISU COUNCIL

Article 35, paragraphs 1 & 2

Amend as follows:

1. Plan of work

The Committees shall establish their plan of work with the approval of the corresponding Vice President and their budget for approval by the Council.

2. Technical Committee meetings and decisions

The Committees shall meet with the appropriate Sport Directors, whenever indicated if the Committees have meetings at the same place and at the same time. The minutes of the Technical Committee meetings must be sent to the Council, the Director General, the respective Sports Directors, the Legal Advisor(s) and the Treasurer at the latest one (1) month after the meeting.

Reason: Foreseeability of actions, established practice.

67. AUSTRALIA Figure

G. Technical Committees

Article 35, paragraph 1 – PLAN OF WORK

Add new paragraph b), renumber, as follows.

- a) The Committees shall establish their plan of work with the approval of the corresponding Vice President.
- b) The Figure Skating Technical Committees, working as a team, will consult with all Figure Members and definitely prepare proposal(s) for the 2018 Congress to make events and the sport more efficient. Committees must fix Member concerns that there is a lot of “waiting” by the audience and make the sport more attractive for spectators, sponsors and media. They will consider, but not limit to, a review of events structure and timings, the judging system, can the Skaters marks be up quickly after the Skater finishes, can the rules be simplified, can the rules be separated from the Constitution & General Regulations to make Congress more efficient. This is to be done with aim to increase the number of Member Skaters at events, not reducing them, and to make domestic Member competitions and championships less ice time expensive.

Reason:

- This is a Constitutional directive for the ISU to prepare proposal(s) to Members for the 2018 Congress.
- At 2014 Congress, Dublin, the Forums and Workshops presenters and Members discussed the importance of reducing the “Waiting” time at Figure and Speed events. At events there is a lot of “waiting” by the audience and media when there are no Skaters performing/competing.
- Reducing the duration of an event, without reducing the Skaters performance time, will improve ISU Sports attraction for spectators, sponsors and media.
- Events are expensive to hold and a marathon for the audience. This is a serious issue in many countries who operate under the ISU judging system.
- Figure Skating events (excluding Synchronized) require a lot of expensive ice time to hold across all levels and disciplines. For example: If the event total duration time could be halved, without reducing Skater performance time, then there can be more competitors for the same cost. See Australia proposal Article 4, paragraph 1.
- The ISU Sports event format needs reinvigorating with more modern thinking.
- ISU efforts to reduce Member Skater participation numbers is damaging the sport.
- The ISU, through the Figure Skating Technical Committees, will consult with Members and prepare proposal(s) for Congress 2018 for more efficient event formats to improve the sport for Skaters, spectators, sponsors and media.
- BUDGET: The budget for the ISU preparing this Proposal for the 2018 Congress is estimated at US\$20,000 because most of the work would be a normal part of ISU business but there may need to be some trials conducted that involve extra expense. For convenience US\$’s are used because is most widely understood currency and have Swiss CHF conversion.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

All the topics mentioned and possibly other topics are already subject to review by the competent internal ISU bodies and such inclusion of detailed topics does not belong to the Constitution.

68. ISU COUNCIL

To be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52 and 70.

VII. Procedural Provisions to the Constitution – new Article G. 36

To be discussed together with Council Proposal for the new Article 21 (Athletes Commission)

Add new Article and renumber following Articles

G. Athletes Commission - Article 36

1. Plan of work and control

The Athletes Commission shall establish its plan of work and related budget with the approval of the Council- The work of the Athletes Commission is under the supervisory control of the Council, which may delegate the power to Council member(s). The Athletes Commission members will perform their activity with the administrative assistance of staff members of the ISU Secretariat as assigned by the ISU Director General.

2. Athletes Commission meetings

- a) The Athletes Commission shall meet at least once per year, normally the day preceding the Congress at the site of the Congress during Congress years when the Athletes Commission members will also attend the Congress. During non-Congress years the Athletes Commission shall meet the day preceding the June Council meeting at the site of the June Council meeting.
Additional meetings and/or trips of Athletes Commission members may be authorized by the President on a case by case basis.
- b) The Athletes Commission Chair shall attend Council meetings where he has a voice but not the right to vote. If the Chair is unable to attend the Council meeting, the Vice Chair shall attend such Council meeting. If

both, the Chair and Vice Chair are unable to attend a Council meeting, the Chair shall appoint a member of the Commission to attend such Council meeting.

Reason: Necessary Procedural Provisions for the Athletes Commission (see new Article 21).

Para 2.b) right to vote in the Council: The Athletes Commission members have the right to vote within the Technical Committee of their discipline which is their main area of expertise. Also allowing a vote in the Council would represent an exaggerated influence. It is therefore proposed that the Athlete attending the Council meeting shall have a voice but not a vote.

69. ISU COUNCIL

Article 36, paragraph 1

Amend as follows:

1. Plan of work

The Commission shall establish its plan of work and a budget, with the approval of the Council.

Reason: Foreseeability of actions, established practice.

70. NETHERLANDS

To be discussed in conjunction with the Proposals related to the Athletes Commission, i.e. Proposals No. 13, 16, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, and 68.

New Article 36

Insert the following text to replace the current article 36 and renumber existing article 36 as 37 etc.

H. Athletes Commission

1. Plan of work and control

The Athletes Commission shall establish its plan of work and related budget with the approval of the Council. The work of the Athletes Commission is under the supervisory control of the Council, which may delegate the power to Council member(s). The Athletes Commission members will perform their activity with the administrative assistance of staff members of the ISU Secretariat as assigned by the ISU Director General.

2. Athletes Commission meetings

- a) The Athletes Commission shall meet at least once per year, normally the day preceding the Congress at the site of the Congress during Congress years when the Athletes Commission members will also attend the Congress. During non-Congress years the Athletes Commission shall meet the day preceding the June Council meeting at the site of the June Council meeting. Additional meetings and/or trips of Athletes Commission members may be authorized by the President on a case by case basis.
- b) The Athletes Commission Chair shall attend Council meetings where he has a voice but not the right to vote. If the Chair is unable to attend the Council meeting, the Vice Chair shall attend such Council meeting. If both, the Chair and Vice Chair are unable to attend a Council meeting, the Chair shall appoint a member of the Commission to attend such Council meeting.
- c) Each Athletes Commission Member shall attend the respective Technical Committee meetings and have the right to vote.

Reason

Further detailing of the Dutch proposal regarding the establishment of an Athletes Commission (Procedural Provisions).

Council Recommendation: The Council refers to its Proposal No. 68 which is very similar to this Proposal of the Netherlands. The Council believes that the proposed paragraph 2.c) in this Proposal is not necessary since this issue is clarified in Article 20/1 as per the Council Proposal No. 48.

71. ISU COUNCIL

Article 37, paragraphs 1, 3, 4 b), 5 & 6

Amend as follows:

1. ISU Office Holders

Office Holders are eligible persons (except the appointed Coaches in Technical Committees), elected or appointed, who hold an office specifically named in the Constitution in Article 8, paragraph b). ~~Coordinators as named in Article 8, paragraph c) are not ISU Office Holders.~~

...

3. Functions of the ISU Representative

The ISU Representative is the highest ISU Official at the ISU Championships or at any other ISU Event if appointed by the Council.

The ISU Representative when appointed by the Council represents the ISU at the given Event, performs all functions specified in the ISU Statutes and the ISU Memorandums for guidance in holding ISU Championships/Events and, in addition, decides all important matters relating to the organization and conduct of the Event which are not specifically within the jurisdiction of another Official, in particular but not limited to the Referee ~~and the Sport Manager Figure Skating (for the Figure Skating Branch)~~, respectively the Event Coordinator. The ISU Representative may not alter or modify any term or conditions of ISU commercial agreements unless required by extraordinary circumstances.

4. Functions of the ISU Event Coordinators/ISU Assistant Event Coordinators

...

b) ~~In the Figure Skating Branch and for the period between the 2014 and 2016 Congresses only, their activities are coordinated by the Sport Manager Figure Skating who is also responsible for their training and advising/mentoring their work during the ISU Events and Site Inspections.~~

On site of the ISU Events they act under the supervision of the ISU Representative (if appointed & present – see Article 37, paragraph 3) ~~and in the Figure Skating Branch also under the supervision of the Sport Manager Figure Skating if present.~~ They cooperate closely with the Director General and competent ISU Secretariat staff in the implementation and protection of ISU commercial agreements.

.....

5. Regional Event Coordination Assistants (RECAs – Figure Skating Branch only)

In the Figure Skating Branch only, the Vice President Figure Skating in cooperation with the ~~Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ and Event Coordinators and Assistant Event Coordinators is responsible to train and maintain a pool of Regional Event Coordination Assistants (RECAs) composed of individuals knowledgeable in Figure Skating, but also having people skills, organizational skills and computer skills.

The RECAs included in the pool will be appointed by the Council to act in ISU Events in the regional area of their residence with the purpose to transmit their experience gained in favor of their respective Members and local Organizing Committees. ~~The remuneration for such Regional Event Coordination Assistants shall be proposed by the Vice President Figure Skating within a yearly budget and shall be decided annually by the ISU Council.~~

6. ISU Technical Delegates for the Olympic Winter Games

The ISU Technical Delegates for the Olympic Winter Games are appointed by the ISU Council and are responsible for assuring compliance by the ISU, the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Winter Games (OCOG) and the IOC with all rights and responsibilities specified in the then applicable Olympic Charter relating to ISU participation in the Olympic Winter Games.

Reason: Expiry of function of Sports Manager Figure Skating, Harmony of rules.

72. NETHERLANDS

To be discussed together with Proposals No. 17, 57, 58.

New Article 37

Insert the following text to replace the current article 37 and renumber existing article 37 as 38 etc.

I. Marketing & Commercial Expert Group

1. Plan of work

The Marketing & Commercial Expert Group shall establish its plan of work, with the approval of the Council.

2. Group meetings and decisions

The Group shall meet with (members of) the Council, Committees, Secretariat, Members and other parties if needed.

3. The Chair of the Marketing & Commercial Expert Group may attend the Council meetings upon invitation from the President when required for consultation on marketing and commercial matters, but without the right to vote.

4. The work of the Marketing & Commercial Expert Group is under the supervisory control of the Council, which may delegate the power to Council member(s).

Reason

Further detailing of the Dutch proposal regarding the establishment of a Marketing & Commercial Expert Group (Procedural Provisions).

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor. See comments under Proposal No. 17.*

B. GENERAL REGULATIONS

73. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 102, paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 5, 7

Amend as follows:

1. Eligibility Status

- a) The eligibility Rules of the ISU are based upon the principles that:
 - i) a person has the privilege to take part in the activities and competitions under the jurisdiction of the ISU only if such person respects the principles and policies of the ISU as expressed in the ISU Statutes and fulfills those obligations on the basis of which the ISU functions and governs all its activities;
 - ii) the condition of eligibility is made for adequate protection of the ~~economic~~ ethical values, jurisdiction objectives and other legitimate respective interests of the ISU, which uses its financial revenues for the administration and development of the ISU sport disciplines and for the support and benefits of the Members and their Skaters.
- b) An eligible person is one who elects to take part only in International Competitions which are:
 - i) sanctioned by the ~~Member and/or~~ the ISU;
 - ii) conducted by ISU recognized and approved Officials, including Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Judges, Starters, Competitors Stewards and others; and
 - iii) conducted under ISU Regulations.
- c) Participation of Skaters and Officials in national competitions and in non-competitive events, e.g. appearances, endorsements, exhibitions shows and other events with a recreational or show type character are subject to respective rules and conditions of their Members only. Such rules and conditions are not part of the ISU eligibility rules under this Rule 102. However, Members may not unduly restrict their Skaters to participate in non-competitive events. They may share payments received by their Skaters for participation in such non-competitive events in consideration of past and present support of such Skaters, but with no more than 10%.
Members shall monitor their Skaters to ensure that they do not participate in competitions that would render them ineligible.

~~c) A Skater wishing to take part in ISU activities should not be placed at a disadvantage by reason of the necessity to prepare for and participate in ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games, the Winter Youth Olympic Games and all International Competitions, exhibitions and tours properly sanctioned by the ISU or a Member. Accordingly, a Skater may receive payments for appearances, endorsements and exhibition performances and still remain eligible, provided:~~
~~i) such Skater complies with conditions established by the respective Member of which such Skater is a member concerning such appearances, endorsements and exhibition performances, including all financial arrangements;~~
~~ii) payments or other benefits to be received by such Skater for any Skating appearance are made through the respective Member of which such Skater is a member or at least with full information on such payments or benefits given by such Skater to the Member;~~
~~iii) such Skater complies with all other provisions of this Rule 102.~~
~~d) It is the responsibility of each Member to establish the basis for the receipt of payments by such Skater for appearances, endorsements and exhibition performances. Members may share such payments in consideration of past and present support of such persons, but with not more than 10%.~~

2. Definition of an ineligible person

A person becomes ineligible to participate in ISU activities and competitions by skating or officiating in an International Competition not sanctioned by the ISU in any of the ISU sport disciplines or otherwise violating this Rule 102, if ineligibility is imposed by the Council according to this Rule 102 paragraph 7 below.

- ~~a) — skating or officiating without the prior express authorization of the respective Member, in any capacity in a Skating competition, exhibition or tour in any of the sport disciplines of the ISU;~~
- ~~b) — skating or officiating in a competition conducted by Officials (Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Judges, Starters, Competitors Stewards, etc.) not on the approved list of the respective Member or on the ISU approved list;~~
- ~~c) — skating or officiating in an event not sanctioned by a Member and/or the ISU; or~~
- ~~b) — otherwise violating this Rule 102.~~

3. Participation of eligible persons

Only eligible persons, including Skaters, are permitted to take part in ISU Events, the ISU Congress, the Olympic Winter Games, the Winter Youth Olympic Games and other International Competitions unless another Rule explicitly provides otherwise (See paragraph 4 below and Rule 121, paragraph 3.a). Eligible persons may take part in exhibitions and shows (including other events with a recreational and/or show type character) ~~tours~~ which may include ineligible Skaters in accordance with the conditions established by the Member of the participating Skater, only if such exhibitions and tours are sanctioned by a Member and/or the ISU.

Eligible persons may participate in ISU approved Open International Competitions that include invited ineligible Skaters as approved by the Council.

Further, eligible persons may participate in competitions which are open for a specific, clearly defined group of participants only such as e.g. Adult or Impaired Skaters, upon prior written approval of the respective competitions by the Council.

Members shall have the obligation to inform the ISU immediately in case that a Skater or Official, who has taken part in international activities as an eligible person, engages in activities which could render them ineligible..

Paragraphs 4 unchanged,

5. Payments

Payments may be made either by the Member concerned or the ISU, as applicable, to Competitors, Referees, Assistant Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Judges, Data & Replay Operators, Starters or Competitors Stewards in all events listed in Rule 107 and members of the ISU Council, Technical Committees, the Disciplinary Commission and Advisors or other persons serving the ISU in other capacities in connection with the preparation for or participation in ~~such~~ ISU activities or International Competitions. If payments are made, the ISU must be informed in writing within a two month period as to the amounts paid.

Paragraph 6: see separate Proposal No. 77 below.

7. Loss of eligibility

a) [unchanged]

b) [unchanged]

c) Before a ruling is made by the Council, both the Member and the person concerned shall be notified and the person concerned shall be given the opportunity to furnish an explanation of the alleged breach (~~which may be in writing~~).

If the person concerned does not avail himself of such opportunity within fifteen (15) days of receipt of such notice, his right to furnish an explanation shall be waived.

d) Violations of Paragraph 2 of this Rule 102 are subject to sanctions imposed by the ISU Council which may issue a warning or impose ineligibility for a determined period of time or for life time.

The ISU Council shall determine the applicable sanction in accordance with the principle of proportionality and in consideration of all relevant circumstances of each individual case, especially the degree of fault of the offender, his/her previous record and the seriousness of the violation with regard to the objectives of the ISU as laid down in Article 3 Paragraph 1 of the Constitution, its ethical principles as reflected in the ISU Code of Ethics, the ISU's commitment to care for health and safety of Skaters and the integrity of the ISU's sports and other legitimate interests of the ISU.

Within this framework, the ISU Council shall

i) issue a warning in case of minor, first time violations;

ii) impose an ineligibility period for up to five years in case of medium heavy violations and in case of repeated minor violations;

iii) impose an ineligibility period for up to ten years in case of serious violations;

iv) impose an ineligibility period up to life time in case of very serious violations, especially intentional violations which endanger the integrity and jurisdiction of the ISU.

Reason:

Based on the decision of the European Commission in October 2015 to open an investigation against the ISU eligibility rules and related contacts with the European Commission, it is proposed to adjust the ISU eligibility rules. The report of the Legal Advisors to the Congress will inform the Members on the status of the EU Commission investigation at the time of the Congress.

In particular the amendment involves to

- reform the rules on the participation of Skaters in “endorsements, appearances and exhibition performances” by removing any link with the eligibility Rules and to leave it to the Members to establish reasonable rules and sanctions for participation of their Skaters and Officials in national competitions and non-competitive events (paragraph 1.c) and paragraph 3).
- to confirm that the ISU will put in place a scale of sanctions for infringements of the ISU eligibility rules. For the imposition of sanctions generally, it is proposed to that the principle of proportionality should be the guiding principle when imposing any sanction. Specifically, the new wording states that the Council shall determine the applicable sanction in accordance with the principle of proportionality (paragraph 7.d)).

Other amendments are based on the following reasoning:

Paragraph 1.a): Appropriate principles of eligibility rules

Paragraph 1.b): International Competitions are defined by art 38, paragraph 7 of the ISU Constitution through reference to rule 107 General Regulations and, thus, fall per definition to be sanctioned by the ISU.

74. FINLAND, Figure

Rule 102, paragraph 6.a)

In all ISU Figure Skating Championships, ISU Events, and all other Figure Skating competitions organized under the jurisdiction of the ISU, Competitors, team officials, Coaches and service personnel may display on their persons and their clothing their own name and the name and/or logo of their ISU Member Federation and/or official ISU Member country abbreviation and/or official ISU Member country name with letters of maximum 15 cm high.

Reason: Current practice also includes name of country, not only abbreviation.

Council Recommendation: The Council is in favor of this Proposal for the reasons given.

75. FINLAND, Figure

Rule 102, paragraph 6.a)

add new sentence:

Competition music may not include audio advertising such as tunes, sounds or lyrics associated with a brand or commercial product.

Reason: To prevent advertising through music used in competition.

Council Recommendation: The Council is in favor of this Proposal for the reasons given.

76. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING, ICE DANCE AND SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 102 to be amended to add section 6 a) i) & ii) to read:

6. Trademarks

1. a) In all ISU Figure Skating Championships, ISU Events, and all other Figure Skating competitions organized under the jurisdiction of the ISU, Competitors, team officials, Coaches and service personnel may display on their persons and their clothing their own name, Team name and the name and/or logo of their ISU Member Federation and/or official ISU Member country abbreviation with letters of maximum 15 cm high. In addition they may display on their person and their clothing ~~not more than four (4)~~ advertising markings, trademarks, logos or other distinguishing signs (hereafter called “markings”), provided they are dignified and ~~with a maximum of sixty (60) square centimeters each~~ and do not refer to tobacco or alcohol while being off the ice including in the “kiss and cry” area, the television interview area, during the official warm-up before the competitive performance, during practice sessions and the competition performance according to the following criteria:

i. the total maximum surface area of all markings (excluding manufacturer trademarks as per sub-paragraph ii) below) on clothing shall not exceed two hundred and twenty five (225) cm². The maximum number of markings (excluding manufacturer trademarks as per sub-paragraph ii) below) shall not exceed four (4) on the clothing on the upper body (above the waist including arms) and one (1) on the clothing on the lower body (below the waist) and shall be dignified. The maximum surface area for a single marking is forty five (45) cm²;

ii. One marking of the clothing supplier may also be displayed, not larger than ~~thirty (30)~~ forty five (45) square centimeters. No markings are permitted on boots or blades, except for the boot manufacturer's name on the boot heel not larger than ten (10) square cm and one (1) engraved identification of the manufacturer not larger than twenty (20) square centimeters on each blade and each blade guard ~~(the provisions relating to boots and blades will become effective as of July 1, 2015).~~ Markings may be measured by the Officials for compliance while being worn.

During the competitive performance, the exhibition at the end of an event and for the medal award ceremony only the markings described in paragraphs i) and ii) on Skaters costumes are allowed, but only the above-referenced markings on boots and blades. ~~Skater's costumes may, however, carry the Skater's and his ISU Member Federation's name and/or logo and/or official ISU Member abbreviation~~

In other off-ice areas additional markings with no limitation in size are allowed. However, such additional markings must be authorized by the respective Member.

b) In all ISU Championships and all other competitions in Speed Skating or Short Track Speed Skating organized under the jurisdiction of the ISU, team officials, Coaches, service personnel and Competitors of the same national team (entered by the same Member) must wear identical uniforms while within the premises of the arena or ice track during the whole period of the Championships or competition including official practice sessions, which clearly identify their country, with a design, as prescribed by the Members which enter the Skaters for competition. The Members have the obligation to submit the design of the team uniform (skin suit, warming up jacket and zipper trousers, podium and team personnel jacket) to the ISU for approval.

The team officials, Coaches, service personnel and Skaters may display on their clothing and on technical equipment their own name and the name and/or logo of their ISU Member Federation and/or official ISU

Member country abbreviation (as per paragraph (vi) below). In addition, they may display on their person and their clothing, advertising markings, trademarks, logos or other distinguishing signs (hereafter called “markings”) that do not refer to tobacco and alcohol, in the competition area, in the television interview area and during the award ceremonies, in accordance with the following:

2. the total maximum surface area of all markings (excluding manufacturer trademarks as per sub-paragraph ii) below) on clothing shall not exceed six hundred and fifty (650) cm². The maximum number of markings (excluding manufacturer trademarks as per sub-paragraph ii) below) shall not exceed six (6) on the clothing on the upper body (above the waist including arms) and two (2) on the clothing on the lower body (below the waist) and shall be dignified. The maximum surface area for a single marking is forty five (45) cm² for the upper body and thirty (30) cm² on the cap for Speed Skating. The maximum surface area for a single advertising marking on the lower body is two hundred and fifty (250) cm²;
3. No markings other than manufacturer’s trademarks as stated below are allowed on the technical equipment such as skates/boots, glasses, gloves, shin guards, headgear, helmets (without covers). One manufacturer’s trademark may appear on each piece of equipment and clothing. Skin suits are considered as two pieces; one piece upper body and one piece lower body. Skates are considered as consisting of 6 pieces namely 2 boots and 2 blades and a construction for connecting the blade to the boot. The manufacturer’s trademarks shall reflect standard commercial practices and not exceed twenty (20) cm² per piece of equipment, with the following exceptions: one engraved identification or trademark of the manufacturer with a maximum of six (6) cm² is permitted on each connecting construction, two manufacturer’s trademarks with a maximum of six (6) cm² each are permitted for glasses, headgear and set of gloves maximum; maximum two manufacturer’s trademarks are permitted to a total maximum of twenty (20) cm² for the helmet. The Skater’s own name may be engraved on pieces of equipment, with the same size restrictions as for trademarks.
4. Armbands and helmet covers are not considered as technical equipment. Markings on armbands and helmet covers in ISU Events (ISU Championships & World Cup Competitions), the Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games are reserved for ISU. For other International Competitions markings of maximum thirty (30) cm² per armband or helmet cover may be authorized by the organizing Member;
5. The determination of the design, without any commercial images or registered trademarks, and markings on the clothing of competitors and team officials, Coaches and service personnel of the same national team, is the sole right and responsibility of the national associations as Members of the ISU to ensure compliance with this Rule. It is recommended that the Members consider providing the use of markings to the athletes or personnel;
6. Markings may be measured by the Officials for compliance while being worn.
7. The racing and warm-up suits of the Skaters must display the name of the country or its official ISU abbreviation (letters of minimum 5 cm and maximum 15 cm high). In Speed Skating the country name or abbreviation shall be placed on the back of the upper body. In Short Track Speed Skating the country name or abbreviation shall be placed on the external part of both lower legs, the size of the characters not to be smaller than 5 cm high.

Reason: Rule to be amended to allow Figure Skating Discipline Skaters a similar opportunity to that currently given to Short Track and Speed Skating athletes to seek sponsorship opportunities by displaying sponsor logos on their competition clothing during the event and not only on their tracksuit jackets whilst in the Kiss and Cry area after skating.

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor.*

The appearance of the athletes in Figure Skating (named “Artistique” Skating in many languages) wearing “costumes” and not “uniforms” cannot be compared with the appearance of Speed Skaters or Short Track Speed Skaters. Figure Skaters should appear in an esthetic and dignified manner.

77. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 102, paragraphs 6 b) introductory part and sub-paragraph iii)

Amend as follows:

6. Trademarks
- b) In all ISU Championships and all other competitions in Speed Skating or Short Track Speed Skating organized under the jurisdiction of the ISU, team officials, Coaches, service personnel and Competitors of the same national team (entered by the same Member) must wear identical uniforms while within the premises of the arena or ice track during the whole period of the Championships or competition including official practice sessions, which clearly identify their country, with a design, as prescribed by the Members which enter the Skaters for competition. The Members have the obligation to submit the design of the team uniform (skin suit, warming up jacket and zipper trousers, podium and team personnel jacket) to the ISU ~~for approval by October 1st of each year.~~

...

iii) Armbands and helmet covers are not considered as technical equipment. Markings on armbands and helmet covers in ISU Events (~~ISU Championships & World Cup Competitions~~) Senior and Junior, the Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games are reserved for ISU. For other International Competitions markings of maximum thirty (30) cm² per armband or helmet cover may be authorized by the organizing Member;

...

Reason: Consistency and work-ability of rules.

78. NETHERLANDS

Rule 102 paragraph 6.b)

Amend to read:

b) In all ISU Championships and all other competitions in Speed Skating or Short Track Speed Skating organized under the jurisdiction of the ISU, team officials, Coaches, service personnel and Competitors of the same national team (entered by the same Member) must wear identical uniforms. The only exception is the ISU Speed Skating World Cup: in this particular ISU Event, each Member is free to decide whether the Skaters of the same national team (entered by the same Member) wear uniforms with identical or different designs, effective as of season 2018/2019. All uniforms should clearly identify the country for which the Skater competes. The uniforms, with a design as prescribed by the Members which enter the Skaters for competition, must be worn while within the premises of the arena or ice track during the whole period of the Championships or competition including official practice sessions. The Members have the obligation to submit the design of the team uniform (skin suit, warming- up jacket, and zipper trousers, podium and team personnel jacket) to the ISU for approval.

Reason: All uniforms should identify each person's nation clearly. Within this framework, each ISU member may decide whether their skaters will wear identical uniforms or different (color) designs. Allowing skaters from the same national team (entered by the same ISU member) to wear different uniforms in the Speed Skating World Cup creates several opportunities:

- It will be possible to distinguish so that Skaters may be more easily recognized. For instance, Olympic champions, World Champions, or National Champions may have something added to their apparel, such as emblems.
- ISU members will have more possibilities concerning marketing and sponsorships. Uniforms allow for prominent exposure for sponsors. This amendment will give sponsors the opportunity to display their identity through the uniforms more noticeably. The current situation permits them visibility through a logo exclusively, whereas the amendment would generate the possibility to show branding through color and design as well. This subject is specifically relevant when a nation has more than one team (e.g. a ladies' and men's team) or individuals with different sponsors. Moreover, this adjustment could make it more desirable for (internationally oriented) brands to sponsor Skaters from several different nations. In short, the possibilities concerning marketing and sponsorship are improved. The global professionalization of the sport, as well as the increasing need for financial resources, demands such an alteration. Eventually, sponsors' contributions will allow investments in facilities, which will be beneficial both for Skaters and for the sport in general.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

Having a different approach for only one Series will lead to inconsistent situations among ISU Events. It will become confusing and difficult to manage and to understand which Skater represents which country.

79. POLAND, Speed

Rule 102, paragraph 6.b).ii)

No markings other than manufacturer's trademarks as stated below are allowed on the technical equipment such as skates/boots, glasses, gloves, shin guards, headgear, helmets (without covers). One manufacturer's trademark may appear on each piece of equipment and clothing. Skin suits are considered as two pieces; one piece upper body (including cap) and one piece lower body

Reason: Cap is upper body of the racing suit

Council Recommendation: The Council is in favor subject to the following additional wording; "for the purposes of this rule the cap is considered as part of the upper body."

80. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 103, paragraph 2

Amend as follows:

2. A person who is or has been ineligible may apply for reinstatement ~~as a Skater only if such person had not violated Rule 102, paragraph 2. b) and c)~~ once he/she has served half of the period of ineligibility determined. In case of ineligibility for life-time, a request for reinstatement may be submitted by the respective person once 15 years of Ineligibility have passed.

Reason: Results of negotiations with EU Commission so far.

81. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 104, paragraph 4, 13, 14 c) & 15 a)

Amend as follows:

4. Communications and Payment Instructions

- a) All communications of members of the Members or affiliated clubs, and like organizations with the ISU may be made only through their respective Members.
- b) Official communications in particular official forms (e.g. entry forms, nomination forms etc.) or applications for ISU Events to be submitted to the ISU or an organizing Member of an ISU Event must be signed either by the Member's President or General Secretary (or equivalent such as Executive Director, Director General or CEO).

- c) Payment instructions for the transferring of ISU contributions must be signed by both the Member's President and General Secretary.
- d) For communications between Members and Skaters see Rule 111.

...

13. Publication of best Skaters

Before May 1st of each year each Member shall announce in respect of the preceding skating season and the Secretariat shall publish those received in a Communication by July 1st:

- a) Speed Skating: the five best times set up on standard tracks by Speed Skaters of the Member over the distances of 500, 1000, 1500, 3000, 5000 and 10000 meters for Men and 500, 1000, 1500, 3000 and 5000 meters for Ladies and Team Pursuit and Mass Start for Men and Ladies.
- b) Short Track Speed Skating: the five best Short Track Speed Skaters of the Member over the distances 500, 1000, 1500, 3000 meters and Relay Men and Ladies based on the distance classification at national championships.
- c) Figure Skating: the names of the five best Ladies and Men single Skaters, the five best pairs and the five best couples in Ice Dance and the five best Synchronized Skating teams based on the results of national championships.

14. Planned International Competitions Speed Skating

...

- c) Each Member must announce to the ISU, by October 1st, the National Championships and country matches it intends to organize in the coming season, stating the class of Championships or country match, as well as the date, place and track at which the respective Championships or country matches are planned to be held.
At least two copies The announcement of National Championships and country matches ~~should be sent~~ shall be emailed to the Secretariat not later than four weeks before the first day of the event. The announcements must include the information items mentioned in Rule 112, paragraphs 1 and 2 or 3.

15. Planned International Competitions Figure Skating

- a) Each Member must announce to the Secretariat by March 1st the International Competitions it intends to organize in the coming season. Members may also announce competitions which fall under Rule 107, paragraph 14, but such competitions shall be listed separately. In the event of two or more competitions being organized on conflicting dates, the Director General shall immediately inform the organizers concerned to coordinate the dates between them. The Members ~~organizers~~ must inform the ISU of the arrangements made by April 1st.

...

Reason: Logical ordering and precise wording (paragraph 4), inclusion of Mass Start (paragraph 13), precise wording and established practice (paragraph 14 c)), consistency of rules (paragraph 15 a)).

82. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 107, paragraph 1 b), 4, 11 & 13.b)i)

Amend as follows:

1. ISU Championships ...

- b) World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships except in Olympic years ~~(to be held in non-Olympic Winter Games years unless the program of the Olympic Winter Games is changed resulting in an adverse situation for the ISU, in which case the Championships can be held during Olympic Winter Games years).~~

4. Definition of International Competition

An International Competition under paragraphs 5 to 13 is a competition for which:

- i) The organizing Member invites at least one foreign Member to participate.
- ii) The entry of Competitors can be made only through the respective Members.
- iii) Competitors from at least two Members participate.
- iv) Conducted in accordance with the Rules of the ISU.
- v) In all International Competitions organized as a series, television and advertising agreements must be authorized by the ISU Director General to avoid conflicts with ISU contracts.

Joint national championships of two or more Members are not considered as International, but National Competitions, provided they are announced as Joint National Championships and separate results are published for each participating Member.

11. International Masters/Adult and other Competitions for special groups of Skaters

Competitions for Masters (Speed Skating), Adults (Figure Skating) and Competitions for other specifically defined special groups of Skaters that may be conducted in cooperation with the ISU as decided by the Council.

13. b) i) the entry of eligible Skaters may be made only under the control of the respective Member, or in a country, where there is no ISU Member or no ISU Member for the respective Branch, under the control of the ISU;

Reason:

1.b) Avoidance of redundancy of rules.

4. Allow Members to organize their national championships jointly, for money saving, logistic and interest increasing purposes.

11. to include Competitions for special group of Skaters (e.g. Impaired Skaters and similar)

13.b) i) Harmony of rules having regard to proposed changes at Rule 102/6.

83. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 107, paragraph 1,

Amend first three items, a) – c), as follows:

1. ISU Championships

a) World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships (to be held every second year, the year before and the year after Olympic Winter Games).

b) World Allround Speed Skating Championships (to be held every second year, starting not later than 2020, the year before and the year after the World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships).

c) World Sprint Speed Skating Championships (to be held every second year, starting not later than 2020, in the same season as the World Allround Speed Skating Championships).

Reason: The present structure of the ISU Speed Skating Championships is not giving adequate attention to each of the three different types of World Championships (at senior level). The revised standardized calendar, implemented as from the season 2014-15, has improved the overall structure of the speed skating season, by creating a 3 weeks' Championships period, compared to the previous situation where the same Championships were spread over a period of 2 months. Another benefit of this has been the possibility to create a standardized World Cup season calendar that improves the planning for the ISU Members and the participation of the Skaters. However, having three separate Championships in the same season, with most of the top skaters taking part in at least two of them, inevitably makes it difficult to gain the same level of attention for all Championships. To include the complete program of the three present Championships into one large Championships tournament (extending over at least 10 days) could be seen as a tempting concept, but it is more likely this would deflate the value of the titles, by forcing top athletes to make choices as to which events they would take part, thus diluting the competitive level in several events.

To enhance the current Championships program, a better option is the following: To have the Olympic style Single Distances Championships held the year before and the year after the Olympic Winter Games, while the Championships based on combined results of races over several distances (the World Allround and the World Sprint Championships) would also be held every second year, in the seasons when the World Single Distance Championships will not be held. Such an alternating cycle would give more attention to each type of Championships. The World Allround and World Sprint Championships, with their combined programs, would then be the only occasion where ISU World Champions titles would be delivered in the respective season. This would increase the value of these titles and focus more attention on these Championships. The World Single Distances Championships, with a program very similar to the Olympic Winter Games, is important for Skaters and ISU Members in the preparation for the Olympic Games. Therefore it should be held in the season prior to Olympic Winter Games. These Championships are also important for the kick-off of a new Olympic cycle, and should therefore be held also in the season following the Olympic Winter Games. With this concept for the Championships structure it could be considered to merge the World Allround and the World Sprint Championships into one tournament over 3 days (this concept is already in use with some ISU Members, e.g. the Netherlands). As a consequence, Speed Skating would be similar to the other ISU disciplines, and many other sports, by having one annual World Championships tournament. These Championships could be renamed into the common name "ISU Speed Skating World Championships" (possibly with subtitles indicating the type of race program), and the alternating programs of this annual tournament would be defined in the ISU Special Regulations. The titles of the Champions could remain the same as in the current Regulations.

Considering the tradition of the European Speed Skating Championships and the format change of these Championships as adopted at the 2014 Congress, it would be consistent to apply the same principle for the European Championships, by alternating every second year between a format with Allround and Sprint combination and a format with Single Distances and Team events. This would solve the problem of the very busy program of the European Championships format that was adopted by the 2014 Congress. By alternating the formats in the opposite cycle of the World Championships (see example in table below) the tradition of awarding an ISU Allround and an ISU Sprint Champion title on an annual basis could be maintained. Moreover, the attention of the European Championships would increase by not having World Championships with the same race program during the same season. With only one World Championships tournament per season the World Cup season program could be extended with two more Competitions, thus allowing blocks of two consecutive World Cup Competitions in January and leading up to the World Cup Final in March. This will place more importance on the World Cup circuit, with more consistency in the competition schedule throughout the season.

Due to existing commercial agreements and relationships the proposal cannot be implemented immediately, but an implementation as from 2020 should give a sufficient and adequate transition period.

The proposed cycle of ISU Speed Skating Championships, as from its full implementation in the season 2019/20, can be illustrated as follows:

<i>Season 2019/20</i>	<i>Season 2020/21</i>	<i>Season 2021/22</i>	<i>Season 2022/23</i>
European Ch Single Distances	ECh Allround & Sprint	European Ch Single Distances	European Ch Allround & Sprint
	World Ch Single Distances	Olympic Winter Games	World Ch Single Distances
World Ch Allround & Sprint		World Ch Allround & Sprint	

Council Recommendation: The Council is in favor subject to clearly indicating the beginning of this provision, namely as of the season 2019/20.

84. NETHERLANDS

Rule 107, paragraph 1

Insert new sub-paragraph o) with the following text:

Once every four years, in between two Olympic Winter Games, the World Short Track Speed Skating Championships, the World Figure Skating Championships, and one of the World Championships Speed Skating will be organized simultaneously and in the same location. This ISU event will first take place in 2020, then in 2024, et cetera.

Reason:

This unique event may, for instance, be called “The ISU Skate Games” or “The ISU Winter Festival”.

- The event puts the ISU and her disciplines in the spotlight worldwide, which can be of benefit to all parties involved. Nations and people that are mostly interested in a particular discipline, through such an event, will be introduced to other disciplines.
- This event creates an opportunity to gather the “ISU family”. Athletes, coaches, fans, officials, media, and Members from different disciplines will be able to meet and associate.
- The event could lead to new possibilities, both commercially and sport technically. With regards to new elements in the sport, the introduction of an overall skating classification could be an option. During the event, the nations can compete to be the best nation in skating overall.
- The event might take place in a previous location of the Olympic Winter Games. This location will have suitable accommodation and the know-how to organize such an event. Additionally, memories of the Olympic Games will be stirred.

A recommendation is to organize a work group who will work out details including the program and business model, under supervision of the Council. Additional Rules may be presented for approval at the ISU Congress of 2018.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

The idea of combined Championships for 2 or more ISU disciplines has been considered from time to time but never materialized. While theoretically it is a valid and interesting idea, practically it is difficult to harmonize the different Event Calendars of the concerned disciplines accordingly and also it would limit the choice of the potential host cities substantially as well as prolong the Event beyond the currently reasonable and desired time period of host cities.

85. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 108, paragraphs 1, 3 a) & 4 a) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows, delete quote marks before and after the word Senior:

1. Categories of Skaters by Age and Age Entry Requirements for Competitions

a) The word “Senior” is used in this Rule and in the ISU Statutes to describe certain competitions that have a minimum age entry requirement of fifteen (15) years, determined in each instance by the birthday of the Skater that occurs before the July 1st that immediately precedes the relevant competition.

b) “Senior” shall not be used in the title of any ISU Event.

The official title of the ISU Event is that title stated in a specific ISU directive such as the ISU Communication announcing allotments by the Council, the relevant Memorandum, or the Official ISU Trade Name and Trademark Guide.

The word “Senior” may be used by the organizer in the text of the Event Announcement or the Event Program to refer to the minimum age requirements specified in this Rule.

...

3. Age limits for Single & Pair Skating / Ice Dance

a) In International “Senior” Competitions, ISU Senior Championships and the Olympic Winter Games only Skaters may compete who have reached at least the age of fifteen (15) before July 1st preceding the Events.

...

4. Age limits for Synchronized Skating

a) In International "Senior" Synchronized Skating Competitions and the ISU "Senior" World Synchronized Skating Championships a "Senior" team comprises Skaters all of whom must have reached at least the age of fifteen (15) before July 1st preceding the Championships or Competition.

...

Reason: Harmonization.

86. ISU COUNCIL

To be discussed together with Proposals No. 87, 88, 89 and 90.

Rule 109

Amend whole rule so as to read as follows:

1. Participation in ISU Championships, ISU Events and International Competitions

ISU Championships, ISU Events and International Competitions, listed in Rule 100, paragraph 3, and Rule 107, paragraphs 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, may be entered only by Competitors who are members of a Member. The entry can be made only through that Member. For participation in Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games, Rule 126 respectively the provisions of the Olympic Charter and its By-Laws apply.

2. a) A Skater may compete only as a member of the Member of a country of which he/she is a citizen or in which he/she has resided for at least one year.
 - b) In Pair Skating and Ice Dance only one partner needs to fulfil the requirements stated in paragraph 2.a). The other partner, however, must be a citizen or resident of the country of a Member.
 - c) A Skater who has competed in any ISU Championship, ISU Event and/or International Competition for any Member and who intends to compete in the future for another Member ~~needs a permit from the Member he/she represented in the past, which permit shall not unreasonably be denied~~ : In addition such Skater may compete for the respective Member only after the following waiting periods have elapsed:
 - i) For participation in International Competitions and ISU Events other than ISU Championships: twelve (12) months since he/she competed in any ISU Championships, ISU Event and/or International Competition for another Member
 - ii) For participation in ISU Championships: eighteen (18) months since he/she competed in any ISU Championships, ISU Event and/or International Competition for another member.
 - d) In Synchronized Skating Teams, up to 25 % (four Skaters on a Team with sixteen Skaters and three Skaters on a Team with twelve Skaters) may be member of a Member different from the one the Team is competing for, provided they have a respective permit from the Member they belong to. To such Skaters, the citizenship/residency requirements specified in para. 2 a) and the waiting periods according to para. 2.c) do not apply. Alternates are not included for the calculation of percentage purposes.
3. Skaters competing for the Member of a country whose citizenship they do not have (except for members of Synchronized Skating Teams under the 25 % quota according to paragraph 2.d) above), and Skaters who have competed in any ISU Championship, ISU Event and/or International Competition before and intend to compete in the future for another Member may do so only after obtaining, through the Member for which they intend to compete, a clearance certificate (CC) from the ISU Secretariat.

All relevant procedures are published in an ISU Communication.

4. In the course of the same season (July 1st – June 30th) a Skater may skate for only one Member in all ISU Championships, ISU Events and International Competitions. This also applies to Skaters who compete in several ISU sport disciplines.

This provision also applies with respect to members of Synchronized Skating Teams under the 25 % quota according to paragraph 2.d) above.

5. If special circumstances so warrant the Council may waive the citizenship/residency ~~or the permit~~ requirement and/or the waiting periods according to paragraphs 2.a) and c) above.

In exceptional cases the Council itself may enter a competitor for a specific event. A competitor entered by the ISU does not count in the quota of the country of his citizenship or residence.

6. The Council may reject an application from a Member for a Clearance Certificate for any Skater, although the formalities and requirements stated in this Rule have been met, if in the opinion of the Council granting such application would be contrary to the spirit of sports (e.g. in case a Member tries to “import” several athletes with foreign citizenship, in particular when such athletes should form a new national team or its substantial part of such Member).

Reason: Consistency of rules, established practice, elimination of legally problematic permit requirement.

87. GERMANY, Figure

To be discussed together with Proposal No. 86, 88, 89 and 90.

Rule 109, 2. b) i) and 2 b) iv)

Amend as follows:

- 2 b) A Skater may compete for the Member of the country of which he is not citizen if he fulfils the following conditions:

- i) he has resided for at least one year in that country of which he is not citizen ~~and has been permitted to compete for that Member by the National Association of the country of which he is a citizen, or he has resided for at least one year in that country and he (or his parents if he is not of age) has applied for citizenship in that country;~~
- ii) unchanged
- iii) unchanged
- iv) ~~Any denial of a request for permit by the Member submitted in accordance with sub paragraph (i) above may be the subject of a request to the council by the involved Skater or any involved Member for exceptional permission as provided in paragraph 5 of this Rule~~

Reasons:

The permission by the National Association of the country of which he is a citizen is not necessary because the mandatory waiting period in 2 b) ii) and iii) is drastic and sufficient enough for a Skater. The possibility of a denial of the permission by the National Association means that the Skater will be blocked in his development for an undefined period and in worst-case as long as the National Association wants. This is counterproductive and not in the spirit of the sport.

Application for citizenship should not be an option for a change of a starting permission from one Member Federation to another. The waiting period to apply for citizenship is very often different in the countries due to formal or juridical reasons. This circumstance is not acceptable for Skaters because of the unequal conditions.

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor and supports its own Proposal No. 86.*

88. GERMANY, Figure

To be discussed together with Proposals No. 86, 87, 89 and 90.

Rule 109, 2. c)

Amend as follows:

- 2 c) In case of a Pair Skating or an Ice Dance Couple, one partner at least must be a citizen of the country of the Member for which the Pair Skating or Ice Dance Couple competes. The other partner may be a citizen or resident of a country of any other Member. The residence ~~and permit requirements~~ and the waiting periods stated above in paragraph 2 b) ~~ii) and iii)~~ and in paragraph 3 does not apply to such partner. However, if such partner has already represented another Member, regardless of the discipline, ~~the permit from the Member the Skater represented is required and~~ the waiting period 12 months from the day of the last competition in which the Skater represented another Member applies.

Reasons: The permission by the National Association of the country of which the partner is a citizen is not necessary because the mandatory waiting period of 12 months from the day of the last competition is drastic and sufficient enough for a pair or an ice dance couple.

The possibility of a denial of the permission by the National Association means that the pair or the ice dance couple will be blocked in his development for an undefined period and in worst-case as long as the National Association wants. This is counterproductive and not in the spirit of the sport.

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor and supports its own Proposal No.86.*

89. GERMANY, Figure

To be discussed together with Proposals No. 86, 87, 88 and 90.

Rule 109, paragraph 3.

If a Skater, a Pair or an Ice Dance Couple, who has already represented one Member in an International Competition or ISU Championships, intends to compete in the future for another Member, regardless of the grounds on which the

possibility of such change is based, such Skater, Pair or Dance Couple shall be subject to the waiting periods set forth in subparagraphs 2.b) ii), ~~and 2. b) iii)~~ and 2 c) above.

Reason: Clarification

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor and supports its own Proposal No. 86.*

90. GERMANY, Figure

To be discussed together with Proposals No. 86, 87, 88 and 89.

Rule 109, paragraph 6 new

In connection with paragraph 2 & 3 of this rule financial settlement and compensatory payment from one Member Federation to another Member Federation is not permitted.

Reason: Exclusion of financial payments.

Note: The previous paragraph 6 and 7 will be paragraph 7 and 8 of rule 109.

Council Recommendation: *The Council is not in favor and supports its own Proposal No. 86.*

91. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 112, paragraph 3 a) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

3. In addition to the general items, announcements for International Competitions in Short Track Speed Skating must include the following supplementary items:
 - a) A statement regarding the track, which latter must be in accordance with Rule 280; also the ice surface and the type of barrier paddings surrounding the ice.

...

Reason: Consistent terminology.

92. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 117 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

Entrance Fees

- a) There are no entrance fees for ISU Championships in Figure Skating and Speed Skating.
- b) There may be entrance fees for International Competitions which are not ISU Championships. In Synchronized Skating, these fees shall be a single fee charged per Team. Fees per Skater are not permitted.

Reason: Logical order.

93. ISU COUNCIL

For paragraph 3 of this Rule to be discussed together with Proposal No. 94.

Rule 121 paragraphs 1 & 3 b), d) & e)

Amend as follows:

1. Officials categories
 - a) Figure Skating Branch
Officials are classified in the two following categories: ~~“ISU” and “International” as follows:~~
 - i) ~~ISU:~~ ISU Referee, ISU Technical Controller, ISU Technical Specialist, ISU Judge, ISU Data & Replay Operator;
 - ii) ~~International:~~ International Referee, International Technical Controller, International Technical Specialist, International Judge, International Data & Replay Operator.
~~The procedures for nomination and appointment of the above mentioned Officials are stated in Rule 122 and the respective Special Regulations.~~
Depending on the qualification “ISU” or “International” the Officials are qualified to officiate in the respective function in the competitions according to the chart below:
 -
 - b) Speed Skating Branch
~~The following Officials categories apply divided into 2 qualification groups “ISU” and “International” as follows:~~ Officials are classified in the two following categories:
 - i) ISU Referee, ISU Starter, ISU Competitors Steward (Short Track Speed Skating only);
 - ii) International Referee, International Starter, International Competitors Steward (Short Track Speed Skating only).

~~The nomination and appointment to the above mentioned functions is stated in Rule 122 and the respective Special Regulations.~~

Depending on the qualification “ISU” or “International” the Officials are qualified to officiate in the respective function in the competitions according to the chart below:

	Referee	Starter	Competitor Steward
Olympic Winter Games	ISU	ISU	ISU
ISU Championships	ISU	ISU	ISU
World Cup Speed Skating	ISU	ISU	---
World Cup Short Track Speed Skating	ISU	ISU	ISU/International *)
	For Assistant Referees, Assistant Starters and Assistant Competitors Stewards refer to Special Regulations Rule 286, paragraph 3		
International Competitions other than above	International	International	International

	<u>Assistant Referee</u>	<u>Assistant Starter</u>	<u>Assistant Competitor Steward</u>
<u>Olympic Winter Games</u>	<u>ISU</u>	<u>ISU</u>	<u>ISU</u>
<u>ISU Championships</u>	<u>ISU</u>	<u>ISU</u>	<u>ISU</u>
<u>World Cup Speed Skating</u>	<u>International</u>	<u>International</u>	—
<u>World Cup Short Track Speed Skating</u>	<u>International*</u>	<u>International</u>	<u>International</u>
<u>International Competitions other than above</u>	<u>International</u>	<u>International</u>	<u>International</u>

* See Rule 286, paragraph 3, Rule 289, paragraph 5.c) and Rule 289, paragraph 7.a)

...

3. Restrictions applying to appointed Officials:
 - a) All Officials, except the Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators must be eligible persons.
 - b) Council members, Sports Directors, Event Coordinators and Assistant Event Coordinators, ~~the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ shall not and ISU Advisors if possible should not act as Referees, Judges, Technical Specialists, Technical Controllers, Data & Replay Operators, OAC members, Starters and Competitors Stewards in competitions specified in Rule 107.
 - c) Members of the Technical Committees of the Figure Skating Branch shall not act as Judge in any ISU Event or International Competition in any discipline of the Figure Skating Branch.
Members of the Technical Committees of the Figure Skating Branch shall not act as Referee, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist or OAC member in ISU Championships, the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating individual events and Final, the ISU World Team Trophy in Figure Skating and the Olympic Winter Games, except in the discipline of the Technical Committee they are a member. In this discipline they may act as Referee, Technical Controller and Technical Specialist.
 - d) Members of the Technical Committees of the Speed Skating Branch shall not act as Referee in ISU sanctioned competitions or at the Olympic Winter Games.
 - e) Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Judges, Starters and Competitor Stewards may not compete in ISU Events and International Competitions of the respective discipline except in Adult and Masters competitions.
 - f) Council members, Sports Directors, Event Coordinators, Assistant Event Coordinators, ~~the Sport Manager Figure Skating~~ and ISU Advisors who are on the list of Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Judges, Data & Replay Operators, Starters and Competitors Stewards at the time of their election or appointment to such office shall remain on such list during the entire term of their office even if they, as consequence of paragraph 3 of this Rule do not satisfy the requirements of the respective Rules included in Special Regulations for various ISU disciplines. After their term of office expires they must satisfy such requirements within the next twelve (12) months.
 - g) ~~Members of the Technical Committees, although they are approved as Judges according to the provisions if the relevant Rules in the respective Special Regulations should not, if possible, act as Judges in competitions of their appropriate Branch. They may act as Referees and Technical Controllers, however, provided that they are approved as such, according to the provisions in the respective Special Regulations.~~
 - h) ISU Office Holders cannot act as sports journalists or TV Commentator in ISU sports.

Further sub-paragraphs to be renumbered accordingly.

...

Reason: Avoidance of conflicts of interests, expiry of function of Sports Manager Figure Skating (paragraph 3 b) and f), consistency of rules as far as possible (new paragraph 3.c) and deleting 3.g) and by transferring Article 20/2.e) to Rule 121/3.d).

94. SWEDEN, Figure

To be discussed together with Council Proposal No. 93.

Rule 121, paragraph 3. e)

Members of the Technical Committees, although they are approved as Judges according to the provisions of the relevant Rules in the respective Special Regulations should not, if possible, act as Judges in competitions of ~~any their appropriate Branch~~ discipline. They may act as Referees and Technical Controllers in their appropriate Branch discipline however, provided that they are approved as such, according to the provisions of the respective Special Regulations.

Reason: The Members of each Technical Committee should focus on their discipline and not act as Officials in other disciplines.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor.

The Council refers to its own Proposal No. 93.

95. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 125 paragraphs 3 & 4

Amend as follows:

3. Conduct of Officials, Office Holders, Competitors, Coaches and others

Any Official on the ISU list as published in an ISU Communication who learns of improper or irregular conduct or proposals concerning Officials (Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Judges, Data & Replay Operators, Starters, Competitors Stewards) and related personnel (Result Service Providers, timekeepers and others) or activities while on site at an event must immediately report the details to the Referee and the ISU Representative if one is present on site, or if one is not present on site, to the highest ranking Office Holder present, i.e. President, Vice President(s), ISU Council members in order of their election, Director General, ~~Sport Manager Figure Skating (for Figure Skating events only)~~ and Sports Directors of the corresponding Branch, TC Chair of the respective discipline, TC members of the respective discipline in the order of their election) and, if not yet on site of the event, to the President of the ISU. Such report must be urgently submitted in writing and, to effect immediate remedial actions, before the end of the competition.

On site of the event, the Referee and the ISU Representative (or highest ranking Office Holder present), upon receipt of the report, must confer immediately with the President if present or attainable by phone. The Referee and ISU Representative, if possible after consultation with the President, are empowered to take promptly all reasonable and necessary actions to protect the integrity of ISU officiating. The Chair of the concerned Technical Committee will be informed as soon as reasonably practicable.

4. Compliance with ISU Rules and the Code of Ethics

Office Holders, Officials, Members, Remunerated Persons and Voluntary Persons, and eligible Skaters and ~~remunerated~~ Coaches, participating in any ISU activity shall comply with any applicable statutes, position descriptions, ethical declarations and codes of conduct prescribed by the Council. Failure to comply may result in sanctions imposed by the Disciplinary Commission in accordance with Article 24 of the Constitution.

...

Reason: Coverage of all respective persons, expiry of function of Sports Manager Figure Skating.

96. ISU COUNCIL

E and Rule 126 paragraphs 1, 3, 4 & 7

Amend as follows:

E. ~~The~~ Olympic Winter Games – Rule 126

1. Skating Competitions at the Olympic Winter Games

The skating competitions in the Olympic Winter Games are International Competitions and not ISU Championships and are subject to the provisions of the Olympic Charter and its Bye-Laws and ISU Regulations governing such competitions. In case of conflicts between the Olympic Charter and its Bye-laws on the one hand and the ISU Regulations on the other, the Olympic Charter and its Bye-laws shall prevail. In accordance with Rule 121, all Referees, Assistant Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators, Judges, Starters and Competitors Stewards acting in the Olympic Winter Games must be designated ISU. A Judge may serve in not more than two (2) ~~events~~ disciplines.

...

3. For ~~the~~ Speed Skating ~~events~~ the provisions of Rules 202, 206, 209, 215 and 241 must be observed.

4. For ~~the~~ Figure Skating ~~events~~ the provisions of Rules 400–403 must be observed.

...

7. Only Competitors from ISU Members may participate in the Skating competitions ~~events~~ of the Olympic Winter Games.

Reason: Consistency of terminology, expiry of function of Sports Manager Figure Skating.

97. SWEDEN, Figure

Rule 127, paragraph 4.

Within fourteen days after the deadline of Member applications, the ISU Office will inform all Applicants of which Members who has applied for the respective Championships.

Within seven days of making its decision the Council must inform the applicant Members of the outcome.

Reason:

It's important to have an open and transparent bidding process for Championships to avoid rumours and speculations etc.

Often it's important to the applicant city to know who they are competing against and as a Member it's difficult to co-operate with the city when such information is not available.

Council Recommendation: The Council is in principle in favor for this proposal enhancing transparency. However, as implemented already in April 2016, the Council proposes the following wording:

"Within seven days after the deadline for Member applications, the ISU Secretariat shall post a list of all Championships applications (Member and city) on the ISU website and by 31 May of the respective year place a summary of all applications including the basic evaluations made by the respective Event Coordinators & Secretariat on the ISU website. Within seven days of making its decision the Council must inform the applicant Members of the outcome."

98. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 128 paragraph 7 - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

7. In ISU Championships the Organizers shall ~~may~~ hoist the ISU flag during an appropriate ceremony on the opening day.

Reason: Clarity of rule.

99. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 129, paragraph 4

Change to read:

4. The Referees, Assistant Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators, Official Assessment Commission members, Starters and Competitors Stewards for ISU Championships shall be appointed by the President in line with Article 16, paragraph 2.f) of the Constitution.

Reason: Two Competitors Stewards are required.

Council Recommendation:

The Council is in favor for the reason given.

100. NETHERLANDS

Rule 131 – Entries

Amend to read the first sentence as follows:

Entries for all ISU Events and International Competitions must be made electronically, using the ISU Online Entry System (IOES), containing following data:

- Regular entry form
- Declaration form
- Music
- Planned Program
- Passport data

The IOES will automatically validate these data, including a match with the database for ISU Clearances and reject the entry (with a message back to the involved Federation) if one or more data are lacking or incorrect.

Reason: Entries currently take a lot of time and unnecessary paperwork. Having the IOES in place, we can quickly expand its capabilities and streamline our administrative procedures drastically.

Council Recommendation:

The ISU Council is not in favor of this proposal.

The ORS (Online Registration System – this term should be used if included in Regulations) should only be used for entries to ISU Events (JGP, GP, ISU Championships) and not International Competitions. Since this system has only been in activity for a few months, its possibility will be increased for next season, to include declaration forms, passport data and possibly other forms. Music files should not be included into the ORS as this would make the ISU the sole responsible entity for the music and would also potentially be considered as a music sharing platform as the ISU would have to make the music available to each Organizer. This could put us at risk of litigation since the ISU is not the one who has the rights to the use of the music; the Skaters or national federation are.

Furthermore to indicate these items in the Rules, would restrict the evolution of this System.

101. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 131 paragraph c) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

Entries

...

- c) All Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating Competitors and their Members shall:
- declare that they understand and will comply with ISU Communication 1625, titled "Uniforms/Racing Suits/ Clothing" (or any update of this Communication) and recognize that negative consequences will result from non-compliance with the ISU requirements;
 - declare that they understand and will comply with ISU General Regulations Rule 102 paragraph 6.b) regarding the display and non-display of trademarks during Events, including, but not limited to, award ceremonies.

...

Reason: Correction of typing error. Drafting.

102. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 133, paragraphs d) and f)

Amend to read:

d) World Speed Skating Team Pursuit Champions or Ladies World Junior Speed Skating Team Pursuit Champions for _ (year of the Event), and (effective from 2019) World Speed Skating Team Sprint Champions or Ladies World Speed Skating Team Sprint Champions for _ (year of the Event).

...

f) World Junior Speed Skating Team Pursuit Champions or Ladies World Junior Speed Skating Team Pursuit Champions for _ (year of the Event), and World Junior Speed Skating Team Sprint Champions or Ladies World Junior Speed Skating Team Sprint Champions for _ (year of the Event).

Reason: Team Sprint has been an official event at the World Junior Championships following decisions at the 2014 Congress. The event continues to develop successfully. It is popular among the athletes, attractive to watch and an increasing number of national teams compete in the ISU Junior World Cup. This positive development should be reflected by also awarding World Champion titles.

For the seniors the Team Sprint event has become an official event in the World Cup program, and a decision now to make it a World Championships event from 2019 would certainly lead to further interest and development. It is therefore proposed to use the same approach as for the Mass start event, which was introduced in the World Cup program in the season 2011/12, and the 2012 ISU Congress decided to make it a World Championships event from 2015.

Council Recommendation:

The Council is in favor. The reason given is indeed correct, it would follow the same principles as decided for Team Pursuit and Mass Start in the previous Congresses.

103. NETHERLANDS

Rule 134, paragraph 3e

Amend to read:

In Short Track Speed Skating at ~~European Short Track and~~ World Junior Short Track Speed Skating Championships, the Referee shall present, after completion of each distance (excluding 3000m), the ISU small gold, silver, and bronze medals to the winners, and second and third placed Skaters respectively, but no anthem shall be played or flags hoisted.

NB. By deleting the words "European Short Track Championships" in Rule 134 paragraph 3e, the European Championships will automatically be included in Rule 134 paragraph 3c and 3d, describing the full, regular medal ceremony.

Reason: The medal ceremony of the European Championships Short Track Speed Skating should be the same as those of all other ISU Championships, as described in Rule 134 paragraph 3c and 3d. This includes the awarding of regular gold, silver, and bronze medals, the playing of the national anthem, and the hoisting of the flags. The ISU Congress of 2014 adopted the rule that, from the 2016/2017 season, the winners of the 500, 1000, 1500, and relay distances, and the winners of the overall classification at the European Championships, should be awarded the official title. This calls for a regular and worthy medal ceremony.

Council Recommendation:

The Council is in favor. Proposal 103 of the 2014 Agenda was accepted in Dublin.

104. FRANCE

Rule 134 – Medals

Paragraph 4, (new) **ISU Championships number of medals awarded and prize money distributed**

In consideration of the budget, to have an assessment voted by the ISU Council members at the Council meeting following each ISU Congress in order to have all prize money distributed to Skaters and teams starting at the next ISU Championships (World, junior World, European and four continents) is the same across all five ISU sports.

To make this proposal related to prize money awarded to Skaters credible, a similar number of medals should be awarded in the two main branches of speed and figure starting at the next ISU Championships. The five technical committees will be responsible for determining that the medals are distributed evenly.

Reason: Believing that on the same family, one medal to be worth more than another is unfair for some athletes and keeping in consideration the unity of the ISU, the total number of medals awarded should be the same in speed and figure.

Council Recommendation: The Council is not in favor as the notoriety and economic impact of each discipline is different. It would not be realistic to ignore this fact and create serious and unjust disruptions within the disciplines and Championships that currently are most popular and lucrative.

105. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 137 paragraph 9 c) - DRAFTING

Amend as follows:

9. ISU Championships

For ISU Championships the ISU must pay the travel expenses of:

...

h) In Short Track Speed Skating for ISU Championships additionally all ~~necessary~~ Competitors Stewards appointed by the President.

...

12. For ISU Championships single bedrooms ~~should~~ shall be provided for Referees, Judges, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, OAC members, Starters and Competitors Stewards where possible, but in no circumstances shall these Officials be required to share accommodations with ~~Competitors~~ Skaters.

...

Reason: Clarity of rules, consistency of wording.

106. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 138 paragraph 1 a), b) c) i)

Amend as follows:

1. Olympic Winter Games

For the skating competitions of the Olympic Winter Games, the ISU will pay the travel, room and meal expenses of the following:

a) The President, the Vice Presidents, the members of the Council, the Director General and, the Sports Directors (as far as not paid by the IOC).

b) The necessary Referees, Assistant Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators, OAC members, Starters and Competitors Stewards appointed by the President (see Article 16, paragraph 2.f) of the Constitution and Rule 126, paragraph 8).

c) Figure Skating Judges named by the participating Members, subject to the following:

i) ~~Judges panels will be drawn from Members in accordance with Rule 402.~~ A Member may name one Judge and one substitute in the discipline/s in which they have been drawn, but considering limitations in available accommodation, not more than three Judges in total;

...

Reason: Consistency of rule and avoidance of redundancy.

107. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 139, paragraph 1

Amend as follows

1. Anti-Doping Rules and Anti-Doping Procedures

Reason: Drafting – more precise wording

108. FINLAND, Figure

Rule 140, new paragraph 1.a) (with subsequent renumbering of existing paragraphs)

The Organizers must acquaint themselves with and follow the detailed guidelines and memorandums published by the ISU concerning medical services at competitions.

Reason: To make it clear that specific documents concerning medical issues are published by the ISU and must be followed by the Members.

Council Recommendation: The Council is in favor for the reason given.

109. ISU COUNCIL

Rule 140 paragraph 1 b) & c), 5 i)

Amend as follows:

1. On-site medical services

...

b) e) In Short Track Speed Skating competitions, emergency medical personnel and an appropriately trained medical doctor must be present at the rink-side and an ambulance must be present during all scheduled practice sessions and competitions.

c) ~~b)~~ For medical services at the different hotel(s) there must be a physician available on short notice (10-15 minutes) at all times.

...

5.

...

c) In addition, upon request of the ~~respective Vice President~~ ISU Representative, the Certificate must be received by the ISU within 72 hours after the notice of withdrawal, and the Member or the Skater must include or attach the following additional information:

...

Reason: Consistency and operability of rules, paragraph 1.b) and 1.c) order exchanged.

General requests for drafting throughout all rules:

“Members” to have added at all places “ISU Members”.

“Skaters” to have written at all places with capital letter at the beginning.

II. PROPOSALS FOR THE SPEED SKATING SECTION

A. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SPEED SKATING

110. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 201, paragraph 1

Amend to read:

World Allround Championships

1. The distances for the World Allround Championships are for Ladies 500, 3000, 1500 and 5000 meters and for Men 500, 5000, 1500 and 10000 meters. For Ladies 500 and 3000 meters are skated on the same day, 1500 and 5000 meters on the next day. For Men 500 and 5000 meters are skated on the same day, 1500 and 10000 meters on the next day.

Reason: This amendment would give the option to co-organize the World Allround Championships and the World Sprint Championships in one tournament over three or four days (cf. reasons given for proposal to amend Rule 107 regarding frequency of ISU World Speed Skating Championships) with a mixed daily program of sprint and allround distances, while maintaining the tradition that each of the World Allround Championships will be determined by results from 4 distances skated over two consecutive days.

111. SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 201, add new paragraph 1 and renumber subsequent paragraphs

During one season maximum three ISU Championships for Speed Skating will be held, one of these Championship should be the ISU World Junior Speed Skating Championship.

Reason: Today five international speed skating championships are held per season. This may dilute the interest of the championships among Skaters, spectators and media. Comparing with other sports it is more common to have international championships with longer intervals (2-4 years). The reason for keeping the ISU World Junior Speed Skating Championship every season is the importance of this competition in development of younger athletes. With fewer championships per season the importance of the World Cup competitions will also increase.

112. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 201, paragraphs 2, 3 & 4,

Amend paragraph 2 and delete paragraphs 3 and 4:

2. The European Championships are organized annually over three days with two alternating programs. In the seasons before and after the seasons of Olympic Winter Games the European Championships will be held with competitions in Allround and Sprint combination events. In the other seasons the European Championships will be held with competitions in single distance events and team events.

a) Championships format: Allround and Sprint Combination events.

- i) The distances for the Allround Combination are for Ladies 500m, 3000m, 1500m and 5000m, and for Men 500m, 5000m, 1500m and 10000m.
- ii) The distances for the Sprint Combination are for Ladies and Men 500m and 1000m. Both for Ladies and for Men both distances are skated twice, and both distances shall be skated during the same day.
- iii) The daily program shall be as follows:
 - Day 1:
 - 500m and 3000 m Allround Ladies
 - first 500m and 1000m Sprint Men
 - Day 2:
 - 1500m and 5000m Allround Ladies,
 - first 500m and 1000m Sprint Ladies
 - second 500m and 1000m Sprint Men
 - 500m and 5000m Allround Men
 - Day 3:
 - second 500m and 1000m Sprint Ladies
 - 1500m and 10000m Allround Men.

b) Championships format: Single Distance events and team events.

- i) Individual events for Ladies: 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Mass start
- ii) Individual events for Men: 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Mass start
- iii) Team events for Ladies with national teams of 3 Skaters each:
 - Team Pursuit race over 6 laps
 - Team Sprint race over 3 laps.
- iv) Team events for Men with national teams of 3 Skaters each:
 - Team Pursuit race over 8 laps
 - Team Sprint race over 3 laps.
- v) The daily program will be as follows:
 - Day 1: 500m and 1500m, Ladies and Men

- Day 2: 1000m Ladies and Men, 3000m Ladies, 5000m Men
 - Day 3: Team Pursuit, Team Sprint and Mass Start, Ladies and Men
- c) The order of races for each day will be decided by the ISU Sports Director in consultation with the organizer and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

Reason: The 2014 Congress established a new format (yet to be defined with necessary details) of the European Championships, based on a program including both a single distances format and an Allround format. Although a similar mixed program has been adopted for the World Junior Championships, it will probably be very difficult to implement for a senior Championships, where the degree of specialization is higher and where a more limited participation is needed to make the Event as a whole attractive for spectators and media coverage. With reference to the reasons given for the proposal for amendment of Rule 107 (sequence and frequency of ISU Speed Skating Championships) SSTC recommends to have an alternating cycle for the European Championships as well as for the World Championships, but with opposite cycles: In the season with an Allround and Sprint Combination format for the European Championships, the World Speed Skating Championships will be held with a single distances format, and vice versa. This will raise the awareness and interest of the European Championships, as it will not be seen mainly as a prelude to a soon forthcoming World Championship with the same format. It also honors the intention of the 2014 Congress decision, to make the European Championships relevant for the whole spectrum of Speed Skaters, by including a program also for sprinters on an annual basis.

113. NETHERLANDS

Rule 201, paragraph 4

Amend to read:

4.b) ii) Allround combination for Men over 4 distances: 500, 3000, 1500 and 5000 meters;

4.b) iv) Single distance competitions for Men: 500 (skated twice), 3000, 1500, 5000 meters and mass start race

4.c)

Day	Program
1	Ladies: 500m, 1500m Men: 500m, <u>3000m</u>
2	Ladies: 1000m, 3000m Men: 1500m, 5000m
3	Ladies: 500m (2 nd race), Team Pursuit, Mass start Men: 500m (2 nd race), Team Pursuit, Mass start

Reason: The mens' 1000 m is replaced by the 3000 m at the European Championships. A format that includes the 500, 1500, 3000, and 5000 m can result in a more exciting and fair competition than a format that includes the 1000 or 10 000 m. In the latter case, either sprinters or long-distance specialists will have an advantage in winning the allround title. The format including the 3000 m requires more of the Skater's overall level; it is of less consequence whether they are a sprinter or a long-distance specialist. This is confirmed by independent research conducted with principal component analysis.

114. SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 201, paragraph 4.b i) and ii)

Amend as follows:

i) allround combination for Ladies over 4 distances: 500, 3000, 1500 and 5000 meters (effective as of season 2017/18);

ii) allround combination for Men over 4 distances: 500, 3000, 1500 and 5000 meters (effective as of season 2017/18);

Reason: 3000 m fits better in an allround event than 1000m, which is considered a sprint distance. Despite not being a medal event for men at World Junior Championships the 3000m event have been very interesting both for Skaters and spectators and therefore this distance will add flavour to the allround competition, the same is valid for 3000m ladies at the European Championships and World Allround Championships. Furthermore having an identical program for men and ladies adds more gender equality into the sport.

115. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 201, paragraph 5

Amend to read:

5. The distances for the World Sprint Championships are for Ladies and Men 500 and 1000 meters. Both for Ladies and for Men both distances are skated twice, and on two consecutive days for each gender. On each day the 500m is skated before the 1000m.

Reason: This amendment would give the option to co-organize the World Allround Championships and the World Sprint Championships in one tournament over three days (cf. reasons given for proposal to amend Rule 107 regarding frequency of ISU World Speed Skating Championships) with a mixed daily program of sprint and allround distances,

while maintaining the tradition that each of the World Sprint Championships will be determined by results from 4 races skated over two consecutive days.

116. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 201, paragraph 8 & 9

Amend to read:

8. The events at the World Single Distances Championships are:
 - a) single distance competitions for Ladies: 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m and 5000m, and Mass start race over 16 laps;
 - b) single distance competitions for Men: 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, and 10000m, and Mass start race over 16 laps;
 - c) team competitions for Ladies: Team Pursuit race over 6 laps, and (from season 2018-19) Team Sprint race over 3 laps, for national teams consisting of three Skaters,
 - d) team competitions for Men: Team Pursuit race over 8 laps, and (from season 2018-19) Team Sprint race over 3 laps, for national teams consisting of three Skaters and Team Sprint race over 3 laps for national
9. The World Single Distances Championships are organized over four days. The events will be run according to the following program:

Day	Program
1	Ladies: 3000m, <u>Team Sprint (from 2019)</u> Men: <u>5000m, Team Sprint (from 2019)</u>
2	Ladies: <u>500m, Team Pursuit</u> Men: <u>500m, Team Pursuit</u>
3	Ladies: <u>1000m, 5000 m</u> Men: 1000m, <u>10000m</u>
4	Ladies: 1500m, Mass start Men: <u>1500m</u> , Mass start

The order of the distances for each day will be decided by the ISU Sports Director in consultation with the organizer and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

Reason:

- To include Team Sprint as a Championships event, due to the progress and gained popularity of this event. Waiting until 2019 will further mature the event and make it ready to be a success.
- To change the 500 m format to one decisive race only, as already adopted for the Olympic Winter Games program. This amendment will also give more flexibility for distributing the events over the four days of the Championships.
- To adjust the daily schedules based on the changed 500m format, inclusion of Team Sprint as a new event, and experiences gained with present and previous schedules.

117. HUNGARY

Rule 201, paragraph 9

Amend to read:

The World Single Distances Championships are organized over four days. The events will be run according to the following program:

Day	Program
1	Ladies: 3000m <u>Men: 5000m</u>
2	Ladies: 1000m, 5000m <u>Men: 1000m, 10 000m</u>
3	Ladies: 500m (2 races) Ladies: Team Pursuit <u>Men: 500m (2 races)</u> <u>Men: Team Pursuit</u>
4	Ladies: 1500m Ladies: Mass start <u>Men: 1500m</u> Men: Mass start

Reason: Traditionally, at competitions for the allround combination a short and a long distance is scheduled for each day. In case a male athlete has qualified to more than one distance, he has to participate at Team Pursuit right after the day when he skated 10 000m. We propose 5000m for the first competition day and 10 000m for the second competition

day, as this is traditional for allround competitions. Scheduling 500m races and Team Pursuit for both Ladies and Men for the same competition day would increase the attractiveness of the event. The most popular races, 500m and 1500m would be held on consecutive days, these with the also quite popular Team Pursuit and Mass start would promote Speed Skating in a more effective way.

118. NETHERLANDS

Rule 201, paragraph 9

Amend to read:

The World Single Distances Championships are organized over four days. The events will be run according to the following program:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Program</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>Ladies: 3000m</u> <u>Men: 5000m</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>Ladies: 500m</u> <u>Men: 500m</u> <u>Ladies: Team Pursuit</u> <u>Men: Team Pursuit</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>Ladies: 5000m</u> <u>Men: 10 000m</u> <u>Ladies: 1000m</u> <u>Men: 1000m</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>Ladies: 1500m</u> <u>Men: 1500m</u> <u>Ladies: Mass start</u> <u>Men: Mass start</u>

Reason: Several Coaches and Skaters are critical of the current program, partly because the men's 10 km race takes place on the first day of competition. This proposal can contribute to a more balanced program for the Skaters.

119. NORWAY, Speed

Rule 201, paragraph 9

Amend as follows:

World Championships Week

9. The World Allround Championships, the World Sprint Championships and the World Single Distances Championships are organized as one event over ten days. The events will be run according to the following program:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Events</u>
<u>Friday</u>	<u>World Sprint Championships day 1: 500 m and 1000 m Ladies and Men</u>
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>World Sprint Championships day 2: 500 m and 1000 m Ladies and Men</u>
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>World Single Distances Championships 5000 m Men, 3000 m Ladies</u>
<u>Monday</u>	<u>World Single Distances Championships Team Pursuit Ladies and Men</u>
<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>World Single Distances Championships 1500 m Ladies and Men</u>
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>World Single Distances Championships 500 m Ladies and Men</u>
<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Resting day</u>
<u>Friday</u>	<u>World Single Distances Championships 1000 m Ladies and Men</u> <u>World Single Distances Championships Mass start Ladies and Men</u>
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>World Allround Championships day 1:</u> <u>500 m Ladies and Men</u> <u>3000 m Ladies and 5000 m Men</u>
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>World Allround Championships day 2 and World Single Distances Championships</u> <u>5000 m Ladies and 10000 m Men:</u> <u>1500 m Ladies and Men</u> <u>5000 m Ladies* and 10 000 m Men*</u>

*The 5000 m Ladies and the 10000 m Men are both the final event of the World Allround Championships and the World Single Distances Championships. The events should be run according to these guidelines:

The first four pairs are not participating in the World Allround Championships, but are qualified for the 5000 m Ladies and 10000 m Men World Single Distances Championships.

The final four pairs consist of the eight best Skaters in the World Allround Championships. These Skaters are both competing for the World Allround Championships title and the World Single Distances Championships 5000 m Ladies and 10000 m Men.

The events Monday to Friday can be run in the evening due to short duration of the events.

Reason: Most other winter sports organize their world championships as one event (for example Biathlon, Alpine skiing, Nordic skiing) in order to make this the main annual/bi annual event both for athletes and the spectators. As a consequence, these world championships creates a lot of attention for the sports in the media. It will also open up for more weekends to organize World Cups and will make these events more attractive, both for spectators and sponsors. Subsequently this should create more income all together and since there will be fewer organizers of championships, extra allowances can be directed to organizers of world cup events.

120. POLAND, Speed

Rule 201, paragraph 9

Amend as follows:

9. The World Single Distances Championships are organized over four days. The events will be run according to the following program:

Day	Program
1	Ladies: 3000 m Men: <u>5000 m</u>
2	Ladies: 1000m, 5000 m Men: <u>1000 m, 10 000 m</u>
3	Ladies: 500m (2 races), Team Pursuit Men: <u>500 m (2 races) Team Pursuit</u>
4	Ladies: 1500 m Mass Start Men: <u>1500 m Mass Start</u>

Reason: This proposal can contribute to a more balanced program for the Skaters.

121. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 201, paragraph 10 - DRAFTING

Amend paragraph 10 as follows:

Delete this as a paragraph under Rule 201 and move to Technical Rule 278 Quartet starts.

Reason: Drafting matter, all matters related to the use of quartet starts should be found in one place.

122. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 202 paragraph 2

Amend paragraph 2 to read (by deleting last sentence):

2. The program of the Speed Skating races at the Olympic Winter Games shall be drawn up by the Member concerned. The program must be approved by the Council of the ISU in consultation with the IOC and the local Organizing Committee of the Olympic Winter Games.

Reason: The Olympic program extends over 2 weeks, and various options to create an optimal schedule should be available. As a new event there are several reasons to have the Mass start at the end of the program, but this may be seen differently for the future.

123. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 203, paragraph 3

Amend paragraph 3 to read (by deleting last sentence):

3. The width of the inner competition lane shall be 4 meters. The width of the outer competition lane must be at least 4 m.

Reason: The deleted sentence gives an unnecessary restriction on the layout of the track. The track sizes referred to are all listed in the track examples presented in Technical Rules 226 and 227.

124. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 208, paragraph 5

Amend to read:

5. a) The maximum number of Competitors in each event of the European Championships are the same as the maximum number of Competitors for the same events in World Championships, see Rule 208, paragraphs 3b), 4a) and 6a).

The maximum number of Competitors from one ISU Member in each event of the European Championships is the same as the maximum number of Competitors for the same events in World Championships, see Rule 208, paragraphs 3a), 4a) and 6a).

b) Entry quotas for each event will be allocated to European ISU Members according to the qualification system applied for the corresponding events in World Championships, see Rule 208, paragraphs 3, 4 and 6. The dedicated qualifying competitions will be announced in an ISU Communication.

c) When the Championships are organized in the format with a single distance and team events program, the maximum number of entries for an ISU Member will be 10 Skaters per gender.

- d) Each ISU Member may enter a maximum of one (1) substitute for each event.

Reason: To present necessary details for implementing a new format of the European Championships, as presented in the SSTC proposal for amendment of Rule 201, paragraph 2. The proposal is based on copying the rules for the corresponding World Championships. This will ensure a consistent approach for the ISU Championships. To put a cap on the organizational costs, it is proposed to limit the total number of participants per Member in the single distances and team events format, in a similar way as in the rules for the Olympic Winter Games.

125. NETHERLANDS

Rule 208, paragraph 5

Amend to read:

- a) In the European Championships, each ISU Member may enter a maximum of 5 Ladies and 5 Men. A maximum of 2 Competitors per Member may be entered for all four individual distances, making them eligible to compete in both the allround event and the single distance event.
A maximum of 1 Competitor (distance specialist) per Member may be entered in each individual distance. This Competitor is eligible to compete only in the respective single distance event(s). Consequently, a maximum of 3 Competitors per Member may be entered per distance: a maximum of 1 distance specialist and 2 Competitors that also compete in the allround event.
For the mass start, a maximum of 2 Competitors may be entered. For the Team Pursuit, a maximum of 3 Competitors may be entered. For each event, substitutes may be named among the maximum of 5 Competitors entered for the Championships.
- b) The maximum number of Competitors in the Mass Start competition is 28 ladies and 28 men. The maximum number of teams competing in the Team Pursuit is 8 in each category (based on the ISU World Cup ranking).
- c) Each Member has the right to enter 1 Competitor for the allround event. Each Member has the right to enter a second Competitor for the allround event in case that Member had one Competitor in the top 12 in the final classification of the allround event in the same preceding Championships.
- d) Each Member may enter 1 Competitor for an individual distance provided that Member had one Competitor in the top 12 in the final classification of the respective distance in the same preceding Championships.
- e) The organizing Member is always allowed to enter one Competitor in the allround event, and one in each individual distance.
- f) All Competitors must meet required qualification times, to be determined in advance of the competition (see Rule 208, paragraph 2).

NB.

The following will apply to the men's competition in the first edition of the new European Championships (2017). The selection of Competitors in the 3000 m race will be based on the results (top 12) of the 1500 m and 5000 m of the previous year (2016). Members with the highest qualifier on one of the two lists will be granted one entry until a maximum of 12 entries have been awarded. (In case of equal ranking of two Skaters on one of the lists, the Skater with the higher ranking on the other list is advanced. In case this is not decisive, the Skater with the higher ranking in the 5000 m is always advanced.)

The following will apply to the ladies' competition in the first edition of the new European Championships (2017). The selection of Competitors in the 1000 m race will be based on the results (top 12) of the 500 m and 1500 m of the previous year (2016). Members with the highest qualifier on one of the two lists will be granted one entry until a maximum of 12 entries have been awarded. (In case of equal ranking of two Skaters on one of the lists, the Skater with the higher ranking on the other list is advanced. In case this is not decisive, the Skater with the higher ranking in the 5000 m is always advanced.)

Reason: The current rule needs to be adjusted to suit the new format for the European Championships that was determined at the 2014 ISU Congress. This proposal creates the opportunity for Members to bring both allround Skaters and distance specialists to the Championships. These rules can be to the advantage of Members with much potential as well as Members with less potential.

126. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 208, paragraph 6,

Amend item a) and b) as follows:

6. a) The number of Competitors in the World Sprint Championships is limited to 28 Ladies and 28 Men. The maximum number of Competitors from one ISU Member is three (3) per gender;
- b) The entry quotas for the ISU Members in the World Sprint Championships are determined partly by results from the preceding Championships, and partly by results in a special qualifying event held on the occasion of a World Cup Competition during the same season. The allocation of entry quotas will be made as follows:
- i) ISU Members will be pre-allocated quota places (but maximum 2 quota places) according to their number of Skaters placed among the 16 best in the preceding Championships. The hosting Member will be pre-allocated a quota place also in the case that the Member had no Skater placed among the 16 best in the preceding Championship;

- ii) Remaining quota places are allocated to ISU Members based on a Special Qualification Ranking List (SQRL) formed by the combined results (total points in accordance with Rule 265, paragraph 3) of Skaters competing in both 500m and 1000m in the World Cup Competition designated as a qualifying event. For ISU Members that have been pre-allocated quota places based on results from the preceding Championships, their best ranked Skaters from the SQRL corresponding to the number of these pre-allocated quota places, will be disregarded for the further allocation of quota places;
- iii) When 28 quota places thus have been allocated, a numbered reserve list of quota places is defined based on the SQRL. This reserve list will be applied to reallocate quota places in the case that some ISU Members will not use all their achieved quota places. In the reallocation process, priority will be given to ISU Members that have not yet been allocated a quota place.

Reason: Experiences with the new quota qualification system for the World Sprint Championships show that the 32 quota places are seldom fully used. By reducing the number of participants to 28, it can be expected that the full number quota places will be accepted or successfully reallocated. With a reduction in the overall number of competitors from 32 to 28, it is not necessary to limit the entries for the last distance (only 24 Skaters, according to current rules). An amendment of Technical Rule 242, paragraph 2, is proposed to this effect.

127. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 208, paragraph 9

Amend to read:

9. The final entry shall include the names of the Competitors and available substitutes, as well as the names of the team leader, Coaches and other team staff for whom the ISU Member is requesting accreditation for the Championships. The amount of available accreditations for team staff will be restricted according to guidelines issued by ISU. The final entry must be communicated to the organizing committee not later than 12:00 (noon) local time (at the site of the Championships), three (3) days before the first day of the Championships. For post entries Rule 115, paragraph 6, of the General Regulations applies.

Reason: In accordance with recently established accreditation policy for ISU Speed Skating Events.

128. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 210, paragraph 2

Delete last sentence and amend to read:

2. For ISU Championships and Olympic Winter Games the Ladies' events and the Men's events shall each have a separate team of Referees and Starters. Each team consists of: one Referee, one Assistant Referee and one or two Starters.

Reason: If World Sprint and World Allround Championships would remain as separately organized Championships, it is considered sufficient with one Starter per gender.

The deleted sentence refers to the composition of the Ice Commission, and referred to Technical Rule 229. This is therefore not necessary to be included here.

129. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 217, paragraphs 2, 3 & 4 - DRAFTING

Delete paragraphs by moving to Technical Rule 255 with redrafting.

Reason: These paragraphs deal with purely technical matters, and should belong to the Technical Rules. Some redrafting is necessary when integrating these paragraphs in Rule 255.

130. SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 217, paragraph 5

Add new sub-paragraph 5 (Rule 255, paragraph 5 to be adjusted accordingly):

The Starter should disqualify the Skater committing a false start.

Reason: Today one false start is accepted per pair but the second false start will cause a disqualification. The opportunity of having trial starts gives the Skater a possibility to practice the starting procedure with its starter. Today few Skaters take this opportunity although the Skaters that actually practice their starting procedure in the trial starts rarely commit a false start. Other benefit of not accepting false starts includes a better competition rhythm, a more solid time schedule for Skaters, spectators and TV/media.

131. SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 217, paragraph 6

Add new sub-paragraph 6:

The Starter may disqualify a Skater after the Skaters have finished their race.

Reason: The referee can disqualify a Skater after the completion of the race and this is the practise today. The referee has colleagues and possibly replay of TV to support the decision. If the signal of a false start from the starter for some reason is not received by the Skater the Skater will complete the race and the starter has no opportunity to declare false

start afterwards. The starter may have a monitor at the starting position with the ability to review the start procedure. This gives the starter the opportunity to support its decision.

132. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 220, paragraphs 2 & 3 - DRAFTING

Delete paragraphs by moving to Technical Rules 250 and 265, respectively.

Reason: These paragraphs deal with purely technical matters related to manual time-keeping procedures and results and ranking principles. They should therefore belong to the Technical Rules and be reworded as necessary.

133. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 221, paragraphs 1.a), b), c) & d),

Amend each sub-paragraphs as follows:

1. The following set of World Records will be registered by the ISU:
 - a) For Men over distances of 500, 1000, 1500, 3000, 5000 and 10 000 meters and for the combined result of 2 x 500 meters (only from competitions where the final result of the 500 m is determined by the total time after 2 races); for the total number of points over 4 distances in one and the same competition: Allround combination 500, 5000, 1500, 10 000 meters; Allround combination 500, 3000, 1500, 5000 meters; and Sprint combination 500, 1000, 500, 1000 meters; for National teams: for Team Pursuit races over 8 laps, for Team Sprint races over 3 laps;

Reason: From the development of the Team Sprint event it is justified to recognize World Records in this event. This should apply to seniors & juniors, Ladies and Men.

134. NETHERLANDS

Rule 221, paragraphs 1.a) and 1.b)

Amend to read:

1. The following set of World Records will be registered by the ISU:

- a) For Men over distances of 500, 1000, 1500, 3000, 5000 and 10 000 meters and for the combined result of 2 x 500 meters (only from competitions where the final result of the 500 m is determined by the total time after 2 races); for the total number of points over 4 distances in one and the same competition: Allround combination 500, 5000, 1500, 10 000 meters; Allround combination 500, 3000, 1500, 5000 meters; and Sprint combination 500, 1000, 500, 1000 meters; for National teams: for Team Pursuit races over 8 laps; for the distance skated within one hour (World hour record).
- b) For Ladies over distances of 500, 1000, 1500, 3000 and 5000 meters, and for the combined result of 2 x 500 meters (only from competitions where the final result of the 500 m is determined by the total time after 2 races); for the total number of points over 4 distances in one and the same competition: Allround combination 500, 3000, 1500, 5000 meters; Allround combination 500, 1500, 1000, 3000 meters; and Sprint combination 500, 1000, 500, 1000 meters; for National teams: for Team Pursuit races over 6 laps; for the distance skated within one hour (World hour record).

Reason: Seeing Skaters battling with themselves, the time, and the elements, on skates, is a beautiful thing to see.

- The hour record has a long history: it has existed since 1888. In that first year, Charles Tebbutt of Great Britain skated 22,591 meters in the hour. Currently, the men skate approximately 42,000 meters within this time frame. In the past 125 years, Skaters from several different nations, such as FRA, GBR, GER, ITA, NED, and USA have set a world record. Competitions were organized in many places, including Calgary, Chamonix, Davos, Heerenveen, Inzell, and Salt Lake City.
- By officially recognizing the hour record, and thereby making it the ISU World hour record, the competition will gain cachet and status. Speed Skating could get positive publicity and attention worldwide (for instance, think of the interest in the World hour record in cycling).

135. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 221, paragraph 1c),

Amend to read:

- c) For Junior Men over distances of 500, 1000, 1500, 3000 and 5000 meters and for the combined result of 2 x 500 meters (only from competitions where the final result of the 500 m is determined by the total time after 2 races); for the total number of points over 4 distances in one and the same competition: Allround combination 500, 3000, 1500, 5000 meters; Allround combination 500, 1000, 1500 and 5000 meters, Sprint combination 500, 1000, 500, 1000 meters; for National teams: for Team Pursuit races over 8 laps;

Reason: The current (since 2015) allround format of the World Junior Championships should be recognized as a World record event.

136. NETHERLANDS

Rule 221, paragraph 2

Insert new sub-paragraph n) with the following text:

In addition to paragraph 2.a) to 2.g), the following applies for the world hour record. The start takes place at the 1000 m finish line. During a record attempt, no other Skaters are allowed on the rink. When the hour is nearly passed, the jury

will go to the rink in order to determine the exact position of the Skater after precisely one hour. The race may take place when the conditions for recognition have been verified by the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee. One or more Skaters may attempt to set a new record during the occasion. The attempt should be registered with the ISU in advance, in accordance with Rule 110.

Reason: Additional rules for the Dutch proposal regarding the implementation of an official ISU World hour record.

137. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 222, paragraph 1

Amend to read:

1. A World Cup for Ladies and Men will be organized as an ISU Event under the responsibility of the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee. Rule 208, paragraphs 8 and 9, apply for the entry process. However, different entry deadlines may apply, if so stated in ISU Communications or Event announcements.

Reason: In accordance with established practice and due to the status of the Speed Skating World Cup as an ISU Event.

138. NETHERLANDS

Rule 223, paragraph 1. c)

Amend to read:

c) In ISU Championships and ISU Events Skaters of the same national team (i.e. Competitors entered by the same ISU Member) must wear racing uniforms with identical design, which display the name of the country or its official ISU abbreviation. The name of the Skater may be displayed near the name of the country. (See also General Regulations, Rule 102, paragraph 6). Effective as of season 2018/2019: The only exception is the Speed Skating World Cup. In this ISU Event, each Member is free to decide whether the Skaters of the same national team (i.e. Competitors entered by the same ISU Member) wear racing uniforms with identical or different designs, which display the name of the country or its official ISU abbreviation. The name of the Skater may be displayed near the name of the country;

Reason: All uniforms should identify each person's nation clearly. Within this framework, each ISU member may decide whether their Skaters will wear identical uniforms or different (color) designs. Allowing Skaters from the same national team (entered by the same ISU member) to wear different uniforms in the Speed Skating World Cup creates several opportunities:

- It will be possible to distinguish so that Skaters may be more easily recognized. For instance, Olympic champions, World Champions, or National Champions may have something added to their apparel, such as emblems.
- ISU members will have more possibilities concerning marketing and sponsorships. Uniforms allow for prominent exposure for sponsors. This amendment will give sponsors the opportunity to display their identity through the uniforms more noticeably. The current situation permits them visibility through a logo exclusively, whereas the amendment would generate the possibility to show branding through color and design as well. This subject is specifically relevant when a nation has more than one team (e.g. a ladies' and men's team) or individuals with different sponsors. Moreover, this adjustment could make it more desirable for (internationally oriented) brands to sponsor Skaters from several different nations. In short, the possibilities concerning marketing and sponsorship are improved. The global professionalization of the sport, as well as the increasing need for financial resources, demands such an alteration. Eventually, sponsors' contributions will allow investments in facilities, which will be beneficial both for Skaters and for the sport in general.

139. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 223, paragraphs 3-7 - DRAFTING

Delete paragraphs and move to Technical Rules.

Reason: Drafting matter: These rules are of a technical nature, and the consequence of violations will be the same as when racing rules are violated. To be redrafted, and placed in the vacant Rule 279 of the Technical Rules section of the Rule book.

B. TECHNICAL RULES SPEED SKATING

140. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 228, paragraphs 1 and 2

Amend to read:

1. Measures must be taken to protect the safety of the Skaters against accidents. The Referee has to review and approve such measures before the competition starts. During warmup and training sessions Skaters and Coaches are responsible to act consciously in order to reduce risks of accidents.

2. The demarcation of the skating track and racing lanes by fixed stakes is not permitted. Fixed installations or objects should be at least 3 meters away from the inner demarcation of the skating track.

The organizer of competitions shall provide adequate protection against accidents in situations when Skaters fail to stay inside the skating track (i.e. racing lanes and warmup lanes). On open-air tracks snow may be used for protection, on the condition that the snow is not iced. If a sufficient amount of snow of adequate quality is not available, the use of protection mats (padding) is mandatory, with the following minimum requirements:

a) The design of the mats and the materials used must give an adequate absorption effect when a Skater hits the padding;

b) The surface of the padding should be made of anti-abrasive and water resistant material;

c) The protection mats shall be at least 80 cm high and at least 30 cm thick;

d) Mats must be used in the curves and at least 20 meters onto the straight after the end of each curve;

e) Fixed objects (e.g. fences, benches or poles) within 3 meters from the edge of the ice track, must be protected with adequate padding;

f) The padding must be fixed in such a way that a collision between a Skater and the padding will not in itself create a significant risk for injuries.

Reason: Redrafting for clarification and consistency. Present rule regarding extension of padding beyond the end of the curves (12 m) is not considered adequate as a minimum requirement.

141. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 229, paragraphs 1, 2 & 3

Amend to read:

Ice preparation procedures at ISU Events and Olympic Winter Games

ISU Ice Commission

1. The ISU Ice Commission for the Event shall consist of the Referee(s) and a Representative of the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee (or, when not present, another ISU Representative) or the ISU Technical Delegate. The ISU Ice Commission shall determine the ice preparation procedure in consultation with the technical expert of the ice rink, with the aim to give the participants equal conditions.

2. The team leaders shall be informed about the procedure for ice preparation at the team leaders' meeting before the opening draw. The detailed ice preparation schedule shall be available to team leaders when the start lists are announced (see also Rule 216, paragraph 1 f).

3. The ISU Ice Commission has the right to alter the announced ice preparation schedule. In this case the team leaders will be immediately informed about the changes and the revised schedule.

Reason: Redrafting for clarification on the role of the ISU Ice Commission, and adjustments based on evolving practice at ISU Events.

142. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 239

Amend to read:

1. Before the start of the Competition the organizing committee has the responsibility to hold a meeting for the first draw. The entries of Competitors, the competition schedule, the names of the main officials, the draw for the starting order and the composition of start lists for the first competition day shall be announced at this meeting.

2. a) At ISU Events the Referee(s) shall conduct a team leaders' meeting to be held before the first draw. Each ISU Member that has entered participants for the Competition is required to attend the team leaders' meeting, and can be represented by only one designated team official.

b) At the team leaders' meeting before the first draw the Referee shall be informed by the team leaders of any withdrawals or entries of substitutes, and the final entries for the Competition shall be confirmed. The Referee may then present the grouping of Competitors for the draws or for composition of the start lists;

c) At ISU Events the first draw should be held the day before the first day of competition.

d) For the following competition days it is the duty of the team leaders to inform the Referee of any further withdrawals, entries of substitutes or selection of competitors for team events, according to procedures and deadlines announced by the Organizing committee.

3. a) Each Competitor will be assigned a reference number ("starting number") for use in draw procedures, results processing, etc. ;

b) The Referee will conduct the drawing of pairs. This may be done by a manual draw procedure with the involvement of people in attendance, or by a procedure ("computer draw") using a computer which is programmed to make a random selection among applicable starting numbers;

c) For following competition days the drawing of pairs or composition of start lists will be conducted by the Referee in the presence of the sport expert appointed by the organizing committee (Rule 210, paragraph 1 k) and (for ISU Events) under the supervision of an ISU representative.

4. Which of the Competitors shall have the inner and which the outer lane shall be decided in the following way:

a) When the composition of pairs is decided by lot, the first drawn Competitor in the pair shall start in the inner lane or (for Team events) at the finishing straight;

b) When the composition of pairs is based on ranks obtained in preceding distances or competitions, the Competitor with the better rank shall be placed first in the pair and accordingly start in the inner lane. However, if the rules for the Competition states that two Competitors from the same country shall not skate in the same pair, Rule 241, paragraph 3 b) applies. For the second race of a distance in competitions where the results are based on the same distance being skated twice, see Rule 242, paragraph 2;

c) If a Competitor withdraws from the start after the draw has taken place and some pairs are rearranged because of this, Rule 245, paragraphs 3 and 4 apply.

Reason: Redrafting for clarification, consistency and completeness. Adjustments based on evolving practice at ISU Events.

143. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 240, paragraph 4 d)

Amend to read:

d) If some Skaters, who have been entitled to compete in the fourth distance, would withdraw from this distance, the Skater(s) may be replaced by the next qualified Skater(s) according to the criteria given in paragraph a) above. If necessary, also positions after the top 8 in the respective ranking lists may be considered to determine the next qualified Skater.

Reason: To clarify how to proceed in special circumstances.

144. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 240, paragraph 5

Amend to read:

For the European Championships the drawing shall be made according to corresponding rules for World Championships using the same competition formats (i.e. Rule 240, paragraphs 1- 4, Rule 240, paragraph 6 or Rule 242).

Reason: This is based on the proposal submitted for changes in the format for European Championships (Rule 201, paragraph 2 and Rule 208, paragraph 5). The drawing rules for the European Championships should remain as close as possible to the rules for the same events in corresponding World Championships.

145. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 240, paragraph 6

Delete subparagraph c)

Reason: This is based on the proposal submitted for changes in the competition format for the 500m event, to be determined by the result of one race only.

146. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 240, paragraph 6

Delete last sentence of subparagraph d) by moving to Rule 265, paragraph 6 (Results of Team Pursuit events).

Reason: The text proposed to be deleted states the rules for classification in the Team Pursuit event, and should therefore be moved to Rule 265, which include classification rules for events and competition programs.

147. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 240, paragraph 6 b)

Amend to read:

b) When a complete ranking list of the participants has been established, the Competitors shall be placed in groups of 6 Competitors each. However, the last group (of the lowest ranked Competitors) shall not consist of less than 6 Skaters. The group with the 6 best ranked Competitors shall be drawn to form the three last pairs, and so on. If there would be an odd number of participants, the first pair shall consist of a single Competitor;

Reason: To be consistent with the proposed changes for the Olympic Winter Games. Draw groups of 6 Skaters (rather than 4) may also create more excitement in the concluding stages of the events.

148. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 240, paragraph 6

Delete subparagraph e), item ii) by moving to Rule 265, paragraph 7 (Results of Mass start races).

Reason: The text proposed to be deleted states the rules for classification in the Mass start event, and should therefore be moved to Rule 265, which include classification rules for events and competition programs.

149. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 241, subparagraph 2 b)

Amend to read:

- b) Based on their individual ranking the entered Competitors are placed in four groups:

GROUP I: The six (6) best ranked Competitors;

GROUP II: The Competitors ranked 7 to 12;

GROUP III: The Competitors ranked 13 to 18;

GROUP IV: The Competitors ranked 19 to 24;

GROUP V: The remaining Competitors.

Reason: Amendments take into account the revised numbers of competitors per event at the Olympic Winter Games, and the rule has been simplified by using the same setup for all individual events (also the longest distance).

150. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 241, paragraph 4

Amend to read:

4. The Team Pursuit event will be organized with a set of elimination phases (quarter-finals, semi-finals, the finals and other placement races), so that the final race will be a deciding race for the Olympic gold and silver medals. For each phase, the races both for Ladies and Men are completed before the next phase of races;

a) The quarter-finals (QF) are skated in a time-trial format, and a time ranking of the competing teams will be determined by the finishing times achieved by the teams. If a team will be overtaken by the other team in the heat, both teams will have to finish the race in order to get a result for this time ranking. In case of a tie (if several teams achieve the same time), the team with the better SOQC rank will be considered as better ranked. The semi-finals (SF), the finals and the placement races will be skated in elimination race format, according to Rule 261, paragraph e);

b) The composition of the heats of the quarter finals will be determined by an open draw between the entered teams;

c) The four fastest teams in the quarter-finals qualify for the semi-finals, while the remaining teams qualify for placement races for the final ranks 5-8. The fastest team from the quarter-finals are denoted QF(1), the second fastest QF (2), etc. The semi-finals will be skated as follows:

First semi-final, SF 1: QF(1) vs. QF(4)

Second semi-final, SF 2: QF(2) vs. QF(3);

d) After the completion of the semi-finals, the 4 teams that did not qualify from the quarter-finals will skate placement races for the final ranks 5-8. At first, a D-final will be skated between the two teams with the slowest times from the quarter-finals to determine final ranks 7 and 8. Thereafter a C-Final will be skated between the two fastest of the teams eliminated at the quarter-finals stage to determine final ranks 5 and 6;

e) The winners of each semi-final will advance to the A-final to compete for the gold and silver medals. The losers of the semi-finals will compete in the B-final for the bronze medal (the loser ending up at rank 4). The B-final will be skated first.

f) The quarter-finals are skated on the first competition day of the respective Team Pursuit event; the semi-finals and all the finals (including placement races) are skated on a following day;

Reason: The change mainly concerns the setup of the first phase (quarter-finals) and the rule for progression from the quarter-finals to semi-finals. Experience from the last two Games show that elimination races based on the fixed set up of quarter-finals based on the SOQC rankings of the team (with the best ranked teams racing against the lowest ranked teams) can have the effect that several quarter-final races are not very competitive. A quarter-final race may appear too much as a "walk-over" for the better ranked team, instead of presenting an exciting race. It is therefore proposed to run the first phase in a time-trial race format, where all teams must fight for a fast time to qualify for the semi-final, and where the time will have an effect also on which opponent the team will get in the semi-final. The time-trial format was used for the first phase of races when Team Pursuit event was introduced in the OWG program in 2006, but then as a qualification for the Quarter-finals. The experience was that four phases was one too many, and the Time-trial phase was deleted as from OWG 2010. The proposal can thus be seen as a return to a concept used in the set-up from OWG 2006, but with the difference that the teams will qualify directly from the time-trial phase to the semi-finals, instead of going through a quarter-final phase based on elimination races. With this qualification process for the semi-finals, where all teams compete against each other, it is more logical to compose the start list based on an open draw than to use the SOQC rank.

Some further adjustments are made for clarification and to allow sufficient flexibility regarding the scheduling of the events within the Olympic competition schedule.

151. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 241, paragraph 5

Add new paragraph:

5. The Mass start event will be organized with an elimination phase (semi-finals) where Competitors qualify for the final and decisive race.

a) The composition of the two semi-finals (SF 1 and SF 2) shall be based on the SOQC ranks of the entered Competitors, as follows:

- The best ranked Competitor will be placed in SF 1, the next ranked Competitor in SF 2, etc.
- However, each semi-final race can have maximum one Competitor from the same ISU Member (NOC). The second ranked Competitor from the same country will therefore have to be placed in a different semi-final than the best ranked Competitor.
- If a Competitor has no SOQC rank, the Competitor will be considered to have the same SOQC rank as the non-competing Skater from the same country with the best SOQC rank.

b) The 8 best ranked Skaters from each semi-final qualify for the Mass start final. In the final the Competitors are given bib numbers (to be worn on helmet covers) as follows: The winner of SF 1 gets bib number 1, the winner of SF 2 gets bib number 2, the second ranked skater of SF 1 gets bib number 3, the second ranked skater of SF 2 gets bib number 4, etc.

Reason: To include necessary details regarding the progression of the Mass start event, based on the format presented to and agreed by IOC.

152. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 242, paragraphs 1 & 2

Amend to read:

1. For the first day's distances in World Sprint Championships the Competitors will be placed in groups, based on their best approved qualifying times on the distance concerned. For composition of groups and drawing of pairs Rule 240, paragraphs 1 and 2 apply.

2. a) In the third and the fourth distance the arrangement of pairs shall be based on the ranking in total points after two and three distances, respectively. If some Competitors are equal in total points, the Competitor with the better time in the first race of the distance concerned is considered to be better ranked. However, the arrangement of pairs for each distance shall be made in such a way that all participants change their starting lanes the second day; i.e. Competitors who started in the inner lane the first day against Competitors who started in the outer lane. The starting order of pairs shall be opposite to the ranking order of the Competitors: The Competitor ranked first in overall points shall skate in the last pair together with the next ranked Competitor, subject to the principle of changed lanes in the second race, and so on;

Reason: This is based on the proposal submitted for reducing the number of Competitors from 32 and 28, and to admit all Competitors also in the last distance (second 1000m). Subparagraph b) and c) can then be deleted. By amendments of the respective rules the draw procedure for the first two distances will be identical for the World Allround and the World Sprint Championships.

153. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 243

Amend to read:

1. For the drawing of pairs, the Competitors will be grouped according to their best approved qualifying times, in groups of 8 Competitors each. The pairs from the group with the best ranked Competitors will be skated last. Competitors representing the same Member should not compete in the same pair. See Rule 241, paragraph 3.

2. Quartet starts shall be used over 3000 meters Ladies and 5000 meters Men.

3. For the Team Pursuit and Team Sprint events the teams shall be seeded based on the ranks of the second best Competitor from the ISU Members concerned in the 1500m event (for Team Pursuit) and the 1000m event (for Team Sprint), respectively. The two best seeded teams shall skate at the end.

4) The Mass start event will be organized based on ISU Technical Rule 253, paragraph 4 b). Final classification will be determined according to Rule 265, paragraph 7:

a) The maximum number of Competitors in the event will be 28. In case of more than 28 entries, entry quotas will be allocated to ISU Members (with a maximum quota of 2 Competitors each) based on the ranking of Skaters from the respective Members in the final classification in the 1500m. At first all Members with Competitors in the 1500m will be allocated one quota place. Then a second quota place will be allocated to Members according to the rankings in the 1500m of the second ranked Skater from the Member.

b) The Competitors line up at the start line in rows of 6 Skaters, based on a random draw.

Reason: Clarifications and adjustments based on established practice and experiences gained with the Mass start event. The use of quartet starts for the long distances should be made mandatory for competition schedule reasons, in accordance with established practice. Text related to classification rules for team events and the Mass start event are moved to Rule 265.

154. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 246

Amend to read:

In a Competition over several distances with one award of prizes, a Competitor has the right to a period of rest of 30 minutes between races. If necessary, the Referee may adjust the starting order of pairs in such a way that the required rest period will be available.

Reason: This clause should apply only to Competitions over several distances. In case a Skater is entered for several distances with independent classification for each distance, the Skater will have to adjust to the time schedule set up for the Competition. If such a rule would apply in general, it would impede certain competition formats, for example elimination races with immediate progression to the next round.

155. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 248, paragraph 1

Amend to read:

1. For automatic timekeeping systems a certificate, issued during the last 12 months, stating the reliability and accuracy of the system shall be presented to the Referee before the competition.

Reason: To be more in accordance with "industry standard"

156. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 253, paragraph 4 b), item vi)

Amend to read:

vi) Competitors overtaken (with one full lap) by the leading Skater or by a specific number of Competitors, as defined in the rules announced for the Competition, must move to the outer part of the race track and abandon the race immediately.

Reason: Clarification, based on experience and "best practice"

157. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 261, paragraph 3

Amend to read:

Team Sprint races

3. Team competitions may be announced as team sprint races. The distance to be skated is a specific number of laps, equal to the number of Skaters in each team. Inner lane demarcation defines the competition track. Cones may be used as additional demarcation.

a) Races may be skated with one team racing alone, or with two teams racing at the same time. Setup for the start will be the same as for Team Pursuit races, with start and finish at the 1000m finishing line and, when two teams are racing, in the opposite position at the crossing straight for the other team.

b) The start procedure is the same as for Team Pursuit. For disqualification see ISU Rule 261, paragraph 3 and allowance of a fresh start see ISU Rule 262, paragraph 2.

c) Each Skater of the competing teams shall wear different identification defining their role in the race. Skater No. 1 in the team should wear no armband; for the next assigned Skaters the colors of the armbands should follow the sequence prescribed for quartet starts (Rule 278, paragraph 3). Rule 223 applies.

d) The first lap is skated with the Skater assigned as No. 1 leading the team, with the other Skaters of the team staying behind. At the end of each lap, the Skater leading the team has to leave to the outer part of the track, and the next assigned Skater has to lead the team during the next lap. The last assigned Skater shall skate the last lap alone and finish the race for the team.

e) Changeover to the next assigned Skater in the team must take place between the beginning of the finishing straight of the team and before the entry to the curve. The beginning and end of the changeover area will be suitably marked (e.g. by cones).

Reason: Clarification that the key principle is that each Skater of the team shall lead the team in one lap each, with the other Skater(s) staying behind, without any further restrictions on their position behind the leading Skater. The description of the rule has also been generalized, so that the event is not restricted to be for teams of 3 Skaters and extend over 3 laps, cf. the 4 laps mixed Team Sprint event at the 2016 Winter Youth Olympic Games.

158. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 265, paragraph 6

Amend to read:

6. a) If the Team Pursuit event is skated with elimination phases, the teams progressing to the next phase will be ranked better in the results than the teams eliminated in the phase. This applies also if a team progressing to the next phase will get an invalid race result (for example DNS, DNF or DQ) in that phase. The winner of the event is the team winning the race in the last phase (final race).

b) If the Team Pursuit event is skated without elimination phases, the results are determined only by the times achieved by the teams.

c) The results of the Team Pursuit events at the Olympic Winter Games are determined according to subparagraph a) above. The winner of the B-final will be ranked as no. 3; the loser of the B-final as rank no. 4. The winner of the C-final will be ranked as no 5; the loser of the C-final as rank no. 6. The winner of the D-final will be ranked as no 7; the loser of the C-final as rank no. 8.

d) The results of the Team Pursuit events at the World Single Distances Championships and at the World Junior Championships are determined according to subparagraph b) above.

Reason: Redrafting for clarification and completeness.

159. SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 265, paragraph 7

Amend to read:

7. a) If a Mass start race is organized with intermediate sprints, the results are determined by the total number of sprint points gained by the Competitors. The remaining Skaters are ranked according to their order of finish. The system for awarding points shall be such that the first three finishers of the final sprint will also gain the top 3 ranks in the results of the race. For further details see Rule 253, paragraph 4 b).

b) For Mass start races that are raced without intermediate sprints, the results are determined solely by the order of finish of the Competitors.

c) The results of the Mass start events at the Olympic Winter Games, at the World Single Distances Championships and at ISU World Cups are determined according to subparagraph a) above, based on the following system for intermediate and final sprints:

- During the race there will be three intermediate sprints in addition to the final sprint. The intermediate sprints will be decided at the finishing line after 4, 8 and 12 laps.
- Points for the sprints will be awarded as follows:
 - Intermediate sprints: First three (3) Skaters will gain: 5 – 3 – 1 points.
 - Final sprint: First three (3) Skaters will gain: 60 – 40 – 20 points.

d) The results of the Mass start events at the World Junior Championships and at ISU Junior World Cups are determined according to subparagraph a) above, based on the following system for intermediate and final sprints:

- During the race there will be one intermediate sprint in addition to the final sprint. The intermediate sprint will be decided at the finishing line after 5 laps.
- Points for the sprints will be awarded as follows:
 - Intermediate sprint: first three (3) Skaters will gain: 5 – 3 – 1 points.
 - Final sprint: first three (3) Skaters will gain: 30 – 20 – 10 points.

Reason: Redrafting for clarification and completeness.

C. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING

160. NETHERLANDS

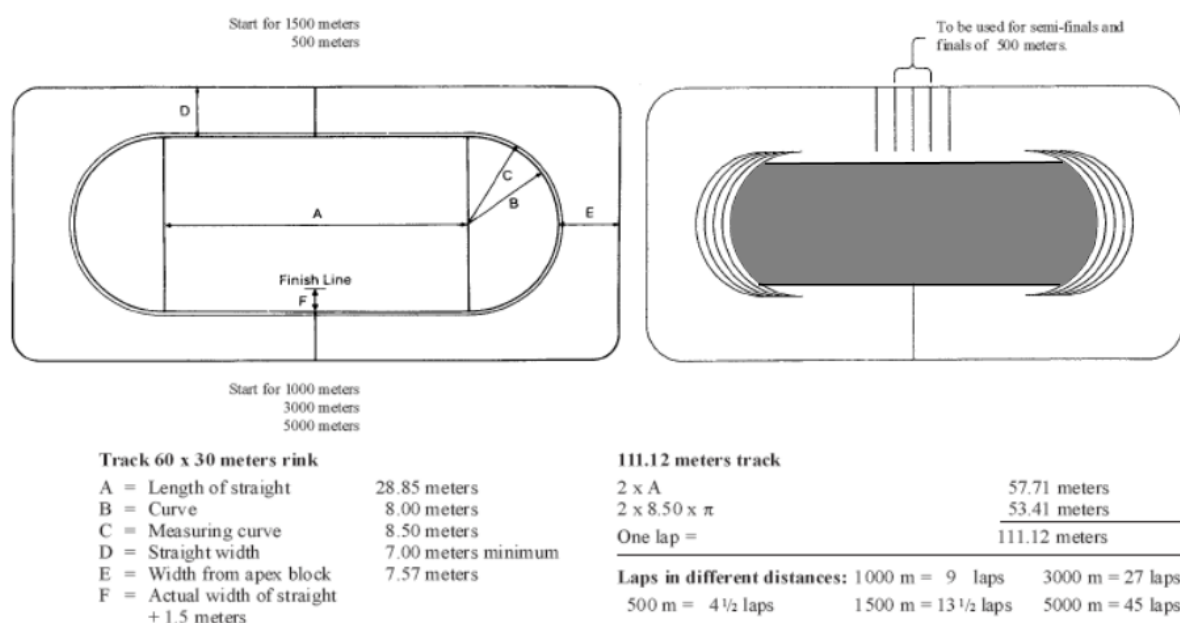
Rule 280, paragraph 1.a)

Amend to read:

For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games, and Winter Youth Olympic Games the track shall be an oval of 111.12 meters in a covered, enclosed and heated ice rink with minimum measurements of 60 x 30 meters. The inside of the track is made blue. Two lines will be drawn, both from block 6 to block 2 of the opposite side. The blue area is everything between these lines and the most inner track of both corners. See the diagram in the appendix of the Special Regulations. During the relay, all athletes who are not within the blue area, cannot hinder the racing Skaters. The only exception is made when changing skaters during the relay.

Reason

In Short track, a Skater can overtake another Skater on the inside. This Skater will leave the ideal short line between the corners just to pass. When doing this, he/she skates more to the inside of the track to create space for the passing move. In the relay distances, the inside of the track is used by the Skaters waiting to enter the race. When making speed to enter the race, the Skaters create a wider turns. As a result, some might enter the track just to be able to increase the speed easily. When a racing Skater wants to pass on the inside, he might be hindered by the Skater that is making speed. To make sure that the racer is not hindered, a blue area should be made. When leaving this area, you may not hinder any other Skaters. An exception is made when changing Skaters.



161. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 280, paragraph 2

Add new sub-paragraph d):

d) If the inner surface of the track is colored differently from the track for esthetic purposes, then this inner surface shall be symmetrical to the layout of the track, and start exactly at the end of the finishline.

Reason: Specifying size of colored inner field

162. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 280, paragraph 4

Remove "(see Handbook)"

Reason: The instructions and guidance for Officials might not be published as a "book", but through other media.

163. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 280, paragraph 5.a)

Remove "cut resistant"

Reason: In the cold environment cut resistant material usually gets hard/stiff and therewith greatly reduces the absorption of impact by the padding.

164. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 280, paragraph 6.b)

Add new paragraph b) and renumber subsequent paragraphs as follows:

b) For ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games (OWG) and Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG), a Video Replay System and Race Reporting System approved by the ISU.

Reason: Clarification on the mandatory use of IVR and RRS.

165. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 281, paragraph 1.h)

Amend to read:

Skaters not having qualified for Semi-Finals over 1500 meters and/or Quarter-Finals over 500 and/or 1000 meters qualify for Ranking Finals. Skaters may forfeit their right to start in the Ranking Finals but shall announce it at the latest 10 hours before the start of the Ranking Finals. In that case the Skaters will be ranked after those who have participated in the Ranking Finals. Skaters who have not announced their withdrawal from the Ranking Finals and do not fulfill the requirements of Rule 298, paragraph 1, are withdrawn from the Competition.

Rule 295, paragraph 6, will be applied on the Results of the Ranking Finals in order to determine the Distance Classification.

Reason: Skating in the Ranking Finals should not be compulsory but must be announced correctly in fairness to all other athletes.

166. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 281, paragraph 1. i) and j)

Add new part for paragraph i) and amend j) as follows:

i) The Order of the Relay Finals is:

Final A Ladies

Final A Men

Final B Ladies

Final B Men

j) The program is subject to change based on the number of entries. The order of Finals (A/B) can be modified depending on local circumstances, to be confirmed by the ISU Representative.

Reason: Request from Television.

167. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 281 paragraph 2.a)

Amend to read:

2. a) Each Member has the right to enter one (1) Competitor in each category.

If a Member had one Skater amongst the best 32 Competitors in the final classification of the same preceding Championships that Member may enter two (2) Competitors in total in the respective category.

If a Member had more than one Skater amongst the best 16 Competitors in the final classification of the same preceding Championships of which one or more scored Final Points that Member may enter 3 Competitors in total in the respective category;

Minimum qualifying times are required for entry in this ISU Championship. The required qualifying times, the qualifying period, the category of competitions and other conditions under which the times must have been achieved, are decided by the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee and will be announced in an ISU Communication.

Members entering participants must submit proof of the qualifying times achieved by each Competitor. This documentation must be submitted to the ISU Secretariat at the latest 2 weeks before the Competition. The Representative of the Technical Committee will decide if the qualifying criteria has been respected and if the entry can be accepted.

Reason: Clarification of the procedures regarding qualifying times and the acceptance of entries. With the proposed period entries can be rejected before the travel to the Event has started.

168. NETHERLANDS

Rule 281, paragraph 2.a) & c)

Amend to read:

a) i) Each Member has the right to enter one (1) Competitor in each category. This Competitor will skate the 500, 1000, and 1500 m (and the 3000 m in case of qualification). The Competitor is included in the overall classification and the classification per distance.

If a Member had one Skater amongst the best 32 Competitors in the final overall classification of the same preceding Championships that Member may enter two (2) Competitors in total in the respective category. These Competitors will skate the 500, 1000, and 1500 m (and the 3000 m in case of qualification). The Competitors are included in the overall classification and the classification per distance.

ii) If a Member had one Skater amongst the best 16 Competitors in the final classification of a single distance of the same preceding Championships, that Member may enter one extra Skater in the competition for the respective

distance. This Competitor is only included in the classification of the respective distance. In case a Member has been granted entries for the 500, 1000, and 1500 m, this Member may enter one Skater who will compete in all distances and who will be included in both the overall classification and the classifications per distance, or, the Member may enter several Competitors who will skate one or two distances and will be included in the classification(s) of the distance(s) they compete in.

iii) Minimum qualifying times are required for entry in this ISU Championship. The required qualifying times, the qualifying period, the category of competitions and other conditions under which the times must have been achieved, are decided by the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee and will be announced in an ISU Communication. The ISU Members are responsible to submit verification of the best qualifying time achieved by each Competitor entered for the ISU Championship. If sufficient verification is missing, the entry will not be accepted.

c) ISU Members who qualify amongst the best eight (8) Relay Teams from the World Cup Relay Classification Ladies/Men (see Rule 286, paragraph 8) may enter a Team in the respective category in the Relay competition. If the host country is not ranked amongst the top 8 Teams of the World Cup Relay Classification they will replace the lowest ranked Team. Members entering a Relay Team can only enter a maximum number of 5 Skaters which will include all Skaters for both competitions: individual and Relay. Members that do not compete in the Relay may only enter a maximum number of four (4) Skaters for the individual competition.

Reason:

- In the current situation, ISU World Championships focus on the overall title (best skater over all individual distances). Consequently, a Competitor should skate all individual distances. This proposal gives Members also opportunities to allow specialists to compete on the distances where they excel. For the Championships, this would have the following consequences. Most of the Skaters will still compete in all distances and for the overall title. However, there are also opportunities for some specialized Skaters who will compete in one or two individual distances.
- This format can result in more specialization on each distance, which will improve the general level. It's more in line with the Olympic Games and the World Cup Competition. These events focus on the best Skater on each single distance.

169. AUSTRIA, Speed

Rule 281, paragraph 4.a)

Amend to read:

Only the top 8 points scorers and ties on the 8th position, on the basis of Final Points awarded in Final A after the previous Finals A, are eligible to compete in the 3000 meters Super-Final.

Reason: The introduction of awarding points in Final B has led to major problems, to unsolvable open questions and to plenty of artificial situations in the distance and overall classifications of the previous ISU Championships.

170. LITHUANIA, Speed

Rule 281, paragraph 4.a)

Amend to read:

Only the top 8 points scorers and ties on the 8th position, on the basis of Final Points awarded in Final A after the previous Finals A, are eligible to compete in the 3000 meters Super-Final.

Reason: The introduction of awarding points in Final B has led to major problems, to unsolvable open questions and to plenty of artificial situations in the distance and overall classifications of the previous ISU Championships.

171. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 281, paragraph 5. b) and c)

Amend to read:

b) The winning Team of the World Short Track Speed Skating Championships for the Relay competition is the one which has been declared winner of the Final A. The second and third placed Team of the Championships are the teams finishing accordingly in the Final A.

c) The winner of the World Short Track Speed Skating Championships 500/1000/1500 meters is the Skater being declared winner of the Final A of the distance concerned. The second and third placed Skater of the Championships are the Skaters finishing accordingly in the Final A.

Reason: The current procedure regarding Distance Classifications with A- and B-Finals and that Distance Medals can also be awarded to Skaters in the B-Final result in a conflicting situation in the case of penalties or did not finish in the A-Final. Due to the awarding of points in the A- and the B-Final, whereby Skaters of the A-Final are always listed before the Skaters of the B-Final, irrelevant of penalties or did not finish it is very possible that the Winner of the B-Final gets the bronze Medal although he is ranked 5th on the Distance Classification.

This situation can not be explained to anybody, especially the media, outside our branch of Speed Skating.

After long and careful consideration the Technical Committee proposes the Congress to take a principal decision that at ISU Events NO medals are awarded to Skaters from the B-Final. This option would follow the decision of the 2014 Congress that Skaters in the A-Final are always ranked before Skaters of the B-Final. Before the institution of the B-Finals there was already the possibility of not awarding a Bronze Medals in the case of multiple penalties in the Final.

172. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 283, paragraph 1.f)

Amend to read:

Skaters not having qualified for Semi-Finals over 1500 meters and/or Quarter-Finals over 500 and/or 1000 meters qualify for Ranking Finals. Skaters may forfeit their right to start in the Ranking Finals but shall announce it at the latest 10 hours before the start of the Ranking Finals. In that case the Skaters will be ranked after those who have participated in the Ranking Finals. Skaters who have not announced their withdrawal from the Ranking Finals and do not fulfill the requirements of Rule 298, paragraph 1, are withdrawn from the Competition.

Rule 295, paragraph 6, will be applied on the Results of the Ranking Finals in order to determine the Distance Classification.

Reason: Skating in the Ranking Finals should not be compulsory but must be announced correctly in fairness to all other athletes.

173. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 283, paragraph 1.g) and h)

Add new part for paragraph g) and amend h) as follows:

g) The Order of the Relay Finals is:

Final A Ladies

Final A Men

Final B Ladies

Final B Men

h) The program is subject to change based on the number of entries. The order of Finals (A/B) can be modified depending on local circumstances, to be confirmed by the ISU Representative.

Reason: Request from Television.

174. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 283 paragraph 2.a):

Amend to read:

2. a) Each Member has the right to enter three (3) Competitor in each individual category.

Members entering a Relay Team may enter four (4) Competitors in the respective category.

Minimum qualifying times are required for entry in this ISU Championship. The required qualifying times, the qualifying period, the category of competitions and other conditions under which the times must have been achieved, are decided by the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee and will be announced in an ISU Communication.

Members entering participants must submit proof of the qualifying times achieved by each Competitor. This documentation must be submitted to the ISU Secretariat at the latest 2 weeks before the Competition. The Representative of the Technical Committee will decide if the qualifying criteria has been respected and if the entry can be accepted.

Reason: Clarification of the procedures regarding qualifying times and the acceptance of entries. With the proposed period entries can be rejected before the travel to the Event has started.

175. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 283 paragraph 3

Amend to read:

3. See Rule 296.

For Skaters without a World Ranking, the best season time over the distances will be used to determine a ranking for the make up of the first round of each of the related distances. These times must be submitted to the ISU Secretariat at the latest 2 weeks before the Competition. The Representative of the Technical Committee will decide if the times can be accepted. See the respective ISU Communication for further details.

Reason: Clarification of the procedures regarding season times.

176. AUSTRIA, Speed

Rule 283, paragraph 4.a)

Amend to read:

Only the top 6 points scorers and ties on the 6th position, on the basis of Final Points awarded in Final A after the previous Finals A, are eligible to compete in the 1500 meters Super-Final.

Reason: The introduction of awarding points in Final B has led to major problems, to unsolvable open questions and to plenty of artificial situations in the distance and overall classifications of the previous ISU Championships.

177. LITHUANIA, Speed

Rule 283, paragraph 4.a)

Amend to read:

Only the top 6 points scorers and ties on the 6th position, on the basis of Final Points awarded in Final A after the previous Finals A, are eligible to compete in the 1500 meters Super-Final.

Reason: The introduction of awarding points in Final B has led to major problems, to unsolvable open questions and to plenty of artificial situations in the distance and overall classifications of the previous ISU Championships.

178. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 283, paragraph 5.b)

Amend to read:

b) The winning Team of the World Junior Short Track Speed Skating Championships for the Relay competition is the one which has been declared winner of the Final A. The second and third placed Team of the Championships are the teams finishing accordingly in the Final A.

Reason: See proposal of the Technical Committee on Rule 281, paragraph 5.b and c).

179. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 285, paragraph 1.g)

Amend to read :

Skaters not having qualified for Semi-Finals over 1500 meters and/or Quarter-Finals over 500 and/or 1000 meters qualify for Ranking Finals. Skaters may forfeit their right to start in the Ranking Finals but shall announce it at the latest 10 hours before the start of the Ranking Finals. In that case the Skaters will be ranked after those who have participated in the Ranking Finals. Skaters who have not announced their withdrawal from the Ranking Finals and do not fulfill the requirements of Rule 298, paragraph 1, are withdrawn from the Competition.

Rule 295, paragraph 6, will be applied on the Results of the Ranking Finals in order to determine the Distance Classification.

Reason: Skating in the Ranking Finals should not be compulsory but must be announced correctly in fairness to all other athletes.

180. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 285, paragraph 1.i) and j)

Add new part for paragraph i) and amend j) as follows:

The Order of the Relay Finals is:

Final A Ladies

Final A Men

Final B Ladies

Final B Men

j) The program is subject to change based on the number of entries. The order of Finals(A/B) can be modified depending on local circumstances, to be confirmed by the ISU Representative.

Reason: Request from Television.

181. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 285 paragraph 2.a)

Amend to read:

2. a) Each European Member has the right to enter one (1) Competitor in each category.

If a European Member had one Skater amongst the best 32 Competitors in the final classification of the same preceding Championships that Member may enter two (2) Competitors in total in the respective category.

If a European Member had more than one Skater amongst the best 8 Competitors in the final classification of the same preceding Championships that Member may enter 3 Competitors in total in the respective category;

Minimum qualifying times are required for entry in this ISU Championship. The required qualifying times, the qualifying period, the category of competitions and other conditions under which the times must have been achieved, are decided by the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee and will be announced in an ISU Communication.

Members entering participants must submit proof of the qualifying times achieved by each Competitor. This documentation must be submitted to the ISU Secretariat at the latest 2 weeks before the Competition. The Representative of the Technical Committee will decide if the qualifying criteria has been respected and if the entry can be accepted.

Reason: Clarification of the procedures regarding qualifying times and the acceptance of entries. With the proposed period entries can be rejected before the travel to the Event has started.

182. NETHERLANDS

Rule 285 paragraph 2.a) & d)

Amend to read:

a) i) Each European Member has the right to enter one (1) Competitor in each category. This Competitor will skate the 500, 1000, and 1500 m (and the 3000 m in case of qualification). The Competitor is included in the overall classification and the classification per distance.

If a European Member had one Skater amongst the best 32 Competitors in the final overall classification of the same preceding Championships that Member may enter two (2) Competitors in total in the respective category. These Competitors will skate the 500, 1000, and 1500 m (and the 3000 m in case of qualification). The Competitors are included in the overall classification and the classification per distance.

ii) If a European Member had one Skater amongst the best 8 Competitors in the final classification of a single distance of the same preceding Championships, that Member may enter one extra Skater in the competition for the respective distance. This Competitor is only included in the classification of the respective distance. In case a Member has been granted entries for the 500, 1000, and 1500 m, this Member may enter one Skater who will compete in all distances and who will be included in both the overall classification and the classifications per distance, or, the Member may enter several Competitors who will skate one or two distances and will be included in the classification(s) of the distance(s) they compete in.

iii) Minimum qualifying times are required for entry in this ISU Championship. The required qualifying times, the qualifying period, the category of competitions and other conditions under which the times must have been achieved, are decided by the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee and will be announced in an ISU Communication. The ISU Members are responsible to submit verification of the best qualifying time achieved by each Competitor entered for the ISU Championship. If sufficient verification is missing, the entry will not be accepted.

d) Members entering a Relay Team can only enter a maximum number of 5 Skaters which will include all Skaters for both competitions: individual and Relay. Members that do not compete in the Relay may only enter a maximum number of four (4) Skaters for the individual competition.

Reason:

- In the current situation, ISU European Championships focus on the overall title (best skater over all individual distances). Consequently, a Competitor should skate all individual distances. This proposal gives Members also opportunities to allow specialists to compete on the distances where they excel. For the Championships, this would have the following consequences. Most of the Skaters will still compete in all distances and for the overall title. However, there are also opportunities for some specialized Skaters who will compete in one or two individual distances.
- This format can result in more specialization on each distance, which will improve the general level. It's more in line with the Olympic Games and the World Cup Competition. These events focus on the best Skater on each single distance.

183. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 285, paragraph 2.b)

Only the 8 highest ranked European Members in a Special Relay Classification over the 2 most recent World Cups held in Europe can enter a Relay Team in the respective category in the Relay competition.

If the Host Country is not ranked amongst the top 8 Teams of the Special Relay Classification they will replace the lowest ranked Team. If a Member forfeits its right to participate then the next European Member will be invited to participate. See new Rule 286 paragraph 4.c) for the Special Relay Classification.

Reason: Reduce length of first competition day. As a consequence the detailed program in Rule 285, paragraph 1.i) must be updated as a Drafting matter.

184. AUSTRIA, Speed

Rule 285, paragraph 4.a)

Amend to read:

Only the top 8 points scorers and ties on the 8th position, on the basis of Final Points awarded in Final A after the previous Finals A, are eligible to compete in the 3000 meters Super-Final.

Reason: The introduction of awarding points in Final B has led to major problems, to unsolvable open questions and to plenty of artificial situations in the distance and overall classifications of the previous ISU Championships.

185. LITHUANIA, Speed

Rule 285, paragraph 4.a)

Amend to read:

Only the top 8 points scorers and ties on the 8th position, on the basis of Final Points awarded in Final A after the previous Finals A, are eligible to compete in the 3000 meters Super-Final.

Reason: The introduction of awarding points in Final B has led to major problems, to unsolvable open questions and to plenty of artificial situations in the distance and overall classifications of the previous ISU Championships.

186. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 285, paragraph 5.b) and c).

Amend to read:

b) The winning Team of the European Short Track Speed Skating Championships for the Relay competition is the one which has been declared winner of the Final A. The second and third placed Team of the Championships are the teams finishing accordingly in the Final A.

c) The winner of the European Short Track Speed Skating Championships 500/1000/1500 meters is the Skater being declared winner of the Final A of the distance concerned. The second and third placed Skater of the Championships are the Skaters finishing accordingly in the Final A.

Reason: See proposal of the Technical Committee on Rule 281, paragraph 5.b) and c). Also this is the implementation of the decision of the 2014 Congress.

187. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 286, paragraph 4

Add new sub-paragraph c) and renumber subsequent paragraph:

c) The Special Relay Classification for qualification for the European Championships will follow the Rules and Procedures of the World Cup Relay Classification.

Reason : Clarification.

188. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 286, paragraph 6

Add new sub-paragraph d):

Minimum qualifying times are required for entry in World Cup Competitions. The required qualifying times, the qualifying period, the category of competitions and other conditions under which the times must have been achieved, are decided by the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee and will be announced in an ISU Communication.

Members entering participants must submit proof of the qualifying times achieved by each Competitor. This documentation must be submitted to the ISU Secretariat at the latest 2 weeks before the Competition. The Representative of the Technical Committee will decide if the qualifying criteria has been respected and if the entry can be accepted.

Reason: Introduction of qualifying times for World Cup Competition similar to ISU Championships. Big differences in speed of the Skaters may result in dangerous situations. Members who have no Skaters that meet the Qualifying Times for World Cups and/or Championships must get a priority to participate in the ISU Development Trophy.

189. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 286, paragraph 7.a)

Change "(see Rule 295, paragraph 6)" into "(see Rule 295, paragraph 6 and 7)"

Reason: clarification.

190. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 286, paragraph 7.b)

Change "(see Rule 295, paragraph 6)" into "(see Rule 295, paragraph 6 and 7)"

Reason: clarification.

191. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 286, paragraph 8.c)

Amend to read:

c) Points are awarded only if ranked on the respective classification of that competition. Skaters/Teams who did not finish, receive a penalty or yellow card, in the first qualifying round will receive a virtual rank equal to the number of participants on the distance concerned plus 1.

Reason: The current procedure in which no points are awarded to these Skaters/Teams has proven to have a too big impact on the Relay classification and leads to a Relay Classification that does not reflect the actual performance over an entire season.

192. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 287

Amend to read:

1. In addition to the distances 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, 3000m Relay and 5000m Relay, International Competitions may also include races held over shorter or longer distances. In Short Track Speed Skating, the following Competition can be held additionally:

- Mixed Team Competition
- Team Competition
- Points Competition
- Elimination Competition
- Combined Points Elimination Competition
- Pursuit Competition
- Team Madison Relay Competition
- Nations Trophy Short Track Speed Skating
- Win & Out Competition

2. For details see the respective ISU Communication.

3. The Global Club Competition can be organized biannually under the responsibility of the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee. Basic principle of the Competition is one overall club classification so that only a club can win this Competition. Every club affiliated to an ISU Member is eligible to participate.

Conditions of contest, entries, additional rules and details are published in the Announcement.

4. The events listed under subparagraph 1 and any other possible new events may be tried out at International Competitions provided the following directions are observed

a) An application must be sent in advance to the Technical Committee, and the approval of the Committee must be obtained;

b) In the announcement of the competition information must be given as to the kind of method to be tried out;

c) Not later than two weeks after the competition the Organizing Member must submit a report on the new method to the Technical Committee.

Reason: Introduction of new events in Short Track Speed Skating and to allow to test new forms of racing.

193. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 289, paragraph 1.a) and b)

Amend to read:

a) Every ISU Member may submit applications to the Director General of the ISU for individuals within their Association qualified to serve as Referees, Starters or Competitors Stewards at International Competitions.

b) These applications may be made at any time during the year.

Reason: Remove the limit of maximum 10 Officials per Member. The number of ordinary International Competitions is growing and more Officials are consequently required.

194. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 289, amend paragraph 5.a) and add new paragraph 5.b)

Amend to read:

5. a) Among the nominated Referees, Starters and Competitors Stewards the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee shall recognize a maximum of 35 individuals who shall officiate as Referees or Assistant Referees, 20 individuals who shall officiate as Starters and 20 individuals who shall act as Competitors Stewards in ISU Events and the Olympic Winter Games;

b) The Technical Committee will record all activities of these Officials and maintain a Database of Officials.

Reason: For ISU Events in Short Track Speed Skating 4 Referees, 2 Starters and 2 Competitors Stewards are required. Consequently the List of Officials for Championships should be in compliance with the required numbers.

TC comments: if there are more than 20 Officials on the List of Starters and/or Competitors Stewards there will be a transition period. Current on List remain until retirement. No replacement.

195. AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 289, paragraph 6. b)

Amend as follows:

Attend the ISU course for Officials conducted by the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee every 2 years during the period of 90 - 120 days following a Congress. The date and venue of the course shall be communicated 12 months in advance.

Reason: As the ISU are encouraging younger officials, there comes the problem of work and family commitments to take into consideration. An increase in notice will make it easier for all officials to plan leave from work and family. It will also lead to cheaper airfares with a longer lead time. As in every business and other major sporting organisations, the planning of events should be done professionally and well in advance to ensure maximum participation and success. ISU Council meetings are planned and announced well in advance so there is no reason that officials cannot receive similar notice of officials courses.

196. FRANCE

Rule 289, paragraph 6.c)

Amend as follows:

c) No person who has reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13/3) shall after the following July 1st be eligible to be a Referee, Starter or Competitors Steward in any ISU Events and Olympic Winter Games.

Reason: To be in accordance with the new Article 13/3 and to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

197. AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 289, paragraph 7 a)

Amend as follows:

....for the ISU Championships and advised 120 days prior to the Event.

World Cup Competition shall be appointed by the President and advised 120 days prior to the first Event of the season.

Reason: As the ISU are encouraging younger officials, there comes the problem of work and family commitments to take into consideration. An increase in notice will make it easier for all Officials to plan leave from work and family. It

will also lead to cheaper airfares with a longer lead time. For the 2015/2016 season, the officials appointed for the first Short Track World Cup received the invitation on October 14th for the competition starting on October 30th (16 days). This has been similar for the past few seasons and makes it very hard for officials to plan leave from work and travel and also possibly more expensive airfares. As in every business and other major sporting organisations, the planning of events should be done professionally and well in advance to ensure maximum participation and success.

198. AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 289, paragraph 7 b)

Amend as follows:

b) Appointed Officials must be advised by the ISU 120 days in advance of competition and invited by the organizing Member not less than 60 days before the start of the respective Competition

Reason: As the ISU are encouraging younger officials, there comes the problem of work and family commitments to take into consideration. An increase in notice will make it easier for all Officials to plan leave from work and family. It will also lead to cheaper airfares with a longer lead time. For the 2015/2016 season, the officials appointed for the first Short Track World Cup received the invitation on October 14th for the competition starting on October 30th (16 days). This has been similar for the past few seasons and makes it very hard for officials to plan leave from work and travel and also possibly more expensive airfares. As in every business and other major sporting organisations, the planning of events should be done professionally and well in advance to ensure maximum participation and success.

199. AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 290, paragraph 5.j)

Add new sub-paragraph as follows:

The Referee is empowered to:

5. i) Award additional Final points to a Skater, who in the opinion of the Referee, was obviously interfered and disadvantaged by a penalised Skater and was prevented from achieving the finish place they would have attained in a final if not for the interference. The awarded points will not change the finish positions for this race but would be used in the Intermediate and Overall Classification. This Rule is only applicable to Championships (all round competitions) and not applicable to Super Finals.

Interpretation:

- To be applied in the last lap only
- Skater must be obviously disadvantaged
- The finish positions awarded in the Final are not changed.
- The decision must be announced before the start of the next race.
- The points awarded to the Skater can only equal, and not be greater than, the points for the finishing position the Skater would have attained if not for the interference e.g. *Leading skater in last lap after interference finishes 3rd (13 pts) they can only be awarded 21 pts so that it equals 1st place (34 pts)*

Reason: During the running of an ISU Short Track Speed Skating Championships there are individual distance competitions and an Overall Championship competition. If a Skater is disadvantaged during running of an individual distance the Referee is able to advance the Skater into the next round (ISU Rule 290 5.h). This ensures that when a competitor is put at a disadvantage because of another Skater, the disadvantaged Skater still has the opportunity to achieve their potential in the individual distance competition and that races are run in an honest and safe manner (ISU Rule 297 2.a).

However Skaters competing in the final of a distance at a Championship competition who are disadvantaged by the actions of another Skater may be disadvantaged in the Overall Championship ranking due to the loss of final points. For example, a Skater leading in the last lap of a 500m final (a race of 4 competitors) is impeded and falls due to the actions of the second placed Skater. The offending Skater is penalised so the Skater who was leading will end up in third position, and will achieve 13 final points and not the 34 final points they would have achieved if they had won the race. Effectively a loss of 21 final points.

The disadvantage is increased because not only has the Skater lost 21 pts but another Skater competing for the Overall ranking has gained those 21 points increasing the relative loss to 42 points.

Presently there is no procedure available to the Referee to reduce the impact of the disadvantage suffered by an innocent Skater caught up in an incident in a final where a Skater receives a penalty. With this rule change the Referee can ascertain what position the Skater would have finished and ensure they are awarded the appropriate final points, therefore reducing somewhat the disadvantage suffered.

During the 2015 ISU Short Track Championship 1000m Final for men Charles Hamelin was leading in the last lap and in the last corner he was clearly impeded by another Skater, who was penalised, and Charles finished second.

Because of the actions of another Skater Charles Hamelin lost:

- -the Gold Medal for the 1000m,
- -13 Final points,
- -the Overall lead in the Championships after 1000m
- -potential Overall Championship Medal

- -an increase in ISU awarded prize money

The table below shows the final 4 overall places at 2015 ISU Short Track Championships

Rank	Name	F Points	Medal
1	KNEGT Sjinkie	63	Gold
2	PARK Se Yeong	63	Silver
3	WU Dajing	55	Bronze
4	HAMELIN Charles	45	

The table below shows final overall places at 2015 ISU Short Track Championships if Charles Hamelin had won 1000m final.

Rank	Name	F Points	Medal
1	KNEGT Sjinkie	63	Gold
2	HAMELIN Charles	58	Silver
3	WU Dajing	52	Bronze
4	PARK Se Yeong	42	

The table below shows the final 4 overall places at 2015 ISU Short Track Championships if the proposed rule had been applied.

Rank	Name	F Points	Medal
1	KNEGT Sjinkie	63	Gold
2	PARK Se Yeong	63	Silver
3	HAMELIN Charles	58	Bronze
4	WU Dajing	55	

What cannot be assessed is the Skater's attitude or confidence entering into the 3000m Super Final. If Charles Hamelin had not lost so many final points he would have started the race as the number 1 ranked Skater with a points advantage over his competitors.

The time difference between the top 4 places in the 3000m Super Final was 1.25 secs

1	148	KNEGT Sjinkie	NED	5:05.321	34
2	142	PARK Se Yeong	KOR	5:05.344	21
3	115	WU Dajing	CHN	5:06.093	13
4	110	HAMELIN Charles	CAN	5:06.571	8

200. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 290, paragraph 19.b)

Replace "skates" by "speed skates"

Reason: Speed Skating image of the Branch.

201. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 290, paragraph 19.d)

Amend to read:

At ISU Events and the Olympic Winter Games the Referee and his Assistants shall use radio equipment and the ISU Race Report System to communicate their observations provided this equipment is protected against third party intrusion.

Reason: Clarification.

202. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 291, paragraph 1.g)

Neck Protection of cut-resistant nature, fully covering the neck.

Reason: Clarification of the kind of protection.

203. NETHERLANDS

Rule 293

Add new Rule as follows:

Number of participants per race at the rink

- All races of 500 meters shall have 5 Skaters participating. All races of 1000 meters shall have 6 Skaters participating. All races of 1500 meters shall have 7 Skaters participating. For exception see Rule 290, paragraph 5. See Rule 281, paragraph 4, and Rule 285, paragraph 4, for the 3000 meters Super-Final. See Rule 283, paragraph 4, for the 1500 meters Super-Final. These Super-Finals are non-medal races;
- Race winners and second placed Skaters in the races will move forward to the next round. The fastest time Skaters will be included to reach the numbers. In case of one or more advancements none or less fastest time Skaters will qualify for the next round.

Reason:

- Increasing the number of Skaters to start in each race contributes to more passing manoeuvres and action during the race, resulting in more spectacular sports for the public.
- Including those who skated the fastest time, adds a stimulus for those in the positions behind the best qualifiers, to keep racing until the finish.

NB. Rule 295 paragraph 2e and 2f should be adjusted as a consequence of this proposal.

204. NETHERLANDS

Rule 293

Insert the following text:

New test event: “ISU Nations Trophy Short Track”

(a mixed gender team event)

1. The ISU Nations Trophy Short Track may be added to the programs of ISU Events and International Competitions as a new test event. The conditions regarding the addition of this new component will be decided by the organizing Member and the Technical Committee Short Track Speed Skating.

2. Format and program:

- 10 teams from 10 different nations will participate. Each nation will bring a mixed gender team consisting of 3 men and 3 ladies. Two out of three Skaters per gender can contribute on individual distances. 3 Skaters per gender will participate in the Relay.
- The competition program consists of the following components:
 - 1000 meters Ladies (4 races)
 - 1000 meters Men (4 races)
 - Resurface
 - 500 meter Ladies (4 races)
 - 500 meters Men (4 races)
 - Resurface
 - Relay over 2000 meters Ladies (1 race)
 - Relay over 3000 meters Men (1 race).Points will be earned in every race.
- There will be 5 Competitors per race on the 500m and 1000m. Members of each team will compete in two races per distance, per category.
- Only the top 5 teams, after the points for the 500m and 1000m have been divided, will compete in the relay race. In case a qualified team is not able to start in the relay, the next team will take their place.
- The event will be fast paced: the entire competition will last approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes, including the medal ceremony

3. Points and classifications

- The awarding of points will be as follows:

	<u>1000m</u>	<u>500m</u>	<u>Relay</u>
<u>First place in race</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Second place in race</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Third place in race</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Fourth place in race</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Fifth place in race</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Penalty</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>-1</u>
<u>Team with the fastest time on the individual distance (1000m, 500m) receives 1 bonus point</u>			

- The overall final standings will be made up at the end of the competition. The nation that has earned the most combined points is the winner. It concerns a one medal event where a gold, silver, and bronze medal are awarded to mixed teams.
- In case of a tie, the following tie breaking rule will be applied: the best result(s) (amount of total wins). If there is still no difference: the fastest 500m times (1x ladies, 1x men) added together.

4. Entries:

- a) 10 participating teams: top 10 based on the top two positions from each ISU Member based on the World Ranking 1000m and 500m Men and Ladies.
- b) Race make-up 1000m: the top two positions from each ISU Member based on the World Ranking 1000m
- c) Race make-up 500m: the top two positions from each ISU Member based on the World Ranking 500m
- d) Position on the line: opposite of ranking, i.e. highest ranked stand outside, lowest ranked inside (position 1)

Reason

- This new mixed gender team event has Olympic potential. In the Olympic Agenda 2020, recommendation 11, the IOC states: “*The IOC to encourage the inclusion of mixed-gender team events.*” The event can be included as a test event in the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 seasons (during international competitions, World Cups, and after the World Championships). In 2018, it may be decided to include the event in the official program of ISU Events, and to start the procedure of nominating the event for inclusion in the Olympic program.
- This event will create opportunities for many nations to participate on the top level, which is beneficial to the worldwide status of Short Track Speed Skating. Many nations have a few good Skaters per gender, but not a broad elite selection, which, for example, prevents them from competing in the Relay. This event is more accessible, requiring only 2 Skaters per gender for the individual distances, and 3 for the Relay.
- The event is attractive for the public, with fast and spectacular races, full of action.
- The event can be added to the program at ISU Events and possibly the Olympic Games. Moreover, if desired, it brings other additional opportunities as well (it can be organized and marketed separately) because the event itself offers the public a proper and compact program.

Budget

By combining this ‘new event’ within existing competitions, initially during international competitions and World Cups (and perhaps after World Championships), the TC and other stakeholders will have an hand on idea as to what the extra costs will be. We would expect this to be no more than an addition 2.5% - 5% of the whole event budget. This is a maximum percentage and can depend heavily on how well the OC budget this.

For clarification of the proposal regarding this new test event, please view a notional program and classification below.

Notional program

T=team ranking

Race 1	ladies	1000m	19.00-19.03	T 9	T 8	T 7	T 6	T 1
Race 2	ladies	1000m	19.03-19.06	T 10	T 8	T 7	T 5	T 2
Race 3	ladies	1000m	19.06-19.09	T 9	T 6	T 4	T 3	T 1
Race 4	ladies	1000m	19.09-19.12	T 10	T 5	T 4	T 3	T 2
Race 1	men	1000m	19.12-19.15	T 9	T 8	T 7	T 6	T 1
Race 2	men	1000m	19.15-19.18	T 10	T 8	T 7	T 5	T 2
Race 3	men	1000m	19.18-19.21	T 9	T 6	T 4	T 3	T 1
Race 4	men	1000m	19.21-19.24	T 10	T 5	T 4	T 3	T 2
resurface			19.24-19.35					
Race 1	ladies	500m	19.35-19.38	T 9	T 8	T 7	T 6	T 1
Race 2	ladies	500m	19.38-19.41	T 10	T 8	T 7	T 5	T 2
Race 3	ladies	500m	19.41-19.44	T 9	T 6	T 4	T 3	T 1
Race 4	ladies	500m	19.44-19.47	T 10	T 5	T 4	T 3	T 2
Race 1	men	500m	19.47-19.50	T 9	T 8	T 7	T 6	T 1
Race 2	men	500m	19.50-19.53	T 10	T 8	T 7	T 5	T 2
Race 3	men	500m	19.53-19.56	T 9	T 6	T 4	T 3	T 1
Race 4	men	500m	19.56-19.59	T 10	T 5	T 4	T 3	T 2
resurface			19.59-20.15					
Relay	ladies	2000m	20.15-20.22	T rank 5	T rank 4	T rank 3	T rank 2	T rank 1
Relay	men	3000m	20.22-20.30	T rank 5	T rank 4	T rank 3	T rank 2	T rank 1

Awards	TEAM	TOP 3	20.30-20.40					
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National classification

Standing		500m L	500m L	1000m L	1000m L	500m M	500m M	1000m M	1000m M	Tot ind	Relay L	Relay M	tot ind+relay	
1	Nation A	5	2	4	2	5	5	5	5	33	10	6	49	Gold
2	Nation B	2	4	3	3	4	4	5	5	30	8	10	48	Silver
3	Nation C	5	2	1	1	5	2	4	2	22	6	8	36	Bronze
4	Nation D	5	5	5	5	4	3	1	1	29	2	4	35	
5	Nation E	5	1	4	2	3	3	4	4	26	4	2	32	
6	Nation F	4	4	5	5	2	1	3	3	27				
7	Nation G	4	3	1	1	2	4	3	3	21				
8	Nation H	2	1	3	3	5	1	4	2	21				
9	Nation I	3	3	4	4	1	1	2	2	20				
10	Nation J	1	1	2	2	5	2	1	1	15				

D. TECHNICAL RULES SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING

205. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 294, paragraph 2

Amend to read:

2. For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games progression on each distance from first round to the Finals will be by elimination.

Reason: To include the Winter Youth Olympic Games.

206. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 294, paragraph 3

Amend to read:

For Ranking Finals at ISU Championships and for International Competitions, an All Finals ~~progression~~ system may be used, in which all Skaters qualify for final races in different levels.

Reason: Clarification.

207. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 1

Amend to read:

1. a) Race: See ISU Constitution Article 38
- b) Qualifying Rounds: See ISU Constitution Article 38
- c) Ranking Finals: one (1) Round to determine the Ranking of Skaters excluded in the elimination process.
- d) Competition: See ISU Constitution Article 38
- e) Coach/Team leader/support staff: eligible persons appointed by the respective ISU Member to support and represent the Skater/Team of the Member.
- f) The "Field of Play" during Short Track Speed Skating competitions are the ice surface, the immediate surroundings, heatbox, coachesbox, Officials restricted area and any other so designated areas.
- g) During each Qualifying Round there shall be allowed only one person per participating Skater in the designated coaching area.

Reason: Clarification.

208. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 2.a)

Amend to read:

Individual races are held over 500, 1000, 1500 and 3000 meters. With approval of the Technical Committee, races may also be held over other distances.

Reason: At many international competitions different distances are skated and this has proven to be successful for the various junior categories, i.e. 777 m.

209. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 2.d)

Replace "Final" by "Final(s)"

Reason: There are A- and B-Finals.

210. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 2.e)

Amend to read:

- e) The number of Skater per race at ISU Events is limited and must be scheduled as follows;

	<u>500 m</u>	<u>1000 m</u>	<u>1500 m</u>
<u>Quarter Finals</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	
<u>Semi Finals</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Finals</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>

For exception see Rule 290, paragraph 5. See Rule 281, paragraph 4, and Rule 285, paragraph 4, for the 3000 meters Super-Final. See Rule 283, paragraph 4, for the 1500 meters Super-Final. These Super-Finals are non-medal races;

The number of Skater per race at the Olympic Winter Games is limited and is scheduled as follows;

	<u>500 m</u>	<u>1000 m</u>	<u>1500 m</u>
<u>Quarter Finals</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	
<u>Semi Finals</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Finals</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>

For competitions held according to Rule 287 other numbers of Skaters per Race may be used.

Reason: To allow more Skaters to take part in the main program of the ISU Events.

211. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 2.h)

Replace

“Final B with two (2) or less Skaters/Relay Teams will not be skated and the qualified Skaters will be assigned the first finish position for this race.”

By

“For ISU Championships and the Olympic Winter Games a Final B with one (1) Skater/Relay Team will not be skated and the qualified Skater/Relay Team will be assigned the first finish position for this race.

For World Cup Competitions a Final B with two (2) or less Skaters will not be skated and the qualified Skaters will be assigned the first finish position for this race.”

For World Cup Competitions a Final B with one (1) Relay Team will not be skated and the qualified Team will be assigned the first finish position for this race.”

Reason: Currently the ISU Rules specify that a B Final with 2 or less Skaters will not be skated and at the same time the IOC procedures require that such a B-Final is skated, due to the awarding of diplomas and possible medals.

212. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 2.k)

Remove this subparagraph as it is the same as Rule 295, paragraph 2.g).

Renumber subsequent sub-paragraphs.

Reason: Drafting.

213. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 2.l)

Remove this subparagraph as it is the same as Rule 295, paragraph 2h).

Renumber subsequent sub-paragraphs.

Reason: Drafting.

214. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 2.m)

Amend to read:

Competitors shall be allowed a minimum rest of 15 minutes between races.

Reason: Many other sports use 15 minutes as minimum rest time. To reduce a couple of minutes of waiting, between semi-finals and finals, in our main championships program would make our “show” better.

215. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 3.a)

Amend to read:

For the Announcement of ISU Events see Rule 129, for International Competitions see Rule 110 and for Olympic Winter Games see Rule 126. The announcement should also contain supplementary items, see Rule 112.

Reason: Drafting.

216. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 5.d)

Amend to read:

No points will be awarded to Skater(s) who did not start, ~~failed to finish~~, received a yellow card or received a red card.

Reason: Conflict with Rule 295, paragraph 5.b).

217. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 6:

6. For each of the distances 500, 1000 and 1500 m a classification will be made in which the participants are ranked:

- by group/block; Finalists, Semi-Finalists, Quarter-Finalists, etc. for Olympic Winter Games;

- by group/block; Final A, Final B, Semi-Finalists, Quarter-Finalists, etc. for ISU Events and International Competitions;

- by position (finish place) within the respective group;

- by position (finish place) within the subsequent previous Qualifying Rounds;

- by time skated in the last race over the distance;

- further ties will not be broken for Final Classifications.

For any intermediate classifications:

- in the case of equal times over the distance, a draw will take place to establish the order;

- in the case where there are no time(s) available, a draw will take place for the respective Skaters/Teams to determine their rank in comparison to the others with the same position (finish place).

Reason: Clarification

218. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, delete paragraph 5.f) and insert new paragraph 7:

7. For the superfinal over 3000 m, the classification will be made as follows:

With 19 laps to go, there will be a bell, the first Skater crossing the line with 18 laps to go will get 5 Race Points.

With 10 lap to go, there will be a bell, the first Skater crossing the line with 9 lap to go will get 5 Race Points.

At the finish 34, 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2 and 1 Race Points are awarded in descending order commencing with the first place.

The Race Points for intermediary sprints and the Race Points for finish order will be added to make the 3000m classification.

For the 3000m Super Final Distance Classification the Skaters will be ranked;

- by Race Points
- by Finish position

Final Points will be awarded according to the 3000 m Super final Distance Classification. The Points 34, 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2 and 1 point are awarded in descending order commencing with the first place.

Reason: Adding one more additional intermediate sprint will make the race more interesting. By making a Distance Classification on Race Points the Overall Classification is not effected and the maximum points for all distances are equal, i.e. 34 Points.

219. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 10.c)

Amend to read:

All Skaters of a Team must belong to one and the same ISU Member.

At specified competitions, Teams may be composed by Skaters from different ISU Members with the approval of the ISU.

Reason: Clarification. For example Youth Olympic Winter Games and Shanghai Trophy.

220. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 295, paragraph 12.a) and b)

Amend to read:

a) Helmet-covers, if supplied by the ISU or Organizers of ISU Events and the Olympic Winter Games, clearly mentioning the Skaters number in contrasting colors, must be worn; Helmet-covers used at ISU Events must be approved by the ISU Technical Committee Representative.

If NO Helmetcovers are supplied the Skaters may display artistic design on their helmets. Further requirements will be specified in an ISU Communication.

b) After each distance of an ISU Championship the organizers will supply to the Skater having attained the highest total of Final Points a helmet cover with a contrasting color. If a tie exists then the Skater with the higher rank (see Rule 295, paragraph 8) will carry this special cover.

Reason: Allow for creative design on the individual athletes helmets.

221. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 296, paragraph 2

Replace "World Cup Ranking" by "World Ranking"

Reason: In the Rules we have a "World Ranking" and a "World Cup Classification".

222. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 296, paragraph 3.c)

Replace "World Cup Ranking List" by "World Ranking List"

Reason: In the Rules we have a "World Ranking" and a "World Cup Classification".

223. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 296, paragraph 3.c)

Amend to read:

c) For All Round competitions where each distance is concluded with the Final before any race of the next distance is skated, the current Overall World Cup Ranking List will be used as Seeding List for the first round of the first distance. For all other Qualifying Rounds the current overall classification according to Rule 295 paragraph 8, based on the results of all distances including the current distance, will be used as Seeding List.

Reason: Clarification.

224. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 296, paragraph 3.d)

Amend to read

d) For All Round competitions where Qualifying Rounds over multiple distances are skated before the Final of the first distance, the World Ranking List per Distance will be used as Seeding List for the first Qualifying Round. For the Qualifying Rounds, other than the first Qualifying Round, which are scheduled before the final of the first distance and for the Ranking Finals, Races the Distance Classification will be used as Seeding List. For the other Qualifying Rounds the current overall classification according to Rule 295 paragraph 8, based on the results of all distances including the current distance, will be used as Seeding List.
Reason: Using the Distance Classification has proven to be more accurate.

Example :

Round	Distance	Seeding based on
Heats	1500 m	World Ranking 1500
Preliminaries	500 m	World Ranking 500
Heats	500 m	Current Distance Classification 500
Heats	1000 m	World Ranking 1000
Semi Finals	1500 m	Current Distance Classification 1500
Final	1500 m	
Quarter Finals	500 m	Current Overall Classification
Semi Finals	500 m	Current Overall Classification
Final	500 m	
Quarter Finals	1000 m	Current Overall Classification
Semi Finals	1000 m	Current Overall Classification
Final	1000 m	

225. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 296, paragraph 4

Insert new paragraph 4, renumber subsequent paragraphs:

3. The composition of the Ranking Finals over each distance is made by the Competitors Steward by placing the Skaters in the Ranking Finals in the order of the distance classification. The number of Skaters per race is according to the Qualifying Tables published by the Technical Committee.
The highest ranked Skaters will be in the last Ranking Final, the next highest ranked Skaters will be in the second last Ranking Final, etc. Ranking Finals with one (1) Skater will not be skated.

Reason: Make-up of Ranking Finals.

Example: with 16 skaters in the Main Program of the Championships and 12 skaters in the Ranking Finals the program for the Ranking Final Session will be:

Final for Skaters ranked 27th to 28th

Final for Skaters ranked 22th to 26th

Final for Skaters ranked 17th to 21th

226. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 296 paragraph 5

Amend to read:

Except for Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals: If any Skater is to be placed in a race which contains a Skater from the same country, that Skater will be moved to the next available race, unless the Skater would be placed in a race on the next row. In that case the Skater will be exchanged with the previously placed Skater, or with his predecessors on the same row, if necessary to avoid placement of Skaters of the same country in a race. If there are no more races available to move a Skater to, then the Competitors Steward, with the approval of the Referee, may reverse Skaters on a previous line, but only within that line, commencing with the lowest ranked, to solve the matter. Reversing Skaters between lines is not allowed. If the matter cannot be solved then the Skater will be placed in the originally designated race.

Reason: In the Main Program of all ISU Events, the Skaters are now placed in the races without taking the country into consideration and the Make Up of the races is fixed.

227. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 296, paragraph 6

Amend to read:

6. The Competitors Steward will draw the starting order for all races immediately after the make-up of the round is completed. The lane positions of the first Qualifying Round of a distance will be drawn by the Competitors Steward.

For each subsequent round the lane positions will not be drawn but be decided by the times skated in the preceding Qualifying Round. The Skaters/Relay Teams will be assigned the lane positions from the inside of the track to the outside in the order of their times commencing with the fastest time.

- In the case that no time in the previous round is available for a Skater/Relay Team due to failure of technical equipment or incorrect placement of blocks, then the best time in any race in this competition over the distance concerned will be taken to determine the lane position. If no times are available at all then a draw for lane positions shall take place first for any Skaters/Relay Teams without a time. Following the Skaters/Relay Teams with a time will be assigned their position according to the times.
- In the case that no time in the previous round is available due to being declared finished with a time, the Skater/Relay Team concerned will be ranked last.
- After determining the start positions of the above Skaters, any Skater qualified through a wild card will be placed next.
- Skaters who qualified through a Repechage will be ranked last.
- In the case that two or more Skaters/Relay Teams have the same time, then the best time in any race in this competition over the distance concerned will be taken to determine the order in which the respective Skaters/Relay Teams will be assigned a lane position.

Reason: Clarification.

228. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 297, paragraph 2.b)

Amend to read:

OFF-TRACK: Skating with one or both skates on the left side of the curve, marked by track marking blocks;

Reason: An unsuccessful attempt to overtake on the straight sometimes follow with a deliberate skating inside the track. As an attempt to compensate this violation of the racing rules the Skater returns and skates the curve again. The original offence of the Racing Rules remains valid.

229. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 297, paragraph 3.b)

Amend to read:

b) All members of a Team shall be equally dressed. Teams which do not comply with this shall be excluded from participation.

For Competitions where Skaters from different nations form a team, a simple and easy identification system will be sufficient.

Reason: Clarification.

230. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 297, paragraph 5.a).i)

Add:

If in a race more than one infringements are made by a Skater, that are independent of each other, and each resulting in a penalty, The Referee will give the Skater concerned a Yellow Card.

Reason: Clarification on a practice that should be applied consistently.

231. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 297, paragraph 5.a).iii).1)

Amend to read:

If an infringement of the Racing Rules is deemed to be dangerous or grossly negligent or a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics happens in the period between the appearance of a Skater at the Heat Box In and leaving the Heat Box Out after a race, the Referee will show the Skater a Red Card. The Skater will be disqualified from the Competition, including the Relay race, and will not be ranked in the final individual classification. If a member of a Relay team receives a Red Card during the Relay race, the Relay team is disqualified and will not be ranked in the final relay classification. The respective Skater is excluded from the Competition and will not be ranked in the final individual classification. The Skater/Relay team will forfeit prior points/results accrued in all races of the Competition.

Reason: Clarifying the situation of a Red Card in a relay race.

232. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 297, paragraph 5.e)

Amend to read:

Any Skater, for whom the race has been stopped (to preserve the Skater's well-being), will not be allowed to take part in the re-start, unless the Skater was unable to continue due to reasons beyond his control. This does not apply to the starting procedure. The results of Skater(s) excluded for this reason from a re-start will show 'no finish'.

This also applies to Relay Teams.

Reason: Clarification. Any Skater who causes the race to be stopped can not take part in the re-start unless e.g. his skate is stuck in the padding.

233. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 297, paragraph 5.f

f) Sanctions imposed by the Referee under this Rule are communicated at the end of each race to the Competitors Steward by specifying the helmet number, digit by digit, plus the country of the Skater. The Competitors Steward reports his recordings back to the Referee who reconfirms the decision. The recorded decision is the final decision and cannot be changed unless there is a technical, data or communication error. The corrections have to be made before the next qualifying round. Any correction must be officially announced and documented.

Sanctions are announced at the end of each race before the announcement of the official results, to the Skater(s)/ Team Coach or Team leader, and over the public address system for the benefit of the spectators, specifying where and how the Skater(s)/Relay Team concerned made an infringement and whether there is an advancement.

If the public address system can be understood loud and clear at the Coaches Box, or the information is immediately available on a screen or any other communication device, then there is no need for any On Ice Official to go to the Coaches Box to announce the decision(s).

In the case of a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics, either on or off the ice, within the event period, the sanction may be announced also at a later stage and the consequences as indicated above in paragraph 5 iii 1) will apply.

Reason: In the process of announcing and communicating the sanctions and official results several people are involved and various equipment is used. Mistakes can be made and therefore the official decision must be recorded by Officials assigned by the ISU and as close as possible to its origin.

234. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 298

Replace complete Rule as follows:

Rule 298

Heat Box

1.a) The Heatbox is a designated area where the Skaters must report when called and stay before their Race. Depending on the Qualifying Round this designated area may be different.

b) Previous to each start the names of those about to compete are to be clearly called at the heat box. Any Skater who fails to appear promptly is excluded from the race, is excluded from all remaining races and/or distances of the competitions and is removed from the final classification, except for Medical Examination and/or Medical Treatment. These medical reasons must be confirmed by a medical doctor's certificate and presented to the Referee before the race is being called.

c) Skaters who do not arrive will be recorded as "Did not Start".

d) Skaters with defective equipment (e.g. broken skate blade) will not be allowed to start or re-start

e) Skaters have to go on the ice through the heat box only. Skaters who do not go through the heat box will receive a penalty and are excluded from the race.

Starting equipment

2. Instead of an ordinary start revolver an electronic start pistol may be used. In this case the following conditions should be observed:

a) The electronic pistol should have a firm trigger point;

b) The synthetic sound at the "firing of the gun" should be loud and distinct, and similar to the sound of the shot from an ordinary start revolver;

c) The smoke fire must be replaced with a visual flash, which must be distinctly different from a photoflash.

Lane Positions

3. If more than 5 Skaters are starting in a race, the starting dots will not be used, and the Starter will direct the Skaters in the respective order of their position to the starting line.

If due to the number of Skaters in a race a second row is required at the start then the Skaters at this line will be positioned as far as possible to the outside of the track in the order of the lane positions.

Starting procedure

4. Once the Referee is satisfied that all necessary arrangements for the race to come have been taken, he will inform the Starter.

5. a) The Starter will blow the whistle.

b) From this moment the Skaters have a limited time to come to the startline. This time may be displayed using technical equipment. Also starting from this moment the Announcer will end his comments and no music may be played.

c) The set time to go to the start line will be decided annually by the Technical Committee and announced at the Opening Meeting the day prior the start of each Event.

d) Any Skater who arrives at the start line after the limited time will be warned by the Starter. The announcement should be:

The lane position of the Skater who made the offence

"Warning"

"Delay"

d) Any warnings for delays do not effect the other Skaters on the starting line.

e) in the case of a false start or a second warning to a Skater who has already received a warning the Starter shall tell the Skater that he gets a penalty.

6. a) The skaters will line up a short distance away from the startline.

b) In the case of a Semi-Final or Final Race where the Skaters are being introduced individually by the Announcer they will position themselves a little further away from the start line and when introduced by the Announcer they will move forward closer to the start line.

c) Prior to the start of each Semi-Final over an individual distance, the participants are introduced by the announcer stating their full name and country.

d) Prior to the start of a Final over an individual distance, the participants are introduced by the announcer stating their full name, country, and other information for the interest of the public.

7. a) The starter will command:

"Go to the Start"

b) On this command the Skaters move forward to the start line and place themselves at their respective dot at the start line. The Skaters stand up straight and stand still.

c) Until the Skater has finalized his still position, touching the Startline is not an offence.

d) Putting the tip of the blade in the ice is an offence and a false start will be given to the Skater concerned.

e) The announcement of the Starter should be:

The lane position of the Skater who made the offence

"False Start"

"Wrong Blade Position"

8. a) The starter will command:

"Ready"

b) The Skaters will go down and take their final starting positions immediately with the center of the body over the respective dot and keep this position.

c) It is a false start when the Skater

- Places one or both skates on or over the start line
- Places one or both hands on the ice
- Does not have both skates on the ice, i.e. full contact over the length of the blades.
- Takes his starting position before the command "ready"
- Takes his starting position too slow after the command "ready"

9. a) When all Skaters are positioned in their final starting position and are still, i.e. there is no more movement, the Starter will wait a defined period of time and then fire the gun.

b) It is a false start when the Skater

- Moves before the gun is fired
- Slides on or over the line
- Moves forward on the tip of his blades

c) In the case of a false start the Starter will fire the gun again and/or uses the whistle to call the Skaters back.

d) The Skaters must return to the start line without delay. Any Skater who does not return directly to the start line will receive a warning for delaying the start.

e) If more than one Skater is responsible for a false start, the concerned Skaters shall all be assessed a false start.

f) If one of the Skaters breaks from his marks, thereby causing another Skater to follow him, only the Skater at fault shall be assessed a false start.

g) If one of the Skaters makes noise e.g. with his skates on the ice, thereby causing another Skater to move shall be assessed a false start.

h) Commands given by the Starter will include

The lane position of the Skater who made the offence

"False Start"

If necessary any statement reasoning the false start, e.g.

Moving

Wrong blade position

Wrong blade movement

i) If more then one Skater made an offence all the preceding points will be repeated

j) If there are multiple offences of the Starting Rule then these will be announced in the order they occurred.

10. a) If a false start was made by a Skater who had already received a warning, this Skater will receive a penalty and is excluded.

b) The announcement of an exclusion will be made ;

The lane position of the Skater who made the offence

"Penalty"

On direction of the Referee the Skater may be sent off the ice.

11. a) After the first false start of a race the Starter will warn all Skaters ;

This race has one false start

b) In the case of a second false start by any of the Skaters, the Skater(s) concerned will be given a penalty and is/are excluded from the race.

c) The announcement of an exclusion will be made ;

The lane position of the Skater who made the offence

"Penalty"

d) On direction of the Referee the Skater may be sent off the ice.

12. If a Skater is interfered with and falls before the first apex block after the starting line the Skaters shall be called back to start again. The decision whether the interference is an offence according to the Racing Rules is a decision of the Referee.

13. Before a start, the equipment of the Skater may be fixed, without leaving the ice. At "Go to the Start" the Skaters must be fully prepared with all equipment in order. Any omission will be a 'Warning for delaying the start' (see above). If the Skater

- Received a warning before, or
- the race has a false start, or
- a repeated offence is made.

the Skater at fault will be given a Penalty.

End of Race

14. a) The end of the race is declared by the Referee. Different means can be used to communicate that information to the Skaters and all Officials. Except for Finals : Any Skater who has not yet finished will be declared finished by the Referee, but no time will be assigned.

b) After the end of the race there is a limited time to leave the ice. This time may be illustrated by technical equipment.

Reason: Following the Seminar with Starters it becomes obvious that a strict sequential order of the rule in accordance with the actual starting procedure gives greater clarity and simplicity to the rule.

Introduction of a Finalists Room/Heatbox where more exposure on the Athletes can be given by Television.

235. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

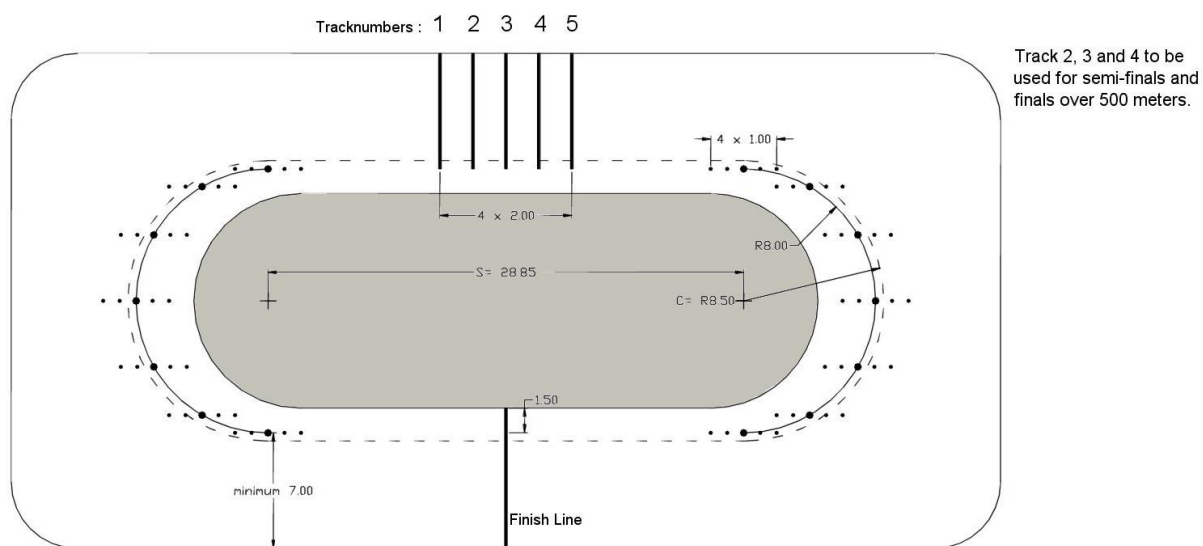
Modify Drawing of Track (page 123 of the 2014 Special regulations)

For all Measurements a tolerance of 1.00 centimeter must be taken into account.

Size of Dots to mark the track lay out not bigger than 20 mm.

Measurements are to be taken from the centre/middle of the respective markings

Reason: Define accuracy.



Tolerance for all measurements ± 0.01 m

111.12 meters Track	
2 x S	57.71 meters
2 x C x pi	53.41 meters
One Lap	111.12 meters

III. PROPOSALS FOR THE FIGURE SKATING SECTION

A. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SINGLE & PAIR SKATING and ICE DANCE

236. FINLAND, Figure

Rule 343 paragraph 1.a) and Rule 823 paragraph 1.a)

All Competitors shall furnish competition music of excellent quality as a digital audio file.

Reason: To ensure a more reliable reproduction of programme music at competitions. If passed, paragraph 2 to be drafted to exclude CD players.

237. NETHERLANDS

Rule 343 – Music reproduction system

Para 1, Revise to read as follows:

For all international competitions and ISU Events, Competitors must upload their music through their federations into the ISU Online Entry System (IOES). The submission must be accompanied by an electronic form in the IOES stating the exact running time of each program and all other required information, such as titles, composers, rhythms.

Reason: We want to abolish playing music from CDs and facilitate playing music from digital sources only (MP3, MP4, WMA etc.). Many music players are able to work with digital formats. By doing this we will avoid a lot of agony both for the skater and for the Referee at competitions if CDs don't work or if they skip part of the track.

The mode of implementation will be to add this as a feature for upload into the ISU Online Entry System (IOES).

238. UNITED STATES, Figure

Rule 344, paragraph 4

Remove practice restrictions at competitions:

1. When the event is comprised of two Segments, it is recommended that the competition should last at least two days, but no more than three consecutive days.
2. At the option of the Organizers the Short Program/Short Dance or Pattern Dance(s) can be skated either on a preceding day or on the same day as the Free Skating/Free Dance (except ISU Junior Grand Prix and Grand Prix Events and Finals and ISU Championships) provided there is an interval of at least four hours after the ending of the Short Program/Short Dance or Pattern Dance(s).
3. Events should not begin before 9.00 a.m. and should be planned to finish by 11.00 p.m.
4. ~~After registering at accreditation for a competition, Competitors may not practice at a rink other than the official rink or rinks except in the case of the Olympic Winter Games.~~

Reason: To remove a rule that is not enforceable.

239. NETHERLANDS

Rule 350 – Call to the start

Para. 2, delete the last two sentences.

Reason: Delete the 30 seconds extra for the first skater. In practice they are ready after the warm-up (in the last minute they are just making rounds). If the arena is not quiet, the Competition manager or the Referee will instruct the announcer to wait with announcing the next skater.

240. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rules 350, paragraph 2

Delete the second part of this paragraph:

~~The first Competitor/s in a warm up group will be granted an extra time of thirty (30) seconds after he/they is/are called to the start. The timing procedure as described above will start after that thirty (30) seconds extra time period.~~

Reason: the experience of the past seasons has shown that the exception to the first competitor is not necessary.

241. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 353, paragraph 1.b)

Delete as follows:

Each Judge identifies for each Section/Element one of the ~~seven~~ grades of execution. Each grade has its own positive or negative numerical value also indicated in the SOV chart.

Reason: to have a possibility to increase this number in future.

242. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 353, paragraph 1.h)

Combine iv) and v) as follows:

- iv) In the Short Program and Free Skating of Single Skating the Base Values (but not the GOEs) for all jump Elements started in the second half of the program will be multiplied by a special factor 1.1 in order to give credit

for even distribution of difficulties in the program. Each factored Base Value for all jump Elements performed in the second half of the ~~Short~~ Program will be rounded to two decimal places. The second half commences in the middle of the required time without taking into account plus or minus 10 seconds allowance. However in cases of up to 3 minutes interruptions (Rule 515) the factor 1.1 will be used only for jump elements which were started in the second half of the program, but prior to the interruption.

Renumber other sub-paragraphs accordingly.

Reason: to have the same requirements for Short Program and Free Skating and the include cases of interruptions.

243. UNITED STATES, Figure

Rule 353, paragraph 1, subparagraph h, Special Factor

Add a special factor for the Free Skating of Pair Skating:

1. Basic Principles of Calculation

h) In Single and Pair Skating:

- v) In the Free Skating of Single Skating the Base Values (but not the GOE's) for all jump Elements started in the second half of the program will be multiplied by a special factor 1.1 in order to give credit for even distribution of difficulties in the program. In Pair Skating the Base Values (but not the GOE's) for one throw jump, one jump element (solo jump or jump combination/sequence) and one lift or twist lift, started in the second half of the program will be multiplied by a special factor 1.1. In the case of a repeated element type in the second half, the bonus will go to the element with the highest Base Value. Each factored Base Value for all jump Elements (Single Skating) and for one throw jump, one jump element, and one lift or twist lift (Pair Skating) performed in the second half of the Free Skating program will be rounded to two decimal places. The second half commences in the middle of the required time without taking into account plus or minus 10 seconds allowance.

Reason: Promotes variety and balance of difficult elements throughout the program.

244. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 353, paragraph 1. i)

Replace entire paragraph with the following:

i) In Ice Dance:

- i) ~~In Ice Dance~~, Combination Lifts are evaluated as one unit by adding the Base Values of the two first executed Types of Short Lifts and then applying the GOE. The GOE of the Combination Lift is equal to the sum of the numerical values of the corresponding GOE of these two first executed Types of Short Lifts.
- ii) Combination Step Sequences are evaluated as one unit by adding the Base Values of the One Foot Step Sequence and the Step Sequence and then applying the GOE. The GOE of the Combination Step Sequence is equal to the sum of the numerical values of the corresponding GOE of these two Groups of the Step Sequences.

(valid beginning with season 2018/19)

Reason: To define the evaluation criteria for the Combination Step Sequence.

245. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 353, paragraph 1. n), part Fall

Revise Single Skating points (only) as follows:

Single Skating: -1.0 for the first and second fall, -2.0 for the third and fourth fall, -3.0 for the fifth and any further falls.

Reason: to increase reductions for falls in Single Skating.

246. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 353, paragraph 1. n), part Choreography Restrictions

Delete as follows:

~~Pair Skating: published in ISU Communications;~~

Reason: not necessary.

247. NORWAY

Rule 353, paragraph 4. c)

Revise as follows:

- c) Following each Segment a printout, indicating the Base Values of all the Elements and the GOEs and points for the program components from every Judge will be issued. ~~For ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games, Senior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Events and Final, the Judges marks are listed in a random sequence without any reference to specific Judges' names (anonymity).~~ For all figure skating competitions, championships, events and Olympic Winter Games, the Judges names and their respective scores will be published.

Reason: If the judging is transparent it will increase the accountability of the judges. It will attract the media, sponsors and public in a positive way.

There is a need for greater transparency in order to improve public understanding of the sport of figure skating and confidence in the judging system. At present the marks given by each judge are not made available to the

public/Skaters/Coaches, which has a legitimate interest in being able to properly read the opinions of each judge during a major championship, etc.

If the media is denied access to the marks given by each individual judge, this may result in an increase in unnecessary conspiracy theories regarding judges and the fairness of all figure skating disciplines.

248. UNITED STATES, Figure

Rule 353, paragraph 4, subparagraph c

Create a working group:

4. Publication of results

- c) Following each Segment a printout indicating the Base Values of all the Elements and the GOEs and points for the Program Components from every Judge will be issued. For ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games, Senior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Events and Final, the Judges' marks are listed in a random sequence without any reference to specific Judges' names (anonymity). Within three months after the 2016 ISU Congress, the ISU Council will form a working group of representatives from the Council, Technical Committees and Members to review and consider potential rule changes at the 2018 Congress regarding the presentation of judges' marks and the evaluation of all officials.

Reason: To create more transparency and understanding of the judging system.

Budget Impact: Not to exceed \$50,000 USD for expenses to attend meetings as necessary.

249. NETHERLANDS

Rule 376 – Schedule/duration of Championships

Paragraph 1, revise to read as follows:

1. ISU Championships must not exceed seven days. One day of free official practice at the site of the Championships must be provided by the organizing Member prior to the first competitive skating of any ISU Championship. Unofficial practice time prior to the official practices, if available, may be purchased by Competitors.

Reason: Only one day instead of two days of free official practice to be provided. Distinction between official and unofficial practice. Cost saving.

250. NETHERLANDS

Rule 398 – Judges Draws, new

We propose to move the current Rule 521 here as it is not a Technical but an Organizational Rule and to amend the principles as follows (this implies paragraphs 4, 5, 6 and 7 have to be redrafted):

In every category at every ISU Championship, the last to be drawn spot is kept open and awarded at the end of the drawing procedure to ISU Members that:

- a. Have no qualified Competitor in the respective championship, but do have a qualified Judge (first priority)
- b. Have qualified Competitor(s) in the respective championship, but were not yet drawn in any category (second priority)
- c. Once a Member without qualified Competitor(s) is drawn once in any of the ISU championships, this Member is out of the subsequent draw for the remaining ISU championships in the circumstance they would not have a qualified Competitor in such championships.
- d. If all Members without qualified Competitor are drawn, the normal procedure applies for the remaining last spots.

Reason: With the current qualification system based on TES, we observe that a number of ISU Members with qualified ISU Judges will not have the chance to judge ISU championships because their Skaters don't qualify. It is important for them to be active and learn to judge the larger events and also to receive feedback, which they can take home in order to educate their national Judges.

251. NETHERLANDS

Rule 410 – Process for nomination and appointment of Officials

Paragraph 2, to amend section a):

- a) Referees and Judges:
 - Single Skating
 - Pair Skating
 - Ice Dancing

Reasons: Many judges are unwilling or unable to judge or referee Pairs because of lacking activity and experience in their home country. Consistency between list of officials for Judges/Referees and Technical Panel.

252. FRANCE

Rule 412 - Amend as follows:

Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Referees

1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Referee, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:

- a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Referee, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Referee, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Referee, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

253. NETHERLANDS

Rule 412, 413, 414, 415 and 416 – Age Limits

All the respective paragraphs 2. a) and 4. a) to amend as follows:

- Age limit for ISU Referees, ISU Judges, ISU Technical Controllers, ISU Technical Specialists and ISU Data & Replay Operators: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of nomination.
- Age limit for International Referees, International Judges, International Technical Controllers, International Technical Specialists and International Data & Replay Operators: have not reached the age of seventy-five (75) in the calendar year of nomination.

Reasons:

- Harmonizing age limits for Judges/Referees and Technical Panel.
- We want to keep the age limit of 70 years for ISU Referees/Judges/Technical Controllers but extend Technical Specialists and Data & Replay Operators from 65 to 70 years. For International level Officials we want to extend the age limit to 75 years for all of them. In this time and age many people are more healthy and fit than in the past.
- Above all, older officials have more free time and also possess a lot of experience.
- Lastly it gets increasingly difficult to staff international competitions, especially for the Ice Dance Judges and sometimes also Technical Panels. Therefore, an age increase seems fair, justified and practical.

254. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 413

Amend sub-paragraph 1.a) as follows:

1. a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four (24) but not the age of fifty (50) (if a Judge is already on the ISU List of International or ISU Judges /Referees for another ISU Figure Skating Discipline, the age limit of 50 does not apply) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reason: to loose requirements for the first appointment for Judges who already have experience in International judging.

255. FRANCE

Rule 413 - Amend as follows:

2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Judge, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible, for first appointment as an ISU Judge, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Judge, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

256. FRANCE

Rule 414 - Amend as follows:

Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Technical Controllers

1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Technical Controller, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Technical Controller, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Technical Controller, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Technical Controller, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

257. NETHERLANDS

Rule 414 – Specific requirements for the nomination and appointment of Technical Controllers

Paragraph 2. c, amend as follows:

Seminar attendance: have completed, during the forty-eight (48) months, preceding July 31st of the calendar year or nomination, an ISU Seminar for first appointment or re-appointment of International Technical Controllers (see Rule 417). (rest unchanged)

Reasons: Cost saving, harmonization with recertification requirements for Judges and Referees. Also the Technical Rules are getting more and more stable with fewer significant changes.

258. NETHERLANDS

Rule 414 – Specific requirements for the nomination and appointment of Technical Controllers

Paragraph 3. c revise as follows:

Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Controller in two (2) International Competitions (as per Rule 411, paragraph 9.b).

Reason: It is not sufficient to have been only active in National Competitions in order to promote from International to ISU Technical Controller. There must have been successful international activity on record prior to take the exam for promotion.

259. AUSTRIA, Figure

Amendment of the Rule 415

Specific requirement for nomination and appointment of Technical Specialists

1. a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four (24) but not the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
2. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reason: Harmonization of retirement age to the age of 70 in the Technical Panel (TS/TC/DRO) – equal age status of the members of Technical Panel while performing the same job.

As TS, TC, DRO work on the same panel, there are no objective reasons for different age limits. A difference in age is therefore not justified and hence can be considered discrimination against the TSs (See – Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union Article 21 (1): “Any discrimination based on any ground such as (...) age (...) shall be prohibited”).

260. FRANCE

Rule 415 - Amend as follows:

1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four (24) but not the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

261. NETHERLANDS

Rule 415 – Specific requirements for the nomination and appointment of Technical Specialists

Paragraph 3. c) revise as follows:

Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31st of the calendar year of the nomination, as a Technical Specialist in two (2) International Competitions (as per Rule 411, paragraph 9.b).

Reason: It is not sufficient to have been only active in National Competitions in order to promote from International to ISU Technical Specialist. There must have been successful international activity on record prior to take the exam for promotion.

262. AUSTRIA, Figure

Amendment of the Rule 416

Specific requirement for nomination and appointment of Data & Replay Operators

1. a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four (24) but not the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
2. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.

If the previous proposals from Austria, Figure for Rules 415 and 416 will be accepted, those officials who are between the age of 65 (sixty-five) and 70 (seventy) should be resumed on the list of officials in the same category as they have been in their last year of service without any kind of examination - also taking into consideration if the appropriate period of 36 months of the last attended seminar/recertification expired quite recently in the respective category - seminar attendance is required for these officials to be eligible for the re-appointment in the officials list for the season 2016/17

Reason: Harmonization of retirement age to the age of 70 in the Technical Panel (TS/TC/DRO) – equal age status of the members of Technical Panel while performing the same job.

As TS, TC, DRO work on the same panel, there are no objective reasons for different age limits. A difference in age is therefore not justified and hence can be considered discrimination against the TSs (See – Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union Article 21 (1): “Any discrimination based on any ground such as (...) age (...) shall be prohibited”).

263. FRANCE

Rule 416 - Amend as follows:

1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

264. FRANCE

Rule 417 -Amend as follows:

ISU Seminars for Officials

5. The Initial Judges Meeting (if conducted by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee) and the Round Table Discussion of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final (combined Junior and Senior), an ISU Championships or the Olympic Winter Games form together an ISU Seminar for re-appointment of Judges.

Reason: There is no difference between an initial judges meeting and a round table discussion at an ISU Championships and at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. Simplification and cost saving.

265. NETHERLANDS

Rule 417 – ISU Seminars for Officials

Paragraph 5 and 6, revise as follows:

The following exemptions to attend the required ISU Seminars to retain level status (see Rules 412, 413, 414, 415) apply:

- Judges: having officiated in at least four (4) different ISU Events or Olympic Winter Games in the period preceding the re-nomination, without having received an Assessment or Warning Letter.

- Referees: having officiated in at least four (4) different International Competitions, ISU Events or Olympic Winter Games, in the period preceding the re-nomination, without having received an Assessment or Warning Letter. For ISU Referees, no more than two counting events should have been International Competitions. All Referee's Reports must have been graded Acceptable or higher.
- Technical Controllers: having officiated in at least four (4) different International Competitions, ISU Events or Olympic Winter Games, in the period preceding the re-nomination, without having received an Assessment or Warning Letter. For ISU Technical Controllers, no more than two counting events should have been International Competitions. All Technical Controller Reports must have been graded Acceptable or higher.
- Technical Specialists: having officiated in at least four (4) different International Competitions, ISU Events or Olympic Winter Games in the period preceding the re-nomination, without having received an Assessment or Warning Letter. For ISU Technical Specialists, no more than two counting events should have been International Competitions. Each grading of the Technical Specialist must have been Acceptable or higher.

Reasons:

- It is more logical to base exemptions on actual competition activity than (currently for Judges) attending an Initial Judges meeting moderated by a TC Member.
- With the current Rule costs are added to federations who need to send their Referees to seminars for recertification, as there is no exemption from seminar requirement for Referees the same way as there is for Judges.
- General cost saving for Federations

266. NEW ZEALAND, Figure

Rule 420, paragraph 5.

Appointment of Officials to International Competitions (general)

5. a) For all ISU Events, Qualifying Competition for the Olympic Games and the Olympic Winter Games, if possible, the Referee, Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists must not be from the same Member and all must be designated ISU.
- b) For all other International Competitions, if possible, the Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists must not be from the same Member and all must be designated ISU International. As an exception in extenuating circumstances, one (1) national Technical Specialist from the host Member may be used as Assistant Technical Specialist. In this case, this Assistant Technical Specialist must be designated as his ISU Member. See also Rule 121 of the General Regulations.

Reason: Appears to be a drafting matter, as the current wording would mean that International Technical Specialists were not able to officiate at any International Competitions.

267. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 420, paragraph 5. b)

Revise the second and third sentences as follows:

As an exception in extenuating circumstances one (1) national Technical Specialist or one (1) national Data or Replay Operator from the host Member may be used as Assistant Technical Specialist or Data or Replay Operator. In this case this Assistant Technical Specialist or Data or Replay Operator must be designated as his ISU Member.

Reason: to help the Organizers of International competitions.

268. NEW ZEALAND, Figure

Rule 420, paragraph 8

Appointment of Officials to International Competitions (general)

Add new paragraph 8 and renumber subsequent paragraph

8. For the results from any International Competition to count towards ISU Championship qualification, or for world standings or world rankings, the following conditions must be met:
 - a) the Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists must not be from the same Member, and
 - b) a panel of a minimum of five judges is required, and, no Member can have the majority of the Judges on any panel.

Reason: The use of the term "if possible" in 3 a) and in 5 a) validates the existence of panels that do not meet these criteria, but provides no limitations as to when they are applied. In practice, however, competitions where the panels do not meet these criteria are not considered for qualifying points or world ranking and this is not actually articulated in either these rules or in the ISU Communications relating to qualifying or world ranking (ISU Communications 1956 and 1629).

269. FINLAND, Figure

Rule 430, General, f) and Rule 920, General f)

Add new topic as last item:

Officials must:

- not bring any other documents to the Judges' or Technical Panel's stand except those specified in an ISU Communication.

Reason: To indicate in the rules that allowed documents are limited, both for Judges and the Technical Panel. Current Communication 1540 only concerns Judges.

270. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 430, paragraph 3 (new)

Insert a new paragraph and renumber the next paragraphs accordingly:

3. Communication between the Referee and the Technical Controller

If possible, there should be direct communication between the Referee and the Technical Controller during the competition.

Reason: sometimes these Officials need to communicate quickly with each other.

271. FRANCE

Rule 431 - Amend as follows:

Meetings at Competitions for Referees and Judges

1. Initial Judges Meeting

Judges of International Competitions, ISU Championships, and Olympic Winter Games must attend a closed meeting (Initial Judges Meeting) moderated by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee, if present, and the Referee, and, if possible, the Technical Controller, held before the competition starts. The moderators must draw to the attention of the Judges in brief summary form the Rules relating to the duties of Judges and the marking of Single or Pair Skating or Ice Dance with special attention being paid to any changes in Rules or in their interpretation or clarification that have been officially published.

At ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final (combined Junior and Senior), ISU Championships and the Olympic Winter Games, this meeting must be moderated by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee for the purposes of Rule 417, paragraph 5.

Reason: There is no difference between an initial judges meeting and a round table discussion at an ISU Championships and at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. Simplification and cost saving.

272. NORWAY

Rule 431, paragraph 2

2. Round Table Discussion

Judges of International Competitions, ISU Championships and Olympic Winter Games, must attend a closed meeting (Round Table Discussion) with the Referee and, if possible, the Technical Controller, held as soon as possible after conclusion of each discipline but not later than the following day of the discipline in question.

The referee must include video from the competition in the RTD. This is mandatory in all international competitions, and ISU events.

The following topics will be discussed during the meeting, with a purpose of feedback among Judges and to reach a consensus to assist the ISU for future judging guidelines:

- general quality of skating;
- range of points for elements and each of the Program Components of selected Skaters, without establishing a range of acceptable scores (this will be established by the Officials Assessment Commission in accordance with the procedure established by the ISU Council);
- application and validity of current regulations;
- possible improvements to the marking guide, equipment, the print-outs and the flow of information both internally and externally.

During the discussion the Judges will be encouraged to express their opinions. The discussion will not be used to criticize individuals judging the discipline in question.

Reason: Now video is used at all ISU-events, but is not always provided at an international competition. To get a good quality of the RTD, video is necessary.

273. NETHERLANDS

Rule 433 – Reports

Add: A report has to be written only if the competition category fulfils the requirement of an International competition, i.e. more than one ISU Member took part.

Reason: clarification.

274. NETHERLANDS

D. Evaluation of service by Officials

Rule 440

We leave it to the ISU Council to come up with a new procedure, but following principles should apply:

1. OAC evaluation of Grade of Execution of technical elements can be carried out either on site or off-site.
2. OAC evaluation for Program Components will be carried out only on site.
3. OAC evaluation of decisions taken by the Technical Panel will be carried out only off-site using the DVD material.
4. Before issuance of an Assessment, an official has the right to defend him/herself.

Reasons: Many aspects of a skating performance can only be judged on the site of the event, e.g. speed of the Skater, emotional involvement, projection, ice coverage, placement of elements. Also, before an Assessment is given, the official must have the right of explaining his decision.

B. TECHNICAL RULES SINGLE & PAIR SKATING / ICE DANCE
GENERAL TECHNICAL RULES IN SINGLES & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE

275. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 501, paragraph 1.

Add the following sentence:

For Ice Dance, exceptions to the restrictions may be announced by the IDTC if appropriate to the Rhythms selected for the Short Dance.

Reason: There may be Rhythms selected where different clothing is more suitable for the expression of the Dance.

276. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 502

Revise as follows:

The time must be reckoned from the moment the Skater (either Skater for Pair Skating and Ice Dance) begins to move or to skate until arriving at a complete stop at the end of the program.

1. Short Program

Ladies, Men, Pairs for both Senior and Junior:

Two (2) minutes and forty (40) seconds.

~~a) Any element started after two (2) minutes and fifty (50) seconds will be considered in the marking as omitted;~~

~~b) If Competitor/s fail to finish the Short Program within the time limit, there should be a deduction (see Rule 353, paragraph 1.n) for up to every five (5) seconds in excess. The timekeepers must inform the Referee.~~

2. Free Skating

Senior:

Men 4 1/2 minutes

Ladies 4 minutes

Pairs 4 1/2 minutes

Junior:

Men 4 minutes

Ladies 3 1/2 minutes

Pairs 4 minutes

2. Free Skating (starting with the season 2018-2019):

Senior:

Men, Ladies, Pairs 4 minutes

Junior:

Men, Ladies, Pairs 3 1/2 minutes

3. Short Dance for both Senior and Junior

Two (2) minutes and forty (40) seconds (unless otherwise decided by the Ice Dance Technical Committee and announced in an ISU Communication).

4. Free Dance

Senior 4 minutes

Junior 3 1/2 minutes

The Skater/Pair/Couple is allowed to finish the Short Program, Short Dance, Free Skating or Free Dance within ten (10) seconds plus or minus the required time. If the Skater/Pair/Couple fails to finish his/their Short Program, Short Dance, Free Skating or Free Dance program within the allowed range of time, there should be a deduction (see Rule 353, paragraph 1.n) for up to every five (5) seconds lacking or in excess. Any element in Short Program, Short Dance, Free Skating or Free Dance started after the required time (plus the ten (10) seconds allowed) must not be identified by the Technical Panel and will have no value. The timekeepers must inform the Referee. If the duration of the program is thirty (30) seconds or more under the required time range, no marks will be awarded. These deductions are not applicable under the Rule 515, paragraphs 6-7.

Reason: to have the same requirements for all disciplines and for Short Program/Short Dance and Free Skating/Free Dance.

277. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 504, paragraph 1. b)

Table – amend the Ice Dance part as follows:

Single & Pair Skating	Ice Dance
Lifts, twist lifts and death spirals (pairs), spins and steps (singles and pairs) are divided depending on their difficulty in five (5) Levels of Difficulty according to the number of features achieved: Basic Level – in case of no features, Level 1 – in case of one feature, Level 2 – in case of two features, Level 3 – in case of three features and Level 4 – in case of four or more features.	<u>All Required Elements except Step Sequences and Choreographic Elements are divided into Levels of Difficulty. For Lifts, Spins, Twizzles and Step Sequences, there are 4 Levels depending on Difficulty. For Step Sequences, there is an additional Basic Level in which the Element is completed, but the criteria for Level 1 have not been achieved. For Choreographic Elements, no Level is given, but the Element is confirmed if the minimum requirements defining the Element are met.</u>

Reason: To introduce the Basic Level for Step Sequences and to reword the rest.

278. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 504, sub-paragraph 1.c)

Insert as follows:

- c) Each Judge will mark the quality of execution of every element depending on the positive features of the execution and errors on the seven Grades of Execution scale: +3, +2, +1, Base Value, -1, -2, -3.

Starting with the season 2018 – 2019 there will be 10 Grades of Execution.

As per Rule 353, paragraphs 1.h) (i) and (ii) and 1.i), jump combinations, jump sequences (in Single & Pair Skating) and Combination Lifts (in Ice Dance) are evaluated as "one unit".

Reason: to have more possibilities in evaluation of quality.

279. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 504, paragraph 3. a)

If joint proposal below is not accepted:

Delete the 5th bullet under Interpretation of the Music/Timing:

— ~~Appropriateness of the music (Ice Dance);~~

Reason: This criteria is not a part of the Component Interpretation of the Music/Timing. It is a part of the Music deductions marked by the Judges and Referee.

280. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 504, paragraph 3

Revise as follows:

3. Program Component Score

a) Definition of Program Components

The Skater's/Pair's/Couple's whole performance is evaluated by five (5) Program Components: Skating Skills, Transitions, Performance, Composition, Interpretation of the Music /Timing (for Ice Dance).

For Pair Skating and Ice Dance there must be equal demonstration of the criteria by both skaters.

Skating Skills

Defined by overall cleanness and sureness, edge control and flow over the ice surface demonstrated by a command of the skating vocabulary (edges, steps, turns etc.), the clarity of technique and the use of effortless power to accelerate and vary speed.

In evaluating the Skating Skills, the following must be considered:

- Use of deep edges, steps and turns;
- Balance, rhythmic knee action and precision of foot placement;
- Flow and glide;
- Varied use of power, speed and acceleration;
- Use of multi directional skating;
- Use of one foot skating.

Transitions

The varied and purposeful use of intricate footwork, positions, movements and holds that link all elements.

In evaluating the Transitions, the following must be considered:

- Continuity of movements from one element to another (all disciplines);
- Variety (including variety of holds in Ice Dance);
- Difficulty;
- Quality.

Performance

Involvement of the Skater/Pair/Couple physically, emotionally and intellectually as they deliver the intent of the music and composition.

In evaluating the Performance, the following must be considered:

- Physical, emotional, and intellectual involvement;
- Carriage & Clarity of movement;
- Variety and contrast of movements and energy;
- Individuality / personality;
- Unison and “oneness” (Pair Skating, Ice Dance);
- Spatial awareness between partners - management of the distance between skaters and management of changes of hold (Pair Skating, Ice Dance).

Composition

An intentionally developed and/or original arrangement of all types of movements according to the principles of musical phrase, space, pattern, and structure.

In evaluating the Composition, the following must be considered:

- Purpose (idea, concept, vision, mood);
- Pattern / ice coverage;
- Multidimensional use of space and design of movements;
- Phrase and form (movements and parts structured to match the musical phrase);
- Originality of the composition;

Interpretation of the Music /Timing (for Ice Dance)

The personal, creative, and genuine translation of the rhythm, character and content of music to movement on ice.

In evaluating the Interpretation of the Music (/Timing), the following must be considered:

- Movement and steps in time to the music (Timing);
- Expression of the music’s character / feeling and rhythm, when clearly identifiable;
- Use of finesse (*) to reflect the details and nuances of the music;
- Relationship between the Skaters reflecting the character and rhythm of the music (Pair Skating, Ice Dance);
- Skating primarily to the rhythmic beat for Short Dance and keeping a good balance between skating to the beat and melody in the Free Dance (Ice Dance).

*Finesse is the Skater's refined, artful manipulation of music details and nuances through movement. It is unique to the Skater/Skaters, and demonstrates an inner feeling for the music and the composition. Nuances are the personal ways of bringing subtle variations to the intensity, tempo, and dynamics of the music made by the composer and/or musicians.

Reason: to update the components criteria, avoid possible overlapping and make the criteria more understandable and clear.

281. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 513, paragraph 2

Revise as follows:

2. Free Skating/Free Dance

- a) The starting order is determined from the result of the Short Program/Short Dance or Pattern Dance(s);
- b) As soon as possible after the determination of the results of the preceding Segment, the Referee, in the presence of at least one Competitor, shall divide the Competitors into the smallest possible number of equal groups (see Table I of the Technical Rules), in the order in which they finished the preceding Segment;
- c) If the number of Competitors is not equally divisible, the last group to skate (and as many preceding groups as necessary) must contain one more Competitor than the first group. The lowest placed group must skate first, the next lowest second and so on;
- d) If two or more Competitors are tied for the same place at the end of the preceding Segment, the Competitors concerned shall be drawn in the same group. If necessary the immediately preceding group shall be smaller by the number of Competitors so added to the following group;
- e) The order of skating in each group shall be determined by lot and each Competitor shall be drawn in the order of placement in the preceding Segment of the competition, i.e. with the best placed Competitor drawing first and including those tied. The order of the draw between the tied Competitors shall first be determined by a separate draw prior to the main draw.

For ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games:

- f) Ladies and men: The order of skating for the final two groups (i.e. with the best placed Competitors) will be drawn in four subgroups.
 - (i) The top three finishers in the short program will be the last to skate in the final group and will draw from the first subgroup.
 - (ii) The fourth-, fifth- and sixth-place finishers in the short program will be the first to skate in the final group and will draw from the second subgroup.

(iii) The seventh-, eight- and ninth-place finishers in the short program will be the last to skate in the second-to-last group and will draw from the third subgroup.

(iv) The 10th-, 11th- and 12th-place finishers in the short program will be the first to skate in the second-to-last group and will draw from the fourth subgroup.

If there are fewer than 12 Skaters in the final two groups, the first and third subgroups will contain three skaters, and the second and fourth subgroups will be adjusted accordingly.

g) Pairs: The order of skating for the final two groups (i.e. with the best placed Competitors) will be drawn in four subgroups.

(i) The top two finishers in the short program will be the last to skate in the final group and will draw from the first subgroup.

(ii) The third- and fourth-place finishers in the short program will be the first to skate in the final group and will draw from the second subgroup.

(iii) The fifth- and sixth-place finishers in the short program will be the last to skate in the second-to-last group and will draw from the third subgroup.

(iv) The seventh- and eighth-place finishers in the short program will be the first to skate in the second-to-last group and will draw from the fourth subgroup.

If there are fewer than eight teams in the final two groups, the first and third subgroups will contain two teams, and the second and fourth subgroups will be adjusted accordingly.

h) Ice Dance: The order of skating for the final two groups (i.e. with the best placed Competitors) will be drawn in four subgroups.

(i) The top three finishers in the Short Dance will be the last to skate in the final group and will draw from the first subgroup.

(ii) The fourth- and fifth-place finishers in the Short Dance will be the first to skate in the final group and will draw from the second subgroup.

(iii) The sixth-, seventh- and eighth-place finishers in the Short Dance will be the last to skate in the second-to-last group and will draw from the third subgroup.

(iv) The ninth- and 10th-place finishers in the Short Dance will be the first to skate in the second-to-last group and will draw from the fourth subgroup.

If there are fewer than 10 couples in the final two groups, the first and third subgroups will be adjusted accordingly.

For other International Competitions the Organizers have the option of determining the order of skating according to sub-paragraphs e) to h) of this Rule or using the reverse order of places in the Short Program/Short Dance for the purpose. The method used should be mentioned in the Announcement of the competition.

Reason: These procedures ensure the best finishes in the short program are always the final two or three Skaters/pairs/couples in a draw group, adding to the interest of the last group to skate. Additionally, this would increase television and audience excitement while maintaining the fairness of an open draw for the competitors.

282. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 514, paragraph 2

Add a new paragraph e):

2. The duration and maximum size of each warm-up (see Table II of the Technical Rules) are:

- e) Starting with the season 2018 – 2019 the duration of the warm-ups in sub-paragraphs a), b) d) will be as follows: Single Skating, Pair Skating, Ice Dance – Short Program/Short Dance – four (4) minutes duration, Free Skating/Dance – five (5) minutes duration.

Reason: this is one of the measures to make the Competitions shorter.

283. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 515

Insert a new paragraph 6 and renumber current paragraphs 6 and 7 accordingly:

6. If any Competitor/s between being called to the start and taking the starting position is/are injured or any other adverse condition related to him/them or his/their equipment impeding his/their skating occurs, Rule 350, paragraph 2 applies. If sixty (60) seconds are not enough to remedy the adverse condition, the Referee shall allow the Competitor up to three (3) additional minutes applying a deduction as per paragraph 3.b) above.

Reason: to have a procedure in case of the situation not described in the current Rules.

284. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Rule 521

Change sub-paragraph 4.d) as follows:

4. d) The ISU Members will enter with their Judges' name(s) for the individual ISU Championships and disciplines including a substitute Judge, in which they have been drawn, twenty-one (21) days prior to the first Initial Judges Meeting of the ISU Championships concerned;

Reason: with the Judges draw in October, the current long period of 45 days seems to be unnecessary.

C. TECHNICAL RULES SINGLE & PAIR SKATING

285. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 610, part *Spin combinations*:

Revise as follows:

Spin combinations: Must include all three basic positions with 2 revolutions in each of these positions anywhere within the spin (if there are less than three basic positions with 2 revolutions in each position, this will be reflected in the Value of the spin). The number of revolutions in positions that are non-basic is counted in the total number of revolutions. Changing to a non-basic position is not considered as a change of position.

Reason: to simplify the calling procedure; spin combinations with only two basic positions could be indicated with the sign “V”.

286. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 611, paragraph 1

Change c) to new c) and d):

c) If an unprescribed or additional element (performed) substitutes a required element (not performed), the respective box will be blocked and this performed element will be considered as not according to the requirements (no value).

d) Unlisted or additional elements such as jumps, spins, steps or repetitions, even of failed elements, are not marked and consequently do not block a “box” (spot) of another type of elements.

Reason: wording clarification.

287. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 611, paragraph 2, **Ladies**

Revise e) as follows:

e) Layback or sideways leaning spin or Spin in one basic position without change of foot;

Reason: the necessity of a layback spin results in many back injuries.

288. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 611, paragraph 3

Revise as follows:

2016-2017

Men

- a) Double or triple Axel Paulsen;
- b) Double or triple Loop jump immediately preceded by connecting steps and/or by other comparable Free Skating movements;
- c) Jump combination consisting of a double and a triple jump or two triple jumps;
- d) Flying camel spin;
- e) Sit spin with only one change of foot;
- f) Spin combination with only one change of foot;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

Ladies

- a) Double Axel Paulsen;
- b) Double or triple Loop jump immediately preceded by connecting steps and/or by other comparable Free Skating movements;
- c) Jump combination consisting of two double jumps or one double and one triple jump or two triple jumps;
- d) Flying camel spin;
- e) Layback or sideways leaning spin or sit or upright spin without change of foot;
- f) Spin combination with only one change of foot;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

2017-2018

Men

- a) Double or triple Axel Paulsen;
- b) Double or triple Lutz jump immediately preceded by connecting steps and/or by other comparable Free Skating movements;
- c) Jump combination consisting of a double and a triple jump or two triple jumps;
- d) Flying sit spin;
- e) Camel spin with only one change of foot;
- f) Spin combination with only one change of foot;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

Ladies

- a) Double Axel Paulsen;
- b) Double or triple Lutz jump immediately preceded by connecting steps and/or by other comparable Free Skating movements;
- c) Jump combination consisting of two double jumps or one double and one triple jump or two triple jumps;
- d) Flying sit spin;
- e) Layback or sideways leaning spin or camel or upright spin without change of foot;
- f) Spin combination with only one change of foot;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

2018-2019

Men

- a) Double or triple Axel Paulsen;
- b) Double or triple Flip jump immediately preceded by connecting steps and/or by other comparable Free Skating movements;
- c) Jump combination consisting of a double and a triple jump or two triple jumps;
- d) Flying camel spin;
- e) Sit spin with only one change of foot;
- f) Spin combination with only one change of foot;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

Ladies

- a) Double Axel Paulsen;
- b) Double or triple Flip jump immediately preceded by connecting steps and/or by other comparable Free Skating movements;
- c) Jump combination consisting of two double jumps or one double and one triple jump or two triple jumps;
- d) Flying camel spin;
- e) Layback or sideways leaning spin or sit or upright spin without change of foot;
- f) Spin combination with only one change of foot;
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface.

Reason: usual rotation of Groups and to be in line with requirements for Seniors.

289. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 611, paragraph 4, part **Jump combinations**

Revise as follows:

c) For Senior Men the jump combination may consist of the same jump or another double, triple or quadruple jump; when a quadruple jump is executed in b), a different quadruple jump can be included in the jump combination. For Senior Ladies, Junior Men and Ladies the jump combination may consist of the same jump or another double or triple jump. However, for all categories the jumps included must be different than the solo jump.

If the same jump is executed as a solo jump and as a part of the jump combination, the second execution will not be counted (if this repetition is in a jump combination, only the individual jump which is not according to the above requirements will not be counted).

Reason: The current penalty is too harsh.

290. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 611, paragraph 4, part **Spins**

Revise as follows:

Spin in one position and spin combination: if there is no spin position before and/or after the change of foot with at least three (3) revolutions, the spin is not according to the requirements and no value will be given.

Except flying spins, spins cannot be commenced with a jump.

d) Flying spin:

Senior: Any type of flying spin is permitted with landing position different than in the Spin in one position.

Junior: Only the prescribed type of flying spin is permitted.

Senior and Junior: A step over must be considered by the Judges in the Grade of Execution. A minimum of eight (8) revolutions in the landing position which may be different from the flying position. No previous rotation on the ice before the take-off is permitted. The required eight (8) revolutions can be executed in any variation of the landing position.

e) Spin in one position

Men - Spin with only one change of foot:

Senior: The Competitor must choose the camel position or the sit position to be executed, but this position must be

different from the landing position of the Flying spin. The spin must consist of only one change of foot, which may be executed in the form of a step over or a jump with not less than six (6) revolutions on each foot. If the landing position of the Flying spin is the same that in the Spin in one position, the last performed of these two spins will not be counted, but will occupy a spin box.

Junior: Only the prescribed sit or camel position is permitted to be executed. The spin must consist of only one change of foot, which may be executed in the form of a step over or a jump with not less than six (6) revolutions on each foot.

Ladies - layback or sideways leaning spin:

Any position is permitted, as long as the basic layback or sideways leaning position is maintained for eight (8) revolutions without rising to an upright position. After the required 8 revolutions it is possible to execute the Biellmann position. Change of foot is not allowed.

Ladies - Spin in one position without change of foot:

Any variation(s) of the chosen position can be executed. Minimum of eight (8) revolutions in this position.

f) Spin combination:

The spin combination must include only one change of foot with not less than six (6) revolutions on each foot. A change of foot may be executed in the form of a step over or a jump. The change of foot and the change of position may be made either at the same time or separately. See general requirements for a spin combination in Rule 610.

Reason: to reflect a possibility of execution of a spin in one position instead of layback for ladies and be more flexible with air positions in flying spins for Juniors.

291. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 611, paragraph 4, part **Spirals**

Delete the whole part:

Spirals

~~Though a spiral sequence is no longer an element of the Ladies Short Program, the execution of Spirals will be rewarded in "Transitions".~~

Reason: not necessary.

292. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 612, paragraph 1

Add at the end:

Starting with the season 2018-2019 there will be a maximum of 7 jump elements in the Senior and Junior Well Balanced program.

Reason: to reflect a shorter duration of these programs.

293. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 612, paragraph 2, part Repetitions

Revise as follows:

Repetitions:

Any double jump (including double Axel) cannot be included more than twice in total in a Single's Free Program (as a Solo Jump or a part of Combination / Sequence). Of all the triple and quadruple jumps only two (2) can be executed twice. If at least one of these executions is in a jump combination or a jump sequence, both executions are evaluated in a regular way. If both executions are as solo jumps, the second of these solo jumps will receive 70% of its original Base Value. Triple and quadruple jumps with the same name will be considered as two different jumps. No triple or quadruple jump can be attempted more than twice.

Extra jumps and jump elements:

If an extra jump(s) is executed only the individual jump which is not according to the requirements will have no value. The jumps are considered in the order of execution.

Reason: The current penalty is too harsh.

294. SINGLE & PAIR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 612, paragraph 2, part **Spins**

Delete the last sentence:

~~The number of different positions in the spin combination is free.~~

Reason: this sentence is unnecessary and could cause confusion.

295. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 619, part **Lifts**

Delete as follows:

Partners may give each other assistance only through hand-to-hand, hand-to-arm, hand-to-body and hand to upper part

of the leg (above the knee) grips. A change of hold means going from one of these grips to another or from one hand to another in a one hand hold. Changes of hold during the lift are permitted. ~~If, however, the Man changes hold for less than one (1) revolution, it is not considered as a “change of hold”. One hand holds and/or one hand landings count as Level features only when the Man uses one hand and the Lady uses either one hand or no hands.~~

Lady's positions are classified as follows: Upright (Lady's upper body vertical), Star (Lady's position sideways with upper body parallel to the ice) and Platter (Lady's position flat, facing up or down with upper body parallel to the ice). A change of position means going from one of these positions to another (one full revolution in each position).

~~If a change of hold and a change of Lady's position are executed at the same time, only one Level feature will be awarded.~~

Reason: the deleted sentences should be in the Technical Panel Handbook.

296. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 619, part **Twist lifts**

Delete as follows:

The Lady must be caught in the air at the waist by the Man prior to landing and be assisted to a smooth landing on the ice on a backward outside edge on one foot. ~~In the twist lift, a split position by the Lady, prior to rotating, is not mandatory.~~

Reason: no longer a requirement.

297. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 619, part **Solo spin combinations**

Revise as follows:

The Solo spin combination should have all three basic positions with 2 revolutions in each of these positions by both partners (if there are less than three basic positions with 2 revolutions in each position, this will be reflected in the Value of the spin).

Solo spin combinations may be commenced with jumps.

Reason: to be in line with Spin combinations in Single Skating.

298. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 619, part **Pair spin combinations**

Revise as follows:

The Pair spin combination should have all three basic positions with 2 revolutions in each of these positions by both partners (if there are less than three basic positions with 2 revolutions in each position, this will be reflected in the Value of the spin).

The pair spin combination must include at least one change of foot of both partners.

If there is no change of foot or no change of position by both partners, the element will have no value.

Reason: to be in line with Solo spin combinations.

299. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 620, paragraph 1

Change c) to new c) and d):

- c) If an unprescribed or additional element (performed) substitutes a required element (not performed), the respective box will be blocked and this performed element will be considered as not according to the requirements (no value).
- d) Unlisted or additional elements such as jumps, spins, steps or repetitions, even of elements which have failed, are not marked and consequently do not block a “box” (spot) of another type of elements.

Reason: to be in line with Single Skating.

300. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 620, paragraph 2

Revise as follows:

2. The Senior Short Program shall consist of the following required elements, which form three groups. The groups that are effective on July 1st of each year are:

2016-2017

- a) Any Lasso lift take-off (Group Five)
- b) Twist lift (double or triple)
- c) Throw jump (double or triple)
- d) Solo jump (double or triple)
- e) Solo spin combination with only one change of foot
- f) Death spiral backward inside
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface

2017-2018

- a) Any hip lift take-off (Group Three)
- b) Twist lift (double or triple)
- c) Throw jump (double or triple)
- d) Solo jump (double or triple)
- e) Pair spin combination with only one change of foot
- f) Death spiral forward inside
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface

2018-2019

- a) Any hand to hand lift take-off (Group Four)
- b) Twist lift (double or triple)
- c) Throw jump (double or triple)
- d) Solo jump (double or triple)
- e) Solo spin combination with only one change of foot
- f) Death spiral backward outside
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface

Reason: usual rotation of Groups.

301. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 620, paragraph 3

Revise as follows:

3. The Junior Short Program shall consist of the following required elements, which form three groups. The groups that are effective on July 1st of each year are:

2016-2017

- a) Any Lasso lift take-off (Group Five)
- b) Twist lift (double or triple)
- c) Double or triple toe loop or Flip/Lutz throw jump
- d) Double loop or double Axel solo jump
- e) Solo spin combination with only one change of foot
- f) Death spiral backward inside
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface

2017-2018

- a) Any hip lift take-off (Group Three)
- b) Twist lift (double or triple)
- c) Double or triple loop throw jump
- d) Double Lutz solo jump
- e) Pair spin combination with only one change of foot
- f) Death spiral forward inside
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface

2018-2019

- a) Any hand to hand lift take-off (Group Four)
- b) Twist lift (double or triple)
- c) Double or triple Salchow throw jump
- d) Double Flip or double Axel solo jump
- e) Solo spin combination with only one change of foot
- f) Death spiral backward outside
- g) Step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface

Reason: to have more general Lifts requirements (like for Seniors) and usual rotation of Groups.

302. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 620, paragraph 4, part **Lifts**

Leave only one sentence and delete the rest:

- a) Only the prescribed group lift take-off is permitted.
~~Hand to hand loop lift take-off:
Partners skate backward one behind the other, backward outside, in hand to hand position.
Toe Lasso lift take-off:
Partners skate in Lasso position with the Lady skating backward and the Man forward. The Lady is lifted in the air~~

~~from a backward toe take off.~~

~~Toe loop hip lift take off:~~

~~Partners skate backward with a hip grip. The Lady picks as in a toe loop jump. The Man turns together with the Lady.~~

Reason: not necessary with more general Lifts requirements.

303. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 620, paragraph 4, part **Solo spin combinations**

Revise as follows:

- e) The spin combination must include only one change of foot with not less than five (5) revolutions on each foot by both partners. The change of foot may be executed in the form of a step over or a jump. The change of foot and the change of position may be made either at the same time or separately.

Reason: to simplify the text.

304. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 620, paragraph 4, part **Pair spin combinations**

Revise as follows:

- e) The pair spin combination must include only one change of foot with not less than eight (8) revolutions in total. The change of foot must be made at the same time by both partners. The change of position can be done at the same time or independently by the partners. The rotation must be continuous and no stop is permitted. The spin combination must not be commenced with a jump.

Reason: to simplify the text.

305. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 620, paragraph 4, part **Spiral Sequences**

Delete the whole part:

Spiral Sequences

~~Though a spiral sequence is no longer an element of the Pairs Short Program, the execution of Spirals will be rewarded in "Transitions".~~

Reason: not necessary.

306. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 621, paragraph 4 (new), renumber the current paragraph 4 to 5

4. Starting with the season 2018-2019 there will be no choreographic sequence in Senior and Junior Well balanced Programs. Execution of choreographic elements will be rewarded in "Transitions".

Reason: to reflect a shorter duration of these programs.

307. SINGLE & PAIR SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 621, paragraph 5 (former 4), revise the second part as follows:

Solo jumps, jump combinations and jump sequences

Add at the end:

If an extra jump(s) is executed, only the individual jump(s) which is not according to the requirements will have no value. The jumps are considered in the order of execution.

.....
In the **pair spin combination** there must be at least one change of foot of both partners, not necessarily executed by both partners at the same time.

Choreographic Sequences

Delete the words "(except twizzles)".

Reason: to be in line with Single Skating and avoid repetitions.

D. TECHNICAL RULES ICE DANCE

308. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 703, paragraph 4

Replace entire paragraph with the following:

4. *Step Sequence* – A series of prescribed or un-prescribed steps, turns and movements in a Short (Rhythm) Dance or a Free Dance. Step Sequences are divided into Types, Groups and Styles.
- a) There are the following **Types of Step Sequences**, which may be skated either in hold or not- touching.
- i) Step Sequences in Hold must be skated in any Dance Holds or variation thereof (unless otherwise specified by the Ice Dance Technical Committee). Any separation to change a hold must not exceed one measure of music;
- ii) Not Touching Step Sequences must incorporate mirror and/or matching footwork. Both partners may cross each other's tracing(s) and may switch from matching footwork to mirror and vice versa, unless otherwise specified by the Ice Dance Technical Committee. The partners should remain as close together as possible, but they must not touch. The distance between the partners should generally not be more than two (2) arm length apart, except for short distances when the partners are performing edges and turns in opposite directions.
- b) *Types of Step Sequences* are divided into **Groups**:
- i) Group A: Straight Line Step Sequences
- *Midline* – skated along the full length of the ice surface on the Long Axis;
 - *Diagonal* – skated as fully corner to corner as possible.
- ii) Group B: Curved Step Sequence
- *Circular* (may be skated in anticlockwise or clockwise direction) – utilizing the full width of the ice surface on the Short Axis;
 - *Serpentine* – commences in either direction (clockwise or anticlockwise) at the Long Axis at one end of the rink and progresses in three bold curves or in two bold curves (S-Shaped) and ends at the Long Axis of the opposite end of the rink, the pattern utilizing the full width of the ice surface.
- iii) Group C: Partial Step Sequences
- Pattern Dance Type Step Sequence– performed on the ice surface anywhere or as prescribed by the Ice Dance Technical Committee.
 - One Foot Step Sequence – performed on one foot by each partner simultaneously, in Hold or separately
- iv) Group D: Combination Step Sequences consisting of a One Foot Step Sequence and a Step Sequence of Group A or B
- c) Style of Step Sequences
Characteristics of Levels of Step Sequences, organized as Styles, are technical requirements with ongoing validity and are published in an ISU Communication

Any variation or combination of Groups, or other Groups of Step Sequences as decided upon by the Ice Dance Technical Committee are described and published in an ISU Communication.

Reason: To more clearly define the differences between Types, Groups and Styles of Step Sequences. To introduce the concept of the Combination Step Sequence which allows more variety.

309. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 704, paragraph 12

Add at the end:

Any variation or combinations of Twizzles as decided upon by the Ice Dance Technical Committee are published in an ISU Communication.

Reason: For the purpose of clarification and to allow greater variety for programs in the future, variations or combinations are announced for the Season in a Communication by the IDTC.

310. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 704, paragraph 14

Add at the end:

Any variation or combinations of Dance Spins as decided upon by the Ice Dance Technical Committee are published in an ISU Communication.

Reason: For the purpose of clarification and to allow greater variety for programs in the future, variations or combinations are announced for the Season in a Communication by the IDTC.

311. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 704, paragraph 16

Read under *Short Lifts*:

Short Lifts – the duration of the Lift should not exceed ~~six (6)~~ seven (7) seconds

Reason: To give more freedom to the choreography of Dance Lifts and allow more variation.

312. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 704, paragraph 16

Read:

Illegal Lift Movement/Pose – The following movements and/or poses during the lift are illegal:

- a) lying or sitting on the partner's head;
- b) ~~sitting or~~ standing on the partner's shoulder or back;
- c) lifted partner in upside down split pose (with sustained angle between thighs more than 45 degrees);
- d) lifting partner swinging the lifted partner around;
 - i) by holding the skate(s)/boot(s) or leg(s) only with fully extended arm(s) or without the assistance of hand(s)/arm(s) or;
 - ii) by holding the hand(s) with full arm extension by both partners.
- e) point of contact of the lifting hand/arm of the lifting partner with any part of the body of the lifted partner is ~~not~~ sustained higher than the lifting partner's head;
- f) hand/arm which is used ~~for~~ as an additional support or balancing only or which touches any part of the body of the lifted partner is ~~not~~ sustained by the lifting partner higher than his head for more than 2 seconds.

A brief movement through poses a) to e) will be permitted if it is not established (sustained) or if it is used only to change pose.

Reason: To remove the restriction from the list of Illegal poses and give the couples a chance for more variety. Also, to remove the word "not" as a correction.

313. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 704, paragraph 16

Add at the end:

Any variation or combinations of Dance Lifts as decided upon by the Ice Dance Technical Committee are published in an ISU Communication.

Reason: For the purpose of clarification and to allow greater variety for programs in the future, variations or combinations are announced for the Season in a Communication by the IDTC.

314. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 708, paragraph 3. a) ii)

Read:

- ii) Levels of Sections

For ~~International~~ Advanced Novice Competitions and for competitions having specified such procedure in their Announcement, Technical Specialists will determine the Level of every Section in the Pattern Dance (if a description of Levels of Sections and corresponding Scale of Value are available for that Pattern Dance in an ISU Communication);

~~Sections are divided into four (4) Levels. The description of characteristics that give a Section a certain Level is published and updated in ISU Communications. for Pattern Dances included in International Novice Competitions and, if possible, other Pattern Dances;~~

Reason: For consistency with Communication 1947. For Advanced Novice Competitions, Levels for Pattern Dances will be called by the Technical Panel. The requirements for Levels will be announced for the Season in a Communication by the IDTC.

315. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 709, paragraph 1. c) and j)

Add to the second sentence.

- c) The music for the Short Dance, including music for the specified Pattern Dance (if required) is to be provided by the Couple. The music may be vocal and must be suitable for Ice Dance as a sport discipline.

Reason: Harmonization with the Free Dance requirement

Add to the end of the sentence:

- j) Touching the ice with the hand(s) is not permitted. Unless otherwise allowed by the IDTC and announced in a Communication.

Reason: There maybe Rhythms for the Short Dance where touching the ice with the hand(s) would be appropriate.

316. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 710, paragraph 1. c) ii)

Read:

The music must have at least one change of tempo/rhythm and expression.

Reason: There are cases where music will have very different rhythms with the same tempo. It is correct if the couple changes rhythm or tempo to show variation in their Free Dance.

317. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 710, paragraph 1. f)

Add to the end of the sentence regarding Separations:

“, unless otherwise specified in an ISU Communication”

Reason: For the purpose of clarification, the number and duration of Separations are announced for the Season in a Communication by the IDTC.

318. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 710, paragraph 1. h)

Add to end of sentence:

“, unless otherwise specified in an ISU Communication”

Reason: For the purpose of clarification, the number and duration of Stops are announced for the Season in a Communication by the IDTC.

319. ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 710, paragraph 2

Read:

The list of Required Elements to be included in a Well Balanced Program for Novice, Junior and Senior Free Dances and the specific requirements for those Elements will be announced in an ISU Communication annually.

The following are options that may be included as Required Elements:

- Dance Lift(s) – see Rule 704 paragraph 16;
- Dance Spin(s) – see Rule 704 paragraph 14 e;
- Step Sequence(s) – see Rule 703 paragraph 4 (Groups A and B);
- Set(s) of Synchronized Twizzles– see Rule 704 paragraph 12.b);
- Choreographic Element(s) (~~not more than one~~) – see Rule 704, paragraph 19.

Reason: For the purpose of clarification, the list of Required Elements is announced for the Season in a Communication by the IDTC.

E. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

320. NEW ZEALAND, Figure

Rule 838

Call to the start

1. Prior to each performance, the names of those Teams about to compete must be clearly called on the ice and in the dressing rooms.
2. Prior to the announcement, the next Team to skate must enter the ice surface for their warmup at the sign of the Referee's Assistant at ice level. Following the warmup period (see Rule 964), the Team is ~~then~~ announced and the time one (1) minute is reckoned from this point ~~(see Rule 964).~~
3. Each Team must take the starting position and make a signal to the Referee of each Segment of the competition (Short Program and Free Skating) at the latest one (1) minute after their name has been announced, failing which the music will be played.

Reason: As it stands the reference to Rule 964 in Rule 838 has the potential to create some confusion between the warmup of at least one minute specified in Rule 964, and the 1 minute reckoned from the time the team is announced.

321. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 838, Call to the start, paragraph 3

Amend as follows:

3. Each Team must take the starting position and make a signal to the Referee of each Segment of the competition (Short Program and Free Skating) at the latest ~~one (1) minute~~ thirty (30) seconds after their name has been announced, failing which the music will be played.

Reason: Teams have already some time on the ice for warming up, they do not need one minute to get their starting position.

322. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 843, paragraph 1. n) – delete second last row in the chart

Violation:	As per:	Points:
Holds	Rule 991, paragraph 3.a), and 4.d)	-1.0 missing one hold per program -2.0 missing two hold per program

Reason: The number of holds in a program is included in some element technical requirements and therefore it is no longer necessary for the referee to check and/or make a deduction for the number of holds in a program.

323. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 843, paragraph 1. n) – amend last line in the chart

Wrong Element Shape in SP	Rule 991 § 3. f)	-0.5 per violation <u>No value</u>
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Reason: Teams not using the required element shape in a Short program should not receive value for that element since in some cases the wrong shape would have more value than the required element (even with the original deduction)

324. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 868 – add new paragraph 7.

7. Minimum Total Elements Scores:

To be entered into and participate in an ISU Championships a Team must have reached in an ISU recognized International Competition (as per Article 38, paragraph 7 and Rule 107, paragraphs 1 to 9) during the ongoing or immediately preceding season the applicable Minimum Total Elements Scores (points). The applicable Minimum Total Elements Scores shall be decided for each season by the ISU Council based on a joint proposal from the respective Technical Committee and the Sports Director(s) and shall be published in an ISU Communication.

Reason: For all ISU Event Championships, JWCC, Teams should have participated to an International Competition before being entered to the list of the Championships.

325. FRANCE

Rule 902 - Amend as follows:

Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Referees

1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Referee, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Referee, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Referee, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Referee, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

326. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 903

Amend sub-paragraph 1.a) as follows:

1. a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four (24) but not the age of fifty (50) (if a Judge is already on the ISU List of International or ISU Judges /Referees for another ISU Figure Skating Discipline, the age limit of 50 does not apply) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reason: to remove requirements for the first appointment for Judges who already have experience in International judging.

327. FRANCE

Rule 903 - Amend as follows:

Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Judges

2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Judge, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible, for first appointment as an ISU Judge, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Judge, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

328. FRANCE

Rule 904 - Amend as follows:

Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Technical Controllers

1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Technical Controller, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Technical Controller, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Technical Controller, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Technical Controller, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

329. FRANCE

Rule 905 - Amend as follows:

2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Technical Specialist, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:

- a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

330. FRANCE

Rule 906-Amend as follows:

Specific requirements for nomination and appointment of Data & Replay Operators

1. To be eligible for first appointment as an International Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
2. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an International Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. To be eligible for first appointment as an ISU Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. To be eligible for annual re-appointment as an ISU Data & Replay Operator, the Official must fulfil the following requirements:
 - a) Age: have not reached the age of (age limit - see new Article 13 - 3.) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reasons:

- To be in accordance with the new Article 13 – 3
- Reason in order to harmonize rules for all officials in all ISU family branches.

331. FRANCE

Rule 907 -Amend as follows:

ISU Seminars for Officials

5. The Initial Judges Meeting (if conducted by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee) and the Round Table Discussion of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final (combined Junior and Senior), an ISU Championships or the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup form together an ISU Seminar for re-appointment of Judges.

Reason: There is no difference between an initial judges meeting and a round table discussion at an ISU Championships and at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. Simplification and cost saving.

332. FRANCE

Rule 921 -Amend as follows:

Meeting at Competitions for Referees and Judges

1. Initial Judges Meeting

Judges of International Competitions, ISU Championships, ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup and Olympic Winter Games must attend a closed meeting (Initial Judges Meeting) moderated by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee, if present, and the Referee, and, if possible, the Technical Controller, held before the competition starts. The moderators must draw to the attention of the Judges in brief summary form the Rules relating to the duties of Judges and the marking of Synchronized Skating with special attention being paid to any changes in Rules or in their interpretation or clarification that have been officially published.

At ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final (combined Junior and Senior), ISU Championships and the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, this meeting must be moderate by the Chair or a member of the respective Technical Committee for the purposes of Rule 907 paragraph 5.

Reason: There is no difference between an initial judges meeting and a round table discussion at an ISU Championships and at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. Simplification and cost saving.

F. TECHNICAL RULES SYNCHRONIZED SKATING

333. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 952 amend paragraph 1 and a) , 2 a) and b), the rest stay.

Starting with season 2018-2019

1. Short Program:
Senior and Junior: Two (2) minutes and ~~fifty (50)~~ forty (40) seconds but may be less.
 - a) Any Element started after two (2) minutes and ~~fifty (50)~~ forty (40) seconds will be considered in the marking as omitted.
2. Free Skating:
 - a) Senior: Four (4) minutes ~~and thirty (30) seconds~~.
 - b) Junior: ~~Four (4) minutes~~ 3 minutes 30 seconds.

Reason: to have the same requirements for all disciplines and for Short Program/Short Dance and Free Skating/Free Dance.

334. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 954 paragraph 1. d) – add at the end

Starting with season 2018-2019 there will be 10 Grades of Execution

Reason: to have more possibilities in evaluation of quality. Harmonization.

335. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 954 paragraph 2 – revise as follows

a) Definition of Program Components

The Team's whole performance is evaluated by five (5) Program Components: Skating Skills, Transitions (Linking Steps, Formations and Movements), Performance, Composition, Interpretation of the Music /Timing.

For Synchronized Skating there must be equal demonstration of the criteria by all Skaters.

Skating Skills

Defined by overall cleanness and sureness, edge control and flow over the ice surface demonstrated by a command of the skating vocabulary (edges, steps, turns etc.), the clarity of technique and the use of effortless power to accelerate and vary speed.

In evaluating the Skating Skills, the following must be considered:

- Use of deep edges, steps and turns;
- Balance, rhythmic knee action and precision of foot placement;
- Flow and glide;
- Varied use of power, speed and acceleration;
- Use of multi directional skating;
- Use of one foot skating.

Transitions

The varied and purposeful use of intricate footwork, positions, movements, formations and holds that link all elements.

In evaluating the Transitions, the following must be considered:

- Continuity of movements from one element to another (all disciplines);
- Variety (including variety of holds in SyS);
- Difficulty;
- Quality.

Performance

Involvement of the Team physically, emotionally and intellectually as they deliver the intent of the music and composition.

In evaluating the Performance, the following must be considered:

- Physical, emotional, and intellectual involvement;
- Carriage & Clarity of movement;
- Variety and contrast of movements and energy;
- Individuality / personality;
- Unison and "oneness" (SyS);
- Spatial awareness between Skaters - management of the distance between Skaters and management of changes of hold (SyS).

Composition

An intentionally developed and/or original arrangement of all types of movements according to the principles of musical phrase, space, pattern, and structure.

In evaluating the Composition, the following must be considered:

- Purpose (idea, concept, vision, mood);

- Pattern / ice coverage;
- Multidimensional use of space and design of movements;
- Phrase and form (movements and parts structured to match the musical phrase);
- Originality of the composition;

Interpretation of the Music /Timing

The personal, creative, and genuine translation of the rhythm, character and content of music to movement on ice.

In evaluating the Interpretation of the Music (/Timing), the following must be considered

- Movement and steps in time to the music (Timing);
- Expression of the music's character / feeling and rhythm, when clearly identifiable;
- Use of finesse (*) to reflect the details and nuances of the music;
- Relationship between the Skaters reflecting the character and rhythm of the music (SyS);

*Finesse is the Skater's refined, artful manipulation of music details and nuances through movement. It is unique to the Skater/Skaters, and demonstrates an inner feeling for the music and the composition. Nuances are the personal ways of bringing subtle variations to the intensity, tempo, and dynamics of the music made by the composer and/or musicians.

Reason: to update the components criteria, avoid possible overlapping and make the criteria more understandable and clear. Harmonization with the other disciplines

336. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 963 – delete part of paragraph b)

Draws for Starting orders

The draw for starting order of the Teams for the Short Program of the Event shall be conducted as follows:

1. Short Program:
 - a) select a Skater from one (1) of the Teams in order to draw for the Member who will start the draw;
 - b) draw the starting order proceeding in alphabetical order by Member, beginning with the Member who was drawn to start;

~~This procedure does not apply to ISU Championships / ISU Junior World Challenge Cup (see Rule 970).~~

Reason: change in the procedure for ISU Events.

337. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 964, paragraph 1 and 4 –amend and add sub-paragraph c)

Warm-up periods

1. Warm-up periods must be allotted to all Teams. For a maximum size of each Starting Group before ice to be resurfaced see Rules 980 ~~and~~ 981 and 982; Size of Starting Order Groups Tables I and II).
 - a) Short Program and Free Skating; each Team shall be allowed a warm-up of at least one (1) minute in duration (without their music during the judging time of the previous Team) before the Team is called to start.
 - b) A Team must not take more than thirty (30) seconds for exiting the ice surface for both the Short Program and Free Skating.
 - c) The first Team of each starting groups is granted of a One (1) minute warm up period before their call to start.
4. For Synchronized Skating it is recommended that the ice be resurfaced after every six (6) Teams for the Short Program and after every five (5) Teams for the Free Skating. The ice resurface groups will be based on Rules 980-981-982, however the ISU Event Coordinator and/or ISU Representative may decide to change the ice resurface groups based on the conditions of the ice at ISU Championships.

Reason: clarification of the one minute warm up period and a new chart for ISU Championships

338. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 965, paragraph 2 amend

2. If an interruption or stop in the music or any other adverse condition unrelated to the Team or his/their equipment, such as lighting, ice-condition etc. occurs, the Team must stop skating at the acoustic signal of the Referee. In the event the Referee does not stop the skating with an acoustic signal, the Team Captain should inform the Referee about any music deficiencies (even if happening after thirty (30) seconds). The rest of the Team must continue to skate until they are ordered to stop by an acoustic signal of the Referee. No penalty will be applied to the Captain leaving the team to consult the referee or the referee then stopping the program. The Team shall continue from the point of interruption immediately after the problem has been solved. If however, the interruption lasts longer than ten (10) minutes, there shall be a second warm-up period according to Rule 964, paragraph 2.

Reason: clarification if some music problem appears after 30 seconds of the program. To make sure that no Deduction will be applied in that case.

339. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 970 – amend paragraph 1. Add paragraph 2. e)

1. The Draw for the Short Program will be made as follows:

i. If there are more than twelve Teams participating then the following procedure applies:

The participating Teams will be listed based on the result of the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup according to the procedure described below in paragraph 1 a) – d):

a) For the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships based on the results (placement of the Teams by Member) of the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships' first placed Member as first, the second placed Member as second, the third placed Member as third and so on.

b) For the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships and for the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup based on the results (placement of the Teams by Member) of the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships or the previous ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, whichever of these two Events was held later. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships respectively the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup first placed Member as first, the second placed Member as second, the third placed Member as third and so on. ~~If no ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships were held during the two (2) previous seasons but an ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup was held during one (1) or both of the previous two (2) seasons, then the list will be based on the results (placement of the Teams by Member) of the last held ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup' first placed Member as first, the second placed Member as second, the third placed Member as third and so on.~~

~~c) For the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup based on the results (placement of the Teams by Member) of the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships or the previous ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup, whichever of those two Events was held later. The participating Teams are listed with the previous ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships respectively the ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup first placed Member as first, the second placed Member as second, the third placed Member as third and so on.~~

~~d)c)~~ Teams/Countries with no result from the previous year (new countries/ISU Members) respectively countries with a second Team, which did not participate at the last ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships respectively the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup will be placed at the bottom of the list ~~in alphabetical country order.~~

~~e)d)~~ In the case that a Country/ISU Member has two (2) Teams qualified for the Worlds, the following procedure will apply: The best nationally ranked Team of the country / ISU Member will be entered as Team 1 for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships respectively the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup. Team 1 will be listed for a draw according to the last year's best placement of the respective country's/ ISU Member's Team. Team 2 will be listed for the draw according to the placement of the second placed Team of that country/ISU Member.

e) The country ranking will determined the order of the draw. At the draw and during the event Team names will be utilized.

ii. The list of participating Teams will be divided according to Starting Order Groups as follows:

a) The number of ~~Starting Order~~ Starting Order Skating Groups will be determined depending on the number of entries (see Size of Starting Order Skating Groups for Short Program Rule 981).

b) ~~The draw for the Short Program will be done within each draw groups (Starting Order Group) according to the Teams' listing, as equal as possible. The group of Teams to skate late (twelve top ranked teams) will have a free draw for the starting numbers within their Starting Order Group, followed by another free draw of the ranked Group and the Teams, ranked within this Group, and so on.~~

The draw for the SP will be divided into two draw groups according to Rule 970 §1a) b). Within each draw group, Teams will be listed in alphabetical order by Member. There will be a free draw for the twelve top ranked Teams to form the last two skating groups. The remaining Teams will have a second free draw to form the other skating group(s).

For each draw group:

- i) select a Skater from one (1) of the Teams in order to draw for the Member who will start the draw;
 - ii) draw the starting order proceeding in alphabetical order by Member, beginning with the Member who was drawn to start.
- c) Teams/Countries with no result from the previous year will be listed at the bottom of the list in alphabetical country order (see para 1d c above). ~~There will be a draw in a usual manner, a draw for the Team/Country which Team will draw first and decide in a free draw of the first available starting numbers.~~

2. The draw for the Free Skating

- b) The Free Skating will be according to Teams' placements in the Short Program (see Rule 984~~2~~ Size of Starting Order Groups Free Skating).
- c) Free Skating of Group B will take place before Free Skating of Group A ~~and a short break between those two (2) Groups will be scheduled.~~ If such a tie in the Short Program occurs for 15th place, all the tied Teams will qualify for the Free Skating for which they will be drawn in the same (first) group which will be divided into two subgroups in cases specified in Rule 964, paragraph 3.
- e) SyS: The order of skating for the final three groups (i.e. with the best placed Teams) will be drawn in sixth subgroups.
 - (i) The top three finishers in the Short Program will be the last to skate in the final group and will draw from the first subgroup.
 - (ii) The fourth- and fifth-place finishers in the Short Program will be the first to skate in the final group and will draw from the second subgroup.
 - (iii) The sixth-, seventh- and eighth-place finishers in the Short Program will be the last to skate in the second-to-last group and will draw from the third subgroup.
 - (iv) The ninth- and 10th-place finishers in the Short Program will be the first to skate in the second-to-last group and will draw from the fourth subgroup.
 - (v) The eleven- twelve and thirteen place finishers in the Short Program will be the last to skate in the third to last group and will draw from the fifth subgroup.
 - (vi) The fourteen and fifteen place finishers in the Short Program will be the first to skate in the third last group and will draw from the sixth subgroup.

The procedure is the same as above starting with number sixteen place finisher of the short program and so on.
Reason: no more break between the two groups in FS. To make the Draws understandable and more fair to the Teams. This procedure ensure the best finishes in the short program are always the final three Teams in a draw group, adding to the interest of the last group to skate. Additionally, this would increase television and audience excitement while maintaining the fairness of an open draw for the competitors.

340. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 970, paragraph 1. i. new e)

e) Effective from 2018/2019 season: For the ISU World Synchronized Championships, the draw for the Short Program will be divided in two groups according to the World Standing points.

Rule 970, paragraph 1. i. a), b), c) will no longer no apply.

Reason: Use of the World Standing Points.

341. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 971

Change sub-paragraph 4.d) as follows:

3. b) The ISU Members will enter with their Judges' name(s) for the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup including a substitute Judge, in which they have been drawn, twenty-one (21) days prior to the first Judges Meeting of the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships and the ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships/ISU Synchronized Skating Junior World Challenge Cup concerned.

Reason: with the Judges in October, the current long period of 45 days seems to be unnecessary.

342. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 981 – replace by 982

Reason: to introduce the new chart for SP for ISU Events, and to replace the existing number by a new one for the FS.

343. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 980 – amend

I. Size of Starting Order Groups **Rule 980**

Number
of Teams

Synchronized Skating
Short Program for International Competitions (and Free Skating if Ties)
Novice Free Skating

	maximum of 6
2	1 + 1
3	1 + 2
4	2 + 2
5	2 + 3
6	3 + 3
7	3 + 4
8	4 + 4
9	4 + 5
10	5 + 5
11	5 + 6
12	6 + 6
13	4 + 4 + 5
14	4 + 5 + 5
15	5 + 5 + 5
16	5 + 5 + 6
17	5 + 6 + 6
18	6 + 6 + 6
19	4 + 5 + 5 + 5
20	5 + 5 + 5 + 5
21	5 + 5 + 5 + 6
22	5 + 5 + 6 + 6
23	5 + 6 + 6 + 6
24	6 + 6 + 6 + 6
25	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5
26	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6
27	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
28	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
29	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
30	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
31	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6
32	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
33	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
34	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
35	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
36	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6

344. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 980 – amend and new rule number

I. Size of Starting Order Groups Rule 9801

Number of Teams **Synchronized Skating**
Short Program for ISU Championships, JWCC ~~(and Free Skating if Ties)~~
~~Novice Free Skating~~

	maximum of 6
2	1 + 1
3	1 + 2
4	2 + 2
5	2 + 3
6	3 + 3
7	3 + 4
8	4 + 4
9	4 + 5
10	5 + 5
11	5 + 6
12	6 + 6
13	1 + 6 + 6
14	2 + 6 + 6
15	3 + 6 + 6
16	4 + 6 + 6
17	5 + 6 + 6
18	6 + 6 + 6
19	3 + 4 + 6 + 6
20	4 + 4 + 6 + 6
21	4 + 5 + 6 + 6
22	5 + 5 + 6 + 6
23	5 + 6 + 6 + 6
24	6 + 6 + 6 + 6
25	4 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 6
26	4 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
27	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
28	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
29	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
30	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
31	4 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
32	5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6
33	5 + 5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6
34	5 + 5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
35	5 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6
36	6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6

345. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 1 i) Amend plus Renumber Rule 990 paragraph 1 i) thru q):

i) Highlighting

A term used when one (1) Skater ~~or one (1) pair of Skaters~~ performs a movement that is away from and in contrast with the rest of the Team. ~~Highlighting movements are permitted in the Creative Element and during transitions in the Free Skating only.~~

Reason: to delete any unnecessary restrictions.

346. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 1k) – NEW (renumber existing k – q)

k) Interlocking:

Wheel: Each spoke of a wheel must pass in-between at least two-spokes of the other wheel(s)

Circle: Each Skater in a circle must pass in-between at least two Skaters of the other circle

Reason: to add the definition of a commonly used terminology to the regulations

347. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 1 l) – NEW (renumber existing k – q)

l) Interaction between Skaters – the different Skaters cross paths, intersect, circle, mirror, pass by, or are connected

to each other etc.

Reason: to add the definition of a commonly used terminology to the regulations

348. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 2 c iv) - NEW

iv. Crossover – a step or sequence of steps (push + cross) in which the free foot crosses the skating foot completely before it is place on the ice;

Reason: to add the definition of a commonly used terminology to the regulations

349. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990, paragraph 3. a) COMBINED ELEMENT

a. COMBINED ELEMENT

The Combined Element must meet the following criteria;

- The two (2) or more Elements must interact with each other
 - Choice of Block, Circle, Intersection, Line, Spin and Wheel etc.
 - If using a Spin, Pair Element or fm's there must be a minimum of four (4) Skaters. (may be executing the same or different spin).

Reason: To include the use of Free Skating Elements in the Combined Element to make the element more exciting.

350. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 3 para c) GROUP LIFT ELEMENT

~~— If the group lifts includes Features then all lifts must execute them at the same time.~~

Reason: To delete repeated information

351. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 3. i) – Synchronized Spin Element

i) Synchronized Spin Element

- ~~Each Skater must rotate at least three (3) revolutions (to meet the criteria established for the spin).~~

Reason: To delete the number of required revolutions from the regulations in order to give flexibility to the technical requirements for the various levels of difficult for the spin.

352. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 4 a) i)

4. DEFINITION OF ADDITIONAL FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS

a. FREE SKATING ELEMENTS

i) Assisted Jump

A jump, ~~of not more than one (1) revolution,~~ in which a Skater(s) provides passive assistance to another Skater(s) in a non-supportive manner. The take-off must be done by the Skater who jumps. In this action there is a continuous ascending and descending movement. The hands of a Skater(s) providing the passive assistance may rise higher than shoulder level height.

Reason: To permit teams to include more difficulty

353. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990, paragraph 4. a) vii)

4. DEFINITION OF ADDITIONAL FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS

a. FREE SKATING ELEMENTS

i. Lifts

An action in which Skater(s) are lifted/elevated to any height, ~~sustained for two (2) seconds or more and set down either~~ by the lifting Skaters or ~~an action in which Skater(s) are elevated and sustained for two (2) seconds or more to any height,~~ by the lifted Skater(s) themselves using body support from other Skaters. ~~The lifting/supporting Skaters may rotate but not more than three and one half (3 ½) revolutions. Stationary or gliding lifts will be counted as a lift when held off the ice for more than three (3) seconds, while lifts that rotate will be counted as a lift independent of time in the air. The lifting/supporting Skaters may rotate but not more than three and one half (3 ½) revolutions.~~ Lifts should enhance the music chosen and express its character, but not be a display of acrobatics. Undignified actions and poses are forbidden. The lifts are permitted in Senior Free Skating only (see paragraph 4. a.vii. a)).

Reason: To permit teams to include more difficulty and to delete unnecessary restrictions

354. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 4 a) vii) a)

4. DEFINITION OF ADDITIONAL FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS

a. FREE SKATING ELEMENTS

vii) Lifts

a) **Acrobatic Lifts** are not allowed in Synchronized Skating. Acrobatic Lifts are defined as:

Moves in which the Skater is held only by either the blade(s), foot (feet), or leg (s) ~~or arm(s)~~ and swung around.

Reason: The Skater(s) may be held by their arms only since this is not dangerous.

355. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 4 a) vii) d) 5

4. DEFINITION OF ADDITIONAL FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS

a. FREE SKATING ELEMENTS

vii) Lifts

d) **Types of Lifts**

5. **Un-sustained ~~Group~~ Lift**

Un-sustained ~~Group~~ Lift is a group or pair lift in which one (1) Skater is elevated and put down, in a continuous ascending and descending movement. The lifted Skater must be elevated for less than three (3) seconds, ~~and lifted by at least two (2) or more other Skaters~~ before being set down. This type of lift may be stationary or gliding. There is no rotation permitted by the supporting Skater(s). The lifted Skater may vault up and or down from the un-sustained lift. ~~Only one (1) Un-sustained Group-Lift(s) are permitted in Junior and Senior Free Skating only. An Un-sustained Group Lift will not be counted as one (1) of the three (3) permitted lifts in Senior Free Skating.~~

Reason: to use a more correct title for the un-sustained lift and to delete limitations in Junior and Senior Programs

356. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 4 a) ix) a. 2.

4. DEFINITION OF ADDITIONAL FEATURES AND REQUIREMENTS

b. FREE SKATING ELEMENTS

ix. **Spins**

A spinning movement ~~with at least three (3) revolutions~~ without interruption performed on one (1) foot on the spot (except a cross foot spin) and in the correct position.

a. **Types of Spins**

2. **Spin with a change of foot or position:** A spin with a change of foot or position must consist of one (1) change of foot or of one (1) change of position ~~with not less than three (3) revolutions on each foot respective in each position~~ and occur at the same time by all Skaters executing the spin.
3. **Spin combination:** The spin combination must include all three (3) basic positions (sit, camel, upright or any variation thereof) ~~with at least two (2) revolutions in every basic position~~ and only one change of foot ~~with not less than three (3) revolutions on each foot~~. The change of foot may be executed in the form of a step over or a jump. The change of foot and the change of position may be made either at the same time or separately and must occur at the same time by all Skaters executing the spin.
4. **Pair Spin:** A spin skated by two (2) Skaters performed on the spot around a common axis simultaneously ~~for three (3) revolutions~~ without interruption. This spin must be started and completed on one foot. One or both of the partners may be in different spinning positions, and in any hold. If there are more than one (1) pair executing the spin then the same spinning position(s) must occur at the same time.

Reason: To delete the number of required revolutions from the regulations in order to give flexibility to the technical requirements for the various levels of difficult for the spin.

357. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 para 4 a) ix) b. 2.

Types of Spinning Positions

2. **Upright spin:** The Skater is spinning in an upright position spinning ~~a minimum of three (3) revolutions~~. The arms and free foot may be held in a variety of positions.

Reason: To delete the number of required revolutions from the regulations in order to give flexibility to the technical requirements for the various levels of difficult for the spin.

358. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 4 a) x

x. **Throw Jumps**

Throw Jumps are partner assisted jumps in which one of the Skaters is thrown into the air by another Skater on the take-off and lands without assistance from the partner on a backward outside edge. A throw jump may have any number of revolutions not rotate more than one (1) revolution.

Reason: to remove unnecessary restrictions and to permit more variety

359. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 4 a) xi.

xi. **Vault**

A vault of not more than one (1) revolution, in which a Skater(s) provides passive assistance to another Skater(s) who turns / revolves, head over heels (or visa versa) in a cartwheel or somersault action. In this action there is a continuous ascending and descending movement, where the vaulting Skater rotate/revolve. The hands of a Skater(s) providing the passive assistance may rise higher than shoulder level height. ~~Two (2) Vaults~~ are allowed in Junior and Senior Free Skating only.

Reason: to remove unnecessary restrictions and to permit more variety

360. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 990 paragraph 5. e)

e) **Change of Position of a lifted Skater**

The body of the lifted Skater must turn a minimum of 180° (horizontally or vertically) while the torso is kept above the head level of the lifting Skaters

The lifted Skater must rotate a minimum of:

- 180° if using a horizontal axis

- 90° if using a vertical axis

There are no specific requirements if using a combination of both horizontal and vertical axis

Reason: to revise the definition and to clarify

361. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 991 paragraph 2. Insert new i) and renumber existing i) – n)

i) Features and Additional Features must be the same and executed at the same time unless otherwise stated in the regulations for the Element/Feature/Additional Feature or in a current ISU Communication.

Reason: to include this current requirement in the regulations

362. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 991 paragraph 3. a) delete and renumber b) - g)

3. **Short Program Requirements**

a) ~~The Team must use a variety of holds. A minimum of three (3) different clearly recognizable holds is required in Junior and Senior Short Programs. The holds may be done either in Elements or transitions and must be shown by the whole Team for three (3) seconds or more.~~

Reason: to delete this requirement

363. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 991 paragraph 3. f) and renumber

f) e) Elements executed using the wrong shape will receive a deduction a penalty (see Rule 843, paragraph 1 n). A wrong shape would include examples such as a team executing a 4-spoke instead of a required 3-spoke, or an angled intersection instead of a box intersection

Reason: to keep the penalty as written in Rule 843 which is not a deduction in the case of a short program

364. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 991 paragraph 4. d)

4. **Free Skating Requirements**

d) ~~The Team must use a variety of holds. Three (3) different clearly recognizable holds are required in Junior Free Skating and four (4) different clearly recognizable holds in Senior Free Skating. The holds may be done either in Elements or transitions and must be shown by the whole Team for three (3) seconds or more.~~

Reason: to delete this requirement

365. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 991 paragraph 4. e)

e) Lifts may be used in Senior Short Program (only when required as an element) and Free Skating only but limited to a maximum of three (3) lifts. One (1) of those three lifts may be a pair lift where and the remaining two (2) lifts may be group lifts or all (3) lifts may be group lifts. (See Rule 990, 4a.vii) a) and b)). When two (2) or more

~~different group lifts (or pair lifts) are executed at the same time they will be counted as one (1) group lifts. When one (1) group lift and one (1) pair lift are executed at the same time this will be counted as two (2) lifts.~~

Reason: to delete the restrictions on number of permitted lifts in the Free Skate and to permit lifts as a required element in the Short Program.

366. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 991 paragraph 4. f)

- f) Un-sustained ~~Group~~ Lifts may be used in Senior and Junior Free Skating only, ~~but is limited to a maximum of one (1) Un-sustained Group Lift.~~

Reason: to use the correct terminology and to delete the restrictions on number of permitted un-sustained lifts.

367. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 991 paragraph 4. g)

- g) Vaults may be used in Senior and Junior Free Skating only ~~but limited to a maximum of two (2) vaults~~ (see also Rule 992 paragraphs 2b), 2c) and paragraphs 3b), 3c)).

Reason: to delete the restrictions on number of permitted Vaults

368. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 992 paragraph 1. a) 4. NEW and renumber

Element Information for Short Program and Free Skating (Junior and Senior)

1. List of Elements

a) Short Program:

The required Elements for the Junior and Senior Short Program will be selected each season from the following list of Synchronized Skating Elements and will be published annually in an ISU Communication.

1. Combined Element
2. Creative Element
3. Intersection Element
4. Group Lift Element (Senior only when required)
5. Linear Element (Block or Line)
6. Move Element
7. No Hold Element
8. Pair Element
9. Pivoting Element (Block or Line)
10. Rotating Element (Circle or Wheel)
11. Synchronized Spin Element
12. Traveling Element (Circle or Wheel)

Reason: to add the possibility of including a Group Lift in Senior Short Program

369. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 992 paragraph 2a) iv, 2b) iv, 2c) iv - NEW

2. Illegal Elements/Features/Additional Features and Movements Short Program and Free Skating

a) **Senior and Junior Short Program**

- iv. split jump thru the point of intersection

b) **Senior Free Skating**

- iv. split jump thru the point of intersection

c) **Junior Free Skating**

- iv. split jump thru the point of intersection

Reason: to add this dangerous movement to the list of illegal **Elements/Features/Additional Features and Movements**

370. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 992 paragraph 3a) viii, Delete

3. Non-permitted Elements / Features, Additional Features and movements Short Program and Free Skating

a) **Junior and Senior Short Program**

- viii) ~~highlighting (see Rule 990, paragraph 1i)) (permitted only in the Creative Element~~

Reason: to delete the restriction in Junior and Senior Short Program and Free Skating

371. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 992 paragraph 3b) i –v, vii, viii Delete and renumber vi)

3. Non-permitted Elements / Features, Additional Features and movements Short Program and Free Skating

b) **Senior Free Skating**

- i. ~~additional lifts (more than three (3))~~
- ii. ~~additional Un-sustained Group Lifts (more than one (1))~~

- ~~iii. additional vaults (*more than two (2) vaults*)~~
- ~~iv. assisted jumps of more than one (1) revolution~~
- ~~v. throw jumps of more than one (1) revolution~~
- ~~i. prolonged lying (*longer than three (3) seconds*) or kneeling (*one (1) or both knees*) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program~~
- ~~vii. jumps through the Point of Intersection~~
- ~~viii. highlighting (*permitted only in the Creative Element and during transitions*)~~

Reason: to delete the restrictions Senior Free Skating

372. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 992 paragraph 3c) ii. – viii. – Delete and renumber vi.

c) Junior Free Program

- ~~i. lifts of any variety~~
- ~~i. pair lifts and Group Lifts are not permitted~~
- ~~ii. additional Un-sustained Group Lifts (*more than one (1)*)~~
- ~~iii. additional vaults (*more than two (2) vaults*)~~
- ~~iv. assisted jumps of more than one (1) revolution~~
- ~~v. throw jumps of more than one (1) revolution~~
- ~~vi.ii. prolonged lying (*longer than three (3) seconds*) or kneeling (*one (1) or both knees*) on the ice at the beginning, end and/or during the program~~
- ~~vii. jumps through the Point of Intersection~~
- ~~viii. highlighting (*permitted only in the Creative Element and during transitions*)~~

Reason: to delete the restrictions Junior Free Skating

Milan,
April 29, 2016
Lausanne,

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

Fred Schmid, Director General